



5-A-Side Competition Rules 2018

1. This Competition is the Sun Sports Youth F.C 5-A-Side competition and is affiliated to and sanctioned by the Hertfordshire County Football Association and will be played at Sun Sports and Social Club, Bellmountwood Avenue, Watford, Herts. WD17 3BN on Sunday 3rd June 2018.
2. The competition is a tournament format for teams U7's to U14's featuring results, league tables, a knock out stage / Play off (for qualifying teams) and a winner for each age group.
3. Age groups will relate to the current 2017/18 season just played prior to the tournament i.e. each team will play in the age group they have been playing in from September 2017. FA age rules apply to each age group and must be adhered to.
4. Each team shall register a minimum of five and a maximum of eight players on the day of the competition.
5. Each registered player shall only play for one team on the same day of the tournament.
6. Clubs should apply the principle of only including players who are registered to the club at the time of the competition although squads will be allowed a maximum of two "guest" players to allow for squad players. League registration cards (or proof of guest players' age) may be requested. Players who are currently connected to a Premier League or Football League academy clubs on a contract are not permitted to play.
7. 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.
8. **Each Team Manager is responsible for first aid and the welfare/safety of their own team.**
9. All Group Stage Tournament matches will be either 10 minutes or 12 minutes (Depending on age group) in duration with no half time. (with the Knock Rounds being 10 minutes in duration) (This can be subject to change depending on the group size , please refer to your relevant age group in the programme)
10. All Teams are responsible for considering players playing time does not exceed the FA's guidelines on maximum playing time for children.
11. In each match the **FIRST** named team will provide an appropriate quality and correct sized match ball; U7's to U9s size 3, U10 – U14s size 4.
12. If there is a colour clash the second named team should wear an away strip or bibs.
13. The tournament (All Age Groups) will be played on a League basis with three points for a win and one point for a draw. If a team fails to fulfil a fixture three points are 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) results between the teams in question d) penalty shootout (The sudden death rule will apply)

14. The Laws of association football related to mini soccer and youth football will apply (to be as close to the regular rules played) except where provided for in the playing rules as set out below
15. A maximum of five players per team will be allowed on the field of play with a minimum of four.
16. 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.
17. Goal Kicks will be taken from any point on the penalty area. **There will be no retreat line.**
18. For all dead ball restarts opponents must be at least 5 yards away from the ball.
19. Overhead height is allowed
20. Goalkeepers must throw the ball out after collecting it in hand from his designated area
21. Defenders and attackers are allowed in the goalkeepers area, goalkeepers are allowed out of this area but must not handle the ball outside of the area.
22. Throw-ins will be under arm and must not be above head height. (Except Under 7 & Under 8's which will be normal throw- ins)
23. There is no off side.
24. All free kicks are direct.
25. All knockout matches will be decided by the teams scoring most goals during normal time, if the score is equal after normal time **no extra time will be played** and a penalty shootout will decide the winner.
26. **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 5 penalties, the scores remain equal, then it will go to sudden death with the same five players participating in the same order.**
27. This competition uses the yellow and red card system. An accumulation of two yellow cards on a single day in the competition will result in the player being suspended from the next match.
28. Two yellow cards in one match equal a red card and the player will be sent off.
29. 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.
30. All cautions and red cards will be reported to the relevant county football association by the referee.
31. Sun Sports Youth F.C. supports the FA Respect campaign. Any player, official or supporter that does not abide by the FA respect guidelines will be asked to leave the grounds.
32. Any protest shall be referred to the organising committee whose decision shall be final.
33. Any appeals can be lodged with the Herts FA in accordance with their rules.