

## **Knebworth Youth FC 2020 Tournament Rules**

### **1. Competition Format**

1.1. This Competition is the Knebworth F.C. Summer Tournament and is affiliated to and sanctioned by the Hertfordshire County Football Association.

1.2. The competition is by open-invitation. Applications will only be considered upon receipt of a fully completed entry form and cleared payment. Entries will be confirmed by the Tournament Organiser at least seven days prior to the tournament.

1.3. A festival format will run for boys and girls teams U6s to U8s. Any player playing in the under 6 category must be eligible to play under 7's in season 2019-20 but also have attained the age of 6 by the day of the tournament. The festival will not collect or record any results or league tables and all participating players will receive a memento.

1.4. The competition is a tournament format for boys and girls teams U9s to U10s featuring results, league tables, a knock out stage (for qualifying teams) and winners in each age group. Medals will be awarded to the winning squads and the runner-up squads, along with a trophy for the winning teams.

### **2. Age Groups, Squads & Player Qualification**

2.1. Age groups will relate to the 2019/20 season.

2.2. Each team shall register a squad of players on the day of the competition.

2.3. Each team may register a squad of up to nine players.

2.4. Each registered player shall only play for one team on the same day of the tournament.

2.5. Clubs should apply the principle of only including players who were registered to the club at the end of the 2019/20 season or who they expect to be registered to the club for the 2020/21 season. 2019/20 league registration cards or league squad lists or proof of guest players' age may be requested.

2.6. Girls and boys can play in the same mixed team. An U10 Girls only competition will also be organised in accordance with Rule 1.2.

2.7. No player should play who is more than two years younger than any other player in the age group.

2.8. Each team shall appoint an adult as manager. The manager shall be responsible for their team being registered on arrival and being available to play on the

correct pitch at the correct time. The manager is also responsible for adherence to the tournament rules and communication of the rules to their squads' players and supporters.

2.9. All players must wear shin pads and appropriate footwear.

### **3. Duration of Matches & Balls**

3.1. All matches will be 10 minutes in duration with no half time.

3.2. All teams are responsible for considering players' playing time does not exceed the FA's guidelines on maximum playing time for children.

3.3. In each match the first named team will provide an appropriate quality and correct sized match ball:

U6s to U9s size 3; U10s size 4.

3.4. In the event of a clash of colours, the second named team should provide alternative shirts. Hertfordshire FA advise against the use of bibs on health and safety grounds. If you use bibs you do so at your own risk and must be agreed by both teams and the referee prior to a game starting.

### **4. Scores & Results**

4.1. For the U6s to U8s Festival there will be no results, league tables or knockout stage.

4.2. The tournament (U9s to U10s) will be played on a League basis with three points for a win and one point for a draw. If a team fails to fulfill a fixture one point is awarded to their opponents with a score recorded as 0-0. The number of teams qualifying for the knockout stage of the tournament will depend on the total entries and number of league groups at each age group and will be confirmed on the day of the tournament at registration. If two or more teams finish equal on points for a qualification position then positions will be decided using the following criteria in this order a) goal difference b) goals scored c) disciplinary performance with 1 point for a yellow card and 3 for a red card (lowest score winning) d) results between the teams in question e) penalty shootout.

4.3. The kick-off will be decided by the toss of a coin with the first named team's captain making the call. The winner of the coin toss will select which goal they wish to attack. The other team shall be awarded the kick off.

4.4. All knockout matches will be decided by the teams scoring most goals during normal time, if the score is equal after normal time, extra time of 5 minutes will be

played. If the score is equal after extra time a penalty shootout will decide the winner.

4.5. In all penalty shootouts five players who were on the field of play at the end of extra time shall take a penalty alternating with their opponents. The highest score from the five penalties will win. If at the end of the five penalties, the scores remain equal, then it will go to sudden death. In sudden death, the next kicks will be taken by the players on the field of play at the end of extra time in an order decided by each team.

## **5. Playing Rules**

5.1. The Laws of association football related to mini soccer will apply (to be as close to the regular rules played) except where provided for in the playing rules as set out below:

5.2. U6 to U8 teams shall field 5 players. U9 to U10 shall field 6 players.

5.3. Substitutes are roll on, roll off from those named on the registration form. A substituted player can return in the same match. Referees must be informed of and allow substitutions. The number of substitutions made during a game is unlimited.

5.4. Goal Kicks will be taken from the edge of the penalty area. All opponents must retreat to the half-way line.

5.5. For all dead ball restarts opponents must be at least 5 metres away from the ball.

5.6. Goalkeepers may not kick the ball out from their hand. Once in the hand they may return the ball into play by playing it from the floor or throwing it. A direct free kick will be awarded to the opposing team for a goalkeeper kicking from the hand. This will be taken from the edge of the penalty area, aligned to where the offence was committed.

5.7. Whether from a re-start or open play, the goalkeeper shall not pass or throw the ball beyond the half way line. Where the ball crosses the half way line without another player from either side touching it a direct free kick will be awarded from where the ball crossed the half way line.

5.8. All free kicks are direct.

5.9. There is no off side.

## **6. Players, Officials and Supporters Conduct**

6.1. This competition uses the yellow and red card system.

6.2. An accumulation of two yellow cards on a single day in the competition will result in the player being suspended from the next match.

6.3. Two yellow cards in one match equal a red card and the player will be sent off.

6.4. A player who receives a red card (either straight red or for two yellow cards in the same match) will not be permitted to take any further part in the competition.

6.5. Knebworth Football Club supports the FA Respect campaign. Any player, official or supporter that does not abide by the FA Respect guidelines will be asked to leave and may be reported to the relevant county football association.

## **7. Protests and Appeals**

7.1. Any protest shall be referred to the organising committee whose decision shall be final.

7.2. Any appeals can be lodged with Hertfordshire FA in accordance with their rules.