

WATFORD LADIES FC SUMMER TOURNAMENT JUNE 8TH 2019

RULES OF THE COMPETITION

1. The Committee may check registration at any time, bring either registration cards/birth certificates/medical cards or passport, any team found to be playing an ineligible player will be disqualified from the competition. The age qualification date for the U9-U16 age groups is 31st August 2018.
2. Each team entering the competition shall register not more than nine players and not less than six players, along with their team colours and alternative colours at least thirty minutes before the start of their competition. All teams must be sited near their nominated pitch so that the referee can easily find them at all times. Please note that a player can only register for one team playing in any given competition and cannot transfer across to another team whilst the competition is in progress.
3. The laws of the game as settled by the International Football Board shall apply with the exception of the rules set out within.
4. Teams will consist of six players, one of whom shall be the goalkeeper. A team may not take to the field of play with less than five players. Any team fielding less than five players, at kick off time shall forfeit the game.
5. Any team unable to play a match will forfeit that match which will be awarded as a win to the opposition with a 2-0 score line.
6. During each match, roll on-roll off substitutions may be made, with the exception of replacement of a player sent off under FA Law 12.
7. The offside rule does not apply in this competition.
8. Throw ins will be underarm. A throw in which goes above head height will be treated as a foul throw. Corners kicks are as normal. Goal kicks will be taken from the goal line, on either side of the goalposts, except for U9 & U10's which will be taken from the edge of the goal area. In all cases, opposing players must stand at least two yards away or for goal kicks, outside of the goal area.
9. Goalkeepers - cannot kick the ball from out of their hands. When in possession of the ball in open play, a goalkeeper can only throw the ball out underarm. A keeper cannot pick the ball up from a pass back. Goalkeepers are allowed to leave the goal area, but must not handle the ball outside their area.
10. In this competition playing the ball over head height is allowed.
11. The duration of each game shall vary according to the number of teams entered in each age group. Matches will either be 10 minutes long with no break for age groups with more entrants, or 15 minutes / 20 minutes long with no break for age groups with less entrants. Please consult the match schedule in the programme for more details. In the event of the game being level at the end of this period in the knock out stages of the tournament, a further four minutes shall take place. Should the scores still remain the same, the result shall be determined by the taking of penalties, which are 5 each in accordance with the conditions prescribed by the International Board. Only players on the field of play at the end of the match will be permitted to take penalties.

12. The points awarded in this tournament are: Three points for a win, two points for a score draw and one point for a no score draw.
13. Opposing players must stand two yards from the ball at all free kicks.
14. The referee shall be sole arbiter on any points of dispute arising during each game, and shall be empowered to interpret the rules. The referee's decisions are final.
15. All first round matches shall be initially on a league basis from which the top team(s), as stated in the programme, will qualify for the knock out stages. These rules may vary dependent on the number of teams entering. The programme states the basis of competition for each age group.
16. Kick off for each game shall be determined by the Referee tossing a coin and the winning captain's team kicking off. Kick offs for each half and following goals will begin with the ball at the centre spot of the Field of Play.
17. Any player who is sent off for misconduct shall not be permitted to take any further part in the tournament, they may be replaced by a team mate nominated on the team sheet) for subsequent matches, but not in the match during which they were sent off. This tournament uses the BLUE Card system where a player cautioned is sent to a sin bin for 2 minutes but the caution is not sent to the County FA but recorded by the Senior Referee. Two blue (yellow) cards in any one match equal a red card, whereas an accumulation of two blue (yellow) cards in the tournament results in a player being excluded from any subsequent matches. Registered Referees shall control all matches where possible and all misconduct or straight red card offences will be reported by the referees to the appropriate County FA.
18. All players must wear full kit with the exception of the goalkeepers, who may wear tracksuit bottoms; you are advised to bring studded/moulded footwear and trainers. All players must wear shin guards. No jewellery will be worn.
19. Size 3 balls for U9. Size 4 balls from U10 to U14 age groups. Size 5 balls for U15 upwards. First named team to provide the match ball.
20. The winning teams shall take the result sheet to the Control Tent immediately after the match, in the event of a draw; the first named team shall take it.
21. In the event of two teams having the same amount of points in the qualifying rounds, the team with the largest positive goal difference shall go through to the knock out stages. In the event of the two teams having the same goal difference, the team scoring the most goals shall go through. The best runner up or 3rd placed will be decided by the highest points score/goal difference/goals scored from their group.
22. The winning teams will keep all age group cups.
23. All players, managers, officials, parents & spectators must abide by the FA Respect Code. The referees will be asked to uphold the code and stamp out the use of non-compliant behaviour or language.
24. On any disputes arising, the organising committee's decision is final.