(b) Clubs must also comply with RFU Regulation 19 regarding the provision of any match footage to a Disciplinary Panel.

13.7 Grounds

Pitch

13.7.1 It is the responsibility of the home club to ensure the availability of a pitch and to correctly and clearly mark its pitch.

13.7.2 Where an Artificial Pitch is to be used the Club where the pitch is situated must:

(a) comply with IRB Regulation 22; and

(b) if it proposes to use the Artificial Pitch in any match or matches in an RFU Competition inform the Committee in writing at least 30 days before the start of the Season or if during the Season at least 30 days (or such shorter period as the Committee may agree in an emergency) prior to such Artificial Pitch being used for a match in any RFU Competition.

Barrier from Field of Play

13.7.3 Each home Club playing a match in an RFU Competition must make provision:

(a) to ensure that (with the exception of Permitted Personnel as defined in 13.7.6 below) all other persons are kept at a reasonable distance from the playing area by permanent or temporary barriers; and

(b) for two Technical Areas one for each team in a match to which Permitted Personnel (when not undertaking their duties) are to be restricted during the match other than for the period of half-time.

13.7.4 At Level 5 and below and only where the club committee is satisfied it is impractical or unnecessary for permanent or temporary pitchside barriers or Technical Areas to be in place each Club in a match must (unless the referee agrees otherwise) ensure that:

(a) with the exception of Permitted Personnel, all other persons remain at a reasonable distance from the playing area, and;

(b) Permitted Personnel (when not undertaking their duties) remain on the side of the pitch designated by the home Club within an area bounded by the centre and ten metre line on the pitch and two metres from the side line of the pitch at the end of the pitch in which it's team plays the first half of the match.

13.7.5 Where there are permanent dugouts or shelters team replacements and coaching staff must confine themselves to them or remain outside the pitchside barriers, or if none, the playing enclosure (as defined by the Referee) other than when a player is about to replace a player on the pitch, when a player is temporarily suspended or for the periods of half-time.

Permitted Personnel

13.7.6 No more than four water carriers per team (including medical staff and replacement players) are permitted within the pitch side or perimeter fencing or other barrier. Water carriers may only be permitted onto the playing area for the purposes of taking water to the players at such times as shall be approved by the Referee (on any other occasion players must come to the touchline to get water).

13.7.7 Any player temporarily suspended when playing must remain in the 'Technical Area' or leave the playing enclosure and be clearly and readily identifiable to the Fourth Official. Any player temporarily suspended at Level 5 and below should remain in the 'Technical Area' (if provided) or remain between the posts in the in goal area which his team is attacking or in such other place as the referee may agree.

13.7.8 Any player sent off must leave the playing enclosure.

Floodlights

13.7.9 Any Club with the facility of and which plays matches under floodlights at any time of the Season is required to provide lights of sufficient lux value so as to ensure the playing of the match is safe. Illumination levels should be checked by a suitably qualified electrical engineer and recorded against the levels of light required for the standard of play and shall be not less than 200 lux for competitive matches and 100 lux for training save for Clubs at Level 6 and below the levels of light for competitive matches shall be not less than 100 lux. Clubs who use floodlights for matches in a RFU Competition are required to have them turned on at the start of the match or later if agreed by the visiting team or at the request of the Match Referee.

13.8 Finance

13.8.1 Funding

(a) The Committee shall notify the relevant Clubs of its decision regarding funding and distribute monies in its absolute discretion as it considers appropriate for the benefit of the Clubs in each RFU Competition.

(b) In respect of each RFU Competition, an annual fee may be payable by each participating Club in order to cover the administrative operating expenses. This fee will be determined annually by the Committee and shall be due and payable not later than 1 September in each year or on such other date as the Committee may determine from time to time.

(c) The Committee may establish a reserve fund for such purpose(s) as it may from time to time determine.

(d) Clubs failing to register claims for monies allocated to them by the date notified to them will not be eligible for payment of sponsorship or other monies.