ARMY FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

*Founded 1888*

Patron: Her Majesty The Queen

President: Gen Sir Mark Carleton-Smith KCB CBE ADC Gen

*Unit Football Trustee:*

Colonel N R Blenkinsop

E- mail: Neil.Blenkinsop678@mod.gov.uk

Website: www.armyfa.com

*Chairman:*

Brigadier N Stokoe OBE

*Vice Chairman:*

Colonel C Francis MBE ADC

 See Distribution 1 October 2020

**TOWERGATE ARMY MINOR UNITS CHALLENGE CUP DRAW - CURRENT HOLDERS ARMOURED CENTRE**

1. The Draw for Rounds One and Two drawn by Col Neil Blenkinsop and Maj (Ret’d) Billy Thomson, witnessed by Ms Jenny Payne on Thursday 1st October 2020 is enclosed.

2. The Quarter and Semi Final draw will be made in Nov 20. The Final is to take place at the Aldershot Military Stadium, on Wednesday 21st April 2021.

3. Units are reminded that Army Competitions are to take priority over allother grassroot competitions. Unit secretaries are required to inform the Army FA of the date that has been agreed prior to the commencement of the month the fixture is due to be played.

**Units who fail to meet the agreed fixture date will be withdrawn from the competition**

4. Units who wish to follow the progress of The Army Challenge Cup, i.e. the results, can do so by visiting the Army FA website [www.armyfa.com](http://www.armyfa.com) or Fulltime <https://fulltime.thefa.com/>

5. Competition Rules:

a. Replays. Units are reminded that there are no replays i.e. matches are to be played to a conclusion on the day in accordance with the rules of the competition. Due to the current Covid-19 Guidelines there will be no extra time, in the event of a tie after 90 Mins, the match will be decided by a penalty shootout. (subject to change to keep in line with Covid-19 Guidelines).

b. Substitutes. In accordance with The Association’s Challenge Cup Rules 2020/21, a maximum of seven substitutes may be nominated. A Club may at its discretion use three of those seven substitute players at any time in a match. In the event that extra time is once again authorised, a Club may at its discretion use one additional substitute player, (a fourth in total) from the nominated seven substitutes, during such period of extra time. A substitution can only be made when play is stopped for any reason and the Referee has given permission. Prior to the substitution being made the Club must identify to the match officials the number of the player out and the player in, in accordance with the official team sheet.

c. Eligibility of Players. Units are reminded that eligibility of players is in accordance with games and sports in the Army. Particular attention is to be placed on the numbers of other Service players per team (No civilians). Furthermore, in accordance with rule 12, team sheets showing all players, substitutes and their cap badge/service, are to be handed to the match referee, 30 minutes prior to the start of play. Breaches of this rule will be reported, and the offending unit will be liable to a fine of £25.

d. Notification of Results. Units are to send a completed copy of the team sheet with the result to the Affiliation Secretary jenny.payne@armyfa.com within 48hrs of the match being played. Units are to ensure that they photocopy sufficient copies of the team sheet enclosed with this letter. The team sheet given to the referee is solely for his use.

e. Players Availability. The attention of units who have Army Representative players in their team is drawn to Army FA rule 10d. Such units will not arrange fixtures, which clash with CSFA or Army fixtures.

f. Pitch Requirements. There is to be provision for at least three yards clear space between the spectators, the touchline and goal lines. The ground must be roped or fenced off in such a way that spectators cannot encroach onto the field of play. A technical area is to be provided in accordance with current laws of association football. The maximum number of personnel permitted in the technical area is one, and the maximum number on the bench is ten. (Manager, Coach, Physio, 7 Substitutes).

6. Any disputes regarding the draw or the arrangement of fixtures are to be made to the Army FA Secretary in the first instance; William.thomson@armyfa.com

*Original signed*

N R Blenkinsop

Colonel

Unit Football Trustee

Enclosure:

1. Army FA Challenge Cup Draw.
2. Team Sheet

Distribution:

Management Board Members

Regional Football & Referee Committees (UK)

Army Major Units Cup Entries

Towergate Insurance

BFBS TV

Soldier Magazine