

## **Kent FA Benevolent Fund Rules**

1a. – The objects of the Fund are:

1. – To assist financially amongst the following classes of persons:

(a) Footballers and others being members or officials of affiliated bodies or other bodies under the jurisdiction of the Association who have suffered injury while playing football or become incapacitated by any illness attributable to participation in the game:

(b) Any others (including footballers) who have in the opinion of the Council of the Association rendered service to the game of football in the County.

(c) The dependents of any such persons as aforesaid.

2 – To support any charitable institutions and charitable objects associated with the aims and purposes of the Association by making grants when in the opinion of the Council circumstances (including the state of the fund) so warrant.

1b. – All grants made pursuant to the foregoing objects shall be at the sole discretion of the Association acting through its Council and shall be subject to the prior approval of the Finance Committee (or Sub-Committee expressly appointed). Provided that no amendment shall be made which cause the Fund to cease to be a charity at law.

3 – Application must be made on a form to be obtained from the Chief Executive of the Association. No form shall be accepted unless it gives all the information required thereon, is signed by the applicant, certified by the Chairman and Secretary of the Club or Competition with which the applicant is connected and accompanied by a Medical Certificate. Upon receipt of the form by the Chief Executive of the Association, the latter shall at once refer same to the Divisional Hon. or Area Secretary concerned. A member of the Divisional Committee shall investigate the application and make such recommendation as he deems advisable. The form, endorsed by the Divisional Chairman or Chief Executive, shall then be returned to the Secretary of the Association who shall make the payment recommended, subject to the condition that no payment shall exceed such a sum as shall from time to time be decided by The Finance and General Purposes Committee in the first instance. The form shall then be returned to the Chief Executive of the Association who, subject to the approval of the Chairman and/or other deputed authority shall make the payment recommended. A grant may be made in the form of a lumpsum. All grants shall be periodically reported through the controlling body to the Finance Committee of the Council.

4 – The Fund is established not to supersede efforts by Clubs and others interested in a case but to supplement these local efforts and any other source of income that may be available to the applicant during or in respect of his incapacity from work. The Fund must not be construed as a substitute for Insurance. Players are expected to ensure that they have adequate cover.

5 – No salary or honorarium shall be paid from the fund for service in its control or administration.

6 – The fund shall be maintained in an account separate from the General Fund of the Association and if invested, in whole or in part, shall be placed in Trustee Stock or a form of investment of sound and recognised security. Loans for any purpose whatsoever from the Fund must not be made to Associations, Leagues or Clubs.

7 – Unless there are exceptional circumstances, grants will only be made only to Members of Clubs who have contributed or in the case of Competitions or other affiliated/ancillary bodies to those persons acting in an official capacity as either player or official who have contributed to the Fund during the previous twelve months. No person shall be entitled to make an application until, at least, one month after the first subscription to the fund has been paid.

8 – Each affiliated Competition, Club, Official or Referee is eligible to contribute to the Fund in some form or another, e.g. (a) The proceeds of Practice Matches, (b) the gate receipts of at least one match, (c) a personal subscription, a subscription from Competition or Club funds or a grant from the balance of funds of a Charity Competition, (d) one or more collections at home matches each season or (e) donation by referees of at least one fee during each season. The fund shall not incur any liability to the Association, but the Council shall have the power to make a grant to the Fund at the end of any financial year, to arrange a match or matches for the benefit of the fund and to invite private subscriptions or donations. (N.B.-It is a principle of a Football Benevolent Fund that it is based on voluntary contributions because no individual can then claim, as a right any benefit; it must be benevolence.