

# PYRAMID OF JUNIOR FOOTBALL CHARTER

1. The **Northamptonshire Combination** hereby indicates its support for and desire to participate in the **United Counties League** Pyramid of Junior football, the principles of which are detailed in paragraph 2 below.
2. The Structural objectives of the Pyramid are:
  - (a) To allow the seasonal movement of clubs between leagues in an orderly manner to cause the minimum of disruption.
  - (b) To provide clubs with a level of competitive football appropriate to their playing ability, stadium facilities and economic means.
  - (c) To provide a framework for discussion on matters of policy and common interest to the leagues. In all matters the right of every league to conduct its own affairs provided they do not affect their existing agreements with other Leagues within the Pyramid will be respected subject to the Rules and Regulations of the Football Association.
3. The question of promotion and relegation and matters affecting the relationships of the leagues will be decided by The Joint Liaison Committee consisting of the representatives of the leagues involved, always respecting the Senior League's right to determine the suitability of a Club applying for promotion subject to that League's criteria for membership. Any appeal by a club in the matter of promotion and relegation should be lodged with the league in which the club is currently in membership.
4. The agreed position of a league within the Pyramid will determine the leagues into which clubs may be elected, promoted or relegated. No other movement will be allowed without the mutual agreement of the two leagues concerned after reference to the Joint Liaison Committee, and the approval of the Leagues Committee of the Football Association. Any club wishing to make such a move must make the appropriate application in writing not later than 1st April, or earlier if required by the rules of either league, with copies to its current league.
5. Details of minimum ground grading standards required for membership of a league must be distributed to its feeder leagues, with a copy to The Football Association, by 31st August.
6. Any league wishing to change its Criteria for Admission to Membership in any way whatsoever must submit the proposed change to the Joint Liaison Committee by 31st May in any year, to be applicable to Clubs applying for membership at the end of the following season. Details of the minimum Criteria for Admission of Membership of Clubs to the United Counties Football League must be distributed to all member Leagues by 31st August in any year.
7. The Football Association recognises that changes within the Pyramid or additions to it may from time to time be beneficial and these will be discussed in conjunction with the Joint Liaison Committee(s).
8.
  - (a) A promotion link exists between the United Counties Football League and Step 4 of the National League System.
  - (b) A relegation link exists between the United Counties Football League and the Bedfordshire Football League, Northants Combination, Northampton Town League and Peterborough and District League.