

GRAY HOOPER HOLT LLP MID SUSSEX FOOTBALL LEAGUE

CHALLENGE CUP RULES 2026 - 2027

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GRAY HOOPER HOLT LLP MID SUSSEX FOOTBALL LEAGUE

MONTGOMERY CHALLENGE CUP RULES 2026-2027

- 1 The competition shall be called 'The Montgomery Challenge Cup' and shall be under the control of the Management Committee of the Mid Sussex Football League. This cup shall never be won outright.
- 2 The Officers of the Competition shall for all intents and purposes be the legal owners of the Cup in trust for the Competition.
- 3 The competition shall be open only to teams competing in the Premier Division and Championship Division of the Mid Sussex Football League. The eligibility, qualification and registration not specifically covered within the Rules of this Cup shall be the same as those applying in the Competition except that no team shall include:
 - (a) any player who has, during the current season played in 9 or more matches designated Senior by the Sussex County F.A., i.e. the Southern League, Isthmian League, Southern Combination Football League (Premier and Division 1), Sussex County F.A Senior Cup, Sussex County RUR Cup, Floodlight Cup or similar competition of another County (Note: the Mid Sussex Senior Charity Cup is not a senior match for the purpose of this Rule);
 - (b) has already played for another Club in this Cup during the current season.
- 4 For the Semi-Final and Final ties, all players including the substitutes, must have previously played at least four times in League and/or Cup matches during the current season for the team for which they intend to play in this Cup, or another team of that Club participating in a lower level of football in the Mid Sussex Football League.
- 5 This Rule no longer in use.
- 6 No Club may enter more than one team for this competition.
- 7 Referees and Assistant Referees (when available) shall be appointed by the Management Committee or any other person to whom they may delegate their powers. When Assistant Referees are not appointed, each club shall provide an Assistant Referee who, as far as the Montgomery Challenge Cup only is concerned, shall not be a nominated substitute. The Home Club shall pay the Referee's fee in accordance with the scale of the league as laid down for the Premier Division. In the Semi-Final tie neutral Assistant Referees may be appointed when available. The fee for an Assistant Referee in this competition shall be, inclusive of travel expenses, in accordance with the Fees Tariff for the Intermediate Divisions and payable equally by the participating clubs. The officials appointed for the Final Tie will be presented with mementoes and either second class rail or bus fare actually paid or, if using his own transport, shall be entitled to charge mileage in accordance with the scale of the League. In the event of a selected Referee failing to put in an appearance the Clubs may mutually agree upon any other person officiating in his stead and the game so played must be counted as a Cup Tie.
- 8 All entries to the competition shall be made on or before 15th May in each year. Entrance Fee as set out in the Fees Tariff and determined by the Annual General Meeting.
- 9 The ties shall be drawn and the matches played as the Committee may determine, and immediately after each draw the Secretary of the League shall intimate to each of the Clubs the name of the Club against which it is drawn.
- 10 The Clubs which are in each instance first drawn in the ballot shall have choice of ground. In any case of drawn matches, that cannot be completed in accordance with Rule 11 of this competition, the Club last drawn in the ballot shall have choice of ground for the second match. In the event of any tie, with the exception of the semi-final and final ties, not being played for whatever reason on the ground of the first drawn (home) Club on two dates appointed by the Fixtures Secretary for the playing of the

tie, a further date will be appointed by the Fixtures Secretary when the tie will be played on the ground of the away club. The Final Tie shall be played on a neutral ground selected by the Management Committee.

- 11 In the case of a drawn match the result will be decided by the taking of penalty kicks from the penalty mark in accordance with the regulations governing knock out competitions - obtaining a result - as set out in the FA Handbook and Laws of Association Football.

In the event of a Club failing to keep its engagement the Management Committee shall have the power to inflict a fine, award the match to their opponents, order the defaulting Club to pay any expenses incurred by the opponents or otherwise deal with them. Any club failing to keep its engagement without an explanation acceptable to the Management Committee shall be subject to a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.

- 12 The Secretary of each home Club must give notice to their opponents and the appointed Referee and Assistant Referees if appointed in the Semi-Final Tie, stating the position of their ground, dressing room, their colours and time of kick-off. This information must be received by the visiting Club's Secretary by the Tuesday evening preceding the match, except in the case of a rearranged match. Clubs defaulting may be subject to a fine. In the event of two Clubs meeting and possessing similar colours, the visiting team for the occasion shall substitute distinctive colours, except in the Final Tie, when both clubs shall change.
- 13 The Registration Secretary must receive within 2 days of the date played, the result of each Cup Match in the prescribed manner. This must include the forename(s) and surname of the Team Players including the substitutes used (in block letters) together with the names of the Referee, the Club Assistant Referee, the certificated First Aider acceptable to the Competition who must be in the attendance and the referee markings required by Competition Rule 23, or any other information required by the Competition. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.
- 14 The Secretary of the Competition shall hand over the Cup to the winners on their signing the usual receipt.
- 15 Sixteen mementoes shall be presented to each team participating in the Final Tie and one memento to each Manager.
- 16 All questions of eligibility, qualification or interpretation of the Rules shall be referred to and decided by the Management Committee. Where it is proved that a Club has played an ineligible player, the Club shall be subject to a fine not exceeding £100.00 and excluded from the competition.

Any protest relating to the ground, goal posts, ball and other appurtenances of the game shall not be entertained unless an objection in writing, has been lodged with the Referee before the commencement of the match. The Secretary of the protesting Club must forward a copy of this protest to the Secretary of the Competition within three days of the match.

Protests with regard to the eligibility of players must be lodged with the Secretary of the Competition within three days of the match, if it is proved that a Club has played an ineligible player the Club shall be subject to a fine not exceeding £100.00 and excluded from the competition.

All protests must be accompanied by a deposit of £30.00, which shall be returned or forfeited, as the Committee may decide.

No protests shall be withdrawn except by the consent of the Management Committee, who may order either Club to pay the whole or part of the expenses of the protests.

- 17 In the Final Tie the proceeds of the match shall be devoted to the funds of the Competition after the Referees' and Assistant Referee's and other sundry expenses have been deducted.

- 18 Any club failing to forward any of the notices as required by these Rules shall be liable to a fine in accordance with Competition Rules.
- 19 Any point not covered by the Rules shall be decided by the Management Committee in accordance with Competition Rules.
- 20 Each team playing in a Final tie must provide a steward to assist with spectator control at the final. The nominated person must be in attendance 15 minutes prior to scheduled kick off time and remain until 30 minutes after the final whistle. The steward will be responsible for addressing any issues with their team's supporters and to raise any concerns with the League Officers in attendance. The nominated steward must not be a player or club official named on the team sheet. Failure to comply with this rule will incur a fine of up to £100.

MOWATT CHALLENGE CUP RULES 2026-2027

- 1 The competition shall be called 'The Mowatt Challenge Cup' and shall be under the control of the Management Committee of the Mid Sussex Football League. This Cup shall never be won outright.
- 2 The Officers of the Competition shall for all intents and purposes be the legal owners of the Cup in trust for the Competition.
- 3 The competition shall be open only to teams competing in the Championship and Division 1 of the Mid Sussex Football League. The eligibility, qualification and registration not specifically covered within the Rules of this Cup shall be the same as those applying in the League Competition except that no team shall include:
 - (a) any player in a match who has, during the current season played 9 or more times in a match designated Senior by the Sussex County F.A., i.e. the Southern League, Isthmian League, Southern Combination Football League (Premier and Division 1), Sussex County F.A. Senior Cup Competition, Sussex County RUR Charity Cup Floodlight Cup or similar competition of another County (Note: the Mid Sussex F.A. Senior Charity Cup is not a senior match for the purpose of this Rule);
 - (b) more than 3 players who have played 9 or more League or Cup games collectively for a team in any higher Division of the Mid Sussex Football League or any comparable Saturday League or Cup during the current Season, which includes but not limited to Southern Combination FL Division 2, and Under 23 competitions;
 - (c) has already played for another Club in this Cup during the current season.
- 4 For the Semi-Final and Final ties, all players including the substitutes, must have previously played in at least four League and/or Cup matches during the current season for the team for which they intend to play in this Cup, or another team of that Club participating in a lower level of football in the Mid Sussex Football League.
- 5 This Rule no longer in use.
- 6 No Club may enter more than one team for this competition.
- 7 The Home Club shall pay the Referee's fee in accordance with the scale of the League as laid down for Division 1 and below. In the Semi-Final tie neutral Assistant Referees may be appointed when available. The fee for an Assistant Referee shall be, inclusive of travel expenses, in accordance with the Fees Tariff for the Junior Divisions payable equally by the participating Clubs.
- 8 All entries to the competition shall be made on or before 15th May in each year. Entrance Fee as determined by the Annual General Meeting.
- 9 In all other respects the Rules governing the Montgomery Challenge Cup shall apply to this competition.

SOMERVILLE CHALLENGE CUP RULES 2026-2027

- 1 The competition shall be called 'The Somerville Challenge Cup' and shall be under the control of the Management Committee of the Mid Sussex Football League. This Cup shall never be won outright.
- 2 The Officers of the Competition shall for all intents and purposes be the legal owners of the Cup in trust for the Competition.
- 3 The Competition shall be open only to teams competing in Divisions 1 and 2 and, with the permission of the Management Committee, teams competing in any Division below of the Mid Sussex Football League. The eligibility, qualification and registration not specifically covered within the Rules of this Cup Competition shall be the same as those applying in the League Competition except that no team shall include:
 - (a) any player in a match who has, during the current season played in 9 or more times in a match designated Senior by the Sussex County F.A., i.e. the Southern League, Isthmian League, Southern Combination Football League (Premier and Division 1), Sussex County F.A. Senior Cup Competition, Sussex County RUR Charity Cup, Floodlight Cup or similar competition of another County (Note: the Mid Sussex F.A. Senior Charity Cup is not a senior match for the purpose of this Rule);
 - (b) more than 3 players who have played in 9 or more League or Cup games collectively for a team in any higher Division of the Mid Sussex Football League or any comparable Saturday League or Cup Competition during the current Season which includes but not limited to Southern Combination FL Division 2, and Under 23 competitions;
 - (c) has already played for another Club in this Cup during the current season.
- 4 For the Semi-Final and Final ties, all players including the substitutes, must have previously played in at least four League or Cup matches during the current season for the team for which they intend to play in this Cup, or another team of that Club participating in a lower level of football in the Mid Sussex Football League.
- 5 This Rule no longer in use.
- 6 This Rule no longer in use.
- 7 The Home Club shall pay the Referee's fee in accordance with the scale of the League as laid down for Division 1 and below. In the Semi-Final tie neutral Assistant Referees may be appointed when available. The fee for an Assistant Referee shall be, inclusive of travel expenses, in accordance with the Fees Tariff for the Junior Divisions payable equally by the participating Clubs.
- 8 All entries to the competition shall be made on or before 15th May in each year. Entrance Fee as determined by the Annual General Meeting.
- 9 Two teams from the same club will be permitted to enter this cup. On such an occasion, the two teams will be seeded into both halves of the cup. Once a player has played for one team in this cup, that player can only play in future rounds for that team.
- 10 In all other respects the Rules governing the Montgomery Challenge Cup shall apply to this competition.

STRATFORD CHALLENGE CUP RULES 2026-2027

- 1 The Competition shall be called 'The Stratford Challenge Cup' and shall be under the control of the Management Committee of the Mid Sussex Football League. This Cup shall never be won outright.
- 2 The Officers of the Competition shall for all intents and purposes be the legal owners of the Cup in trust for the Competition.
- 3 The competition shall be open only to teams competing in Divisions 2 and 3 and, with the permission of the Management Committee, teams competing in any Division below of the Mid Sussex Football League. The eligibility, qualification and registration not specifically covered within the Rules of this Cup shall be the same as those applying in the League Competition except that no team shall include:
 - (a) any player who has, during the current season played 9 or more times in a match designated Senior by the Sussex County FA., i.e. the Southern League, Isthmian League, Southern Combination Football League (Premier and Division 1), Sussex County F.A. Senior Cup Competition, Sussex County RUR Charity Cup, Floodlight Cup or similar competition of another County (Note: the Mid Sussex F.A. Senior Charity Cup is not a senior match for the purpose of this Rule);
 - (b) more than 3 players who have played in 9 or more League or Cup games collectively for a team in any higher Division of the Mid Sussex Football League or any comparable Saturday League or Cup Competition during the current Season which includes but not limited to Southern Combination FL Division 2 and Under 23 competitions;
 - (c) has already played for another Club in this Cup during the current season.
- 4 For the Semi-Final and Final ties, all players including the substitutes, must have previously played in at least four League and/or Cup matches during the current season for the team for which they intend to play in this Cup, or another team of that Club participating in a lower level of football in the Mid Sussex Football League.
- 5 This Rule no longer in use.
- 6 This Rule no longer in use.
- 7 The Home Club shall pay the Referee's fee in accordance with the scale of the League as laid down for Division 1 and below. In the Semi-Final tie neutral Assistant Referees may be appointed when available. The fee for an Assistant Referee shall be, inclusive of travel expenses, in accordance with the Fees Tariff for the Junior Divisions payable equally by the participating Clubs.
- 8 All entries to the competition shall be made on or before 15th May in each year. Entrance Fee as determined by the Annual General Meeting.
- 9 Two teams from the same club will be permitted to enter this cup. On such an occasion, the two teams will be seeded into both halves of the cup. Once a player has played for one team in this cup, that player can only play in future rounds for that team.
- 10 In all other respects the Rules governing the Montgomery Challenge Cup shall apply to this competition.

MALINS CHALLENGE CUP RULES 2026-2027

- 1 The competition shall be called 'The Malins Challenge Cup' and shall be under the control of the Management Committee of the Mid Sussex Football League. This Cup shall never be won outright.
- 2 The Officers of the Competition shall for all intents and purposes be the legal owners of the Cup in trust for the Competition.
- 3 The competition shall be open only to teams competing in Divisions 3 and 4 and, with the permission of the Management Committee, teams competing in any Division below of the Mid Sussex Football League. The eligibility, qualification and registration not specifically covered within the Rules of this Cup shall be the same as those applying in the League Competition except that no team shall include:
 - (a) any player who has, during the current season played 9 or more times in a match designated Senior by the Sussex County F.A., i.e. the Southern League, Isthmian League, Southern Combination Football League (Premier and Division 1), Sussex County F.A Senior Cup Competition, Sussex County RUR Charity Cup, Floodlight Cup or similar competition of another County (Note: the Mid Sussex F.A. Senior Charity Cup is not a senior match for the purpose of this Rule);
 - (b) more than 3 players who have played in 9 or more League or Cup games collectively for a team in any higher Division of the Mid Sussex Football League or any comparable Saturday League or Cup Competition during the current season which includes but not limited to Southern Combination FL Division 2 and Under 23 competitions;
 - (c) has already played for another Club in this Cup during the current season.
- 4 For the Semi-Final and Final ties, all players including the substitutes, must have previously played in at least four League and/or Cup matches during the current season for the team for which they intend to play in this Cup, or another team of that Club participating in a lower level of football in the Mid Sussex Football League.
- 5 This Rule no longer in use.
- 6 This Rule no longer in use.
- 7 The Home Club shall pay the Referee's fee in accordance with the scale of the League as laid down for Division 1 and below. In the Semi-Final tie neutral Assistant Referees may be appointed when available. The fee for an Assistant Referee shall be, inclusive of travel expenses, in accordance with the Fees Tariff for the Junior Divisions payable equally by the participating Clubs.
- 8 All entries to the Competition shall be made on or before 15th May in each year. Entrance Fee as determined by the Annual General Meeting.
- 9 Two teams from the same club will be permitted to enter this cup. On such an occasion, the two teams will be seeded into both halves of the cup. Once a player has played for one team in this cup, that player can only play in future rounds for that team.
- 10 In all other respects the Rules governing the Montgomery Challenge Cup shall apply to this competition.

PARSONS CHALLENGE CUP RULES 2026-2027

- 1 The competition shall be called 'The Parsons Challenge Cup' and shall be under the control of the Management Committee of the Mid Sussex Football League. This Cup shall never be won outright.
- 2 The Officers of the Competition shall for all intents and purposes be the legal owners of the Cup in trust for the Competition.
- 3 The competition shall be open only to teams competing in Divisions 4 and 5 and, with the permission of the Management Committee, teams competing in any Division below of the Mid Sussex Football League. The eligibility, qualification and registration not specifically covered within the Rules of this Cup shall be the same as those applying in the League Competition except that no team shall include:
 - (a) any player who has, during the current season played 9 or more times in a match designated Senior by the Sussex County F.A., i.e. the Southern League, Isthmian League, Southern Combination Football League (Premier and Division 1), Sussex County F.A. Senior Cup Competition, Sussex County RUR Charity Cup, Floodlight Cup or similar competition of another County (Note: the Mid Sussex F.A. Senior Charity Cup is not a senior match for the purpose of this Rule);
 - (b) more than 3 players who have played in 9 or more League or Cup games collectively for a team in any higher Division of the Mid Sussex Football League or any comparable Saturday League or Cup Competition during the current Season which includes but not limited to Southern Combination FL Division 2 and Under 23 competitions;
 - (c) has already played for another Club in this Cup during the current season.
- 4 For the Semi-Final and Final ties, all players including the substitutes, must have previously played in at least four League and/or Cup matches during the current season for the team for which they intend to play in this Cup, or another team of that Club participating in a lower level of football in the Mid Sussex Football League.
- 5 This Rule no longer used.
- 6 This Rule no longer in use.
- 7 The Home Club shall pay the Referee's fee in accordance with the scale of the League as laid down for Division 1 and below. In the Semi-Final tie neutral Assistant Referees may be appointed when available. The fee for an Assistant Referee shall be, inclusive of travel expenses, in accordance with the Fees Tariff for the Junior Divisions payable equally by the participating Clubs.
- 8 All entries to the competition shall be made on or before 15th May in each year. Entrance Fee as determined by the Annual General Meeting.
- 9 Two teams from the same club will be permitted to enter this cup. On such an occasion, the two teams will be seeded into both halves of the cup. Once a player has played for one team in this cup, that player can only play in future rounds for that team.
- 10 In all other respects the Rules governing the Montgomery Challenge Cup shall apply to this competition.

TESTER CHALLENGE CUP RULES 2026-2027

- 1 The Competition shall be called 'Tester Challenge Cup' and shall be under the control of the Management Committee of the Mid Sussex Football League. This Cup shall never be won outright.
- 2 The Officers of the Competition shall for all intents and purposes be the legal owners of the Cup in trust for the Competition.
- 3 The competition shall be open to teams in Divisions 4 and 5 of the Mid Sussex Football League. The eligibility, qualification and registration not specifically covered within the Rules of this Cup shall be the same as those applying in the League Competition except that no team shall include:
 - (a) any player in a match who has, during the current season played 9 or more times in a match designated Senior by the Sussex County FA, i.e. the Southern League, Isthmian League, Southern Combination Football League (Premier and Division 1), Sussex County FA Senior Cup Competition, Sussex RUR Charity Cup, Floodlight Cup or similar competition of another County. (Note: the Mid Sussex Senior Charity Cup is not a senior match for the purpose of this Rule);
 - (b) more than 3 players who have played in 9 or more League or Cup games collectively for a team in any higher Division of the Mid Sussex Football League or any comparable Saturday League or Cup Competition during the current season which includes but not limited to Southern Combination FL Division 2 and Under 23 competitions;
 - (c) has already played for another Club in this Cup during the current Season.
- 4 For the Semi-Final and Final ties all players, including the substitutes, must have previously played in at least four League and/or Cup matches during the current season for the team for which they intend to play in this Cup or another team of that Club participating in a lower level of football in the Mid Sussex Football League.
- 5 This Rule no longer in use.
- 6 This Rule no longer in use.
- 7 The Home Club shall pay the Referee's fees in accordance with the scale laid down for Division 1 and below. In the Semi-Final tie neutral Assistant Referees may be appointed when available. The fee for an Assistant Referee shall be, inclusive of travel expenses, in accordance with the Fees Tariff for the Junior Divisions payable equally by the participating Clubs.
- 8 All entries to the competition shall be made on or before 15th May in each year. Entrance Fee as determined by the Annual General Meeting.
- 9 Two teams from the same club will be permitted to enter this cup. On such an occasion, the two teams will be seeded into both halves of the cup. Once a player has played for one team in this cup, that player can only play in future rounds for that team.
- 10 In all other respects the Rules governing the Montgomery Challenge Cup shall apply to this competition.

BRIAN HALL CHALLENGE CUP RULES 2026-2027

- 1 The competition shall be called 'Brian Hall Challenge Cup' and shall be under the control of the Management Committee of the Mid Sussex Football League. This Cup shall never be won outright.
- 2 The Officers of the Competition shall for all intents and purposes be the legal owners of the Cup in trust for the Competition.
- 3 The competition shall be open to teams in Divisions 5 and any lower Division of the Mid Sussex Football League. The eligibility, qualification and registration not specifically covered within the Rules of this Cup shall be the same as those applying in the League Competition except that no team shall include:
 - (a) any player who has, during the current season played 9 or more times in a match designated Senior by the Sussex County FA, i.e. the Southern League, Isthmian League, Southern Combination Football League (Premier and Division 1), Sussex County FA Senior Cup Competition, Sussex RUR Charity Cup, Floodlight Cup or similar competition of another County. (Note: the Mid Sussex Senior Charity Cup is not a senior match for the purpose of this Rule);
 - (b) more than 3 players who have played in 9 or more League or Cup games collectively for a team in any higher Division of the Mid Sussex Football League or any comparable Saturday League or Cup Competition during the current season which includes but not limited to Southern Combination FL Division 2 and Under 23 competitions;
 - (c) has already played for another Club in this Cup during the current Season.
- 4 For the Semi-Final and Final ties all players, including the substitutes, must have previously played in at least four League and/or Cup matches during the current season for the team for which they intend to play in this Cup or another team of that Club participating in a lower level of football in the Mid Sussex Football League.
- 5 This Rule no longer in use.
- 6 This Rule no longer in use.
- 7 The Home Club shall pay the Referee's fees in accordance with the scale laid down for Division 1 and below. In the Semi-Final tie neutral Assistant Referees may be appointed when available. The fee for an Assistant Referee shall be, inclusive of travel expenses, in accordance with the Fees Tariff for the Junior Divisions payable equally by the participating Clubs.
- 8 All entries to the competition shall be made on or before 15th May in each year. Entrance Fee as determined by the Annual General Meeting.
- 9 Two teams from the same club will be permitted to enter this cup. On such an occasion, the two teams will be seeded into both halves of the cup. Once a player has played for one team in this cup, that player can only play in future rounds for that team.
- 10 In all other respects the Rules governing the Montgomery Challenge Cup shall apply to this competition.

GRAY HOOPER HOLT LLP MID SUSSEX FOOTBALL LEAGUE

SPORTSMANSHIP CUP RULES

- 1 The trophy shall be called 'THE SPORTSMANSHIP CUP' and shall be under the control of the Management Committee of the Mid Sussex Football League. This cup shall never be won outright.
- 2 The Officers of the Competition shall for all intents and purposes be the legal owners of the Cup in trust for the Competition.
- 3 All Clubs competing in the Mid Sussex Football League automatically qualify for the Cup.
- 4 The referees for matches shall award up to a maximum of ten points for sportsmanship to each team. These marks will be totaled and averaged out of 100 points for the season. The winner of the Cup shall be the team with highest total points out of the aggregate maximum of 100 points.