



# CUFFLEY FOOTBALL CLUB TOURNAMENT 2021

## Rules and Regulations



**The tournament will operate in accordance with the laws of mini soccer. In addition the following rules will also apply:-**

1. The tournament will operate as a league format with multiple divisions in each age group. Each game will consist of five minutes each way.
2. During the knock-out stages, in the event of the scores being equal after normal time, then extra time of 3 minutes each way will be played. If the scores are still level after extra time, then each team will take five penalties alternately. Only those players on the field of play, at the end of extra time can be selected to take the penalties. If the scores are still level after both teams have taken five penalties, then penalties will continue on a sudden death basis.
3. Roll on roll off substitutes

Age Groups.	Match format	Max Registered Players per team.
U7's to U8's	5-a-side	8
U9's to U10's	7-a-side	10
U11's to U13's	6-a-side	9
U14's to U15's	5-a-side	8

4. No drop kicks allowed by goalkeepers in the age groups Under 11s to Under 15s inclusive.
5. Teams will consist of the following numbers of players and squad members
6. In the event of a clash of colours, the first named team should provide alternative shirts or bibs.
7. All players must wear shin pads.
8. Age groups are as per the 2020 to 2021 season.
9. Teams shall not contain more than two guest players. Tournament officials will undertake random checks of player eligibility during the group and knockout stages. Players will be expected to produce their league ID cards (or proof of age for guest players). If a player is unable to produce the appropriate documentation, they will be deemed ineligible and unable to continue playing in the tournament.
10. The competition does not allow players who are under contract or compete in the Eastern Junior Alliance (EJA) League.
11. A player may only be registered to and take part for one team in the competition.
12. Points for the league stages are awarded with 3 points for a win, 1 point for a draw, 0 points for a defeat.



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13. All age groups will be run on a competitive basis with knockout stages and published results.
14. In the event of non-attendance of a team the opponents will be awarded a 1-0 walkover win.
15. The first named team shall provide the match ball in accordance with the following; Size 3 for Under 7, 8 and 9, Size 4 for Under 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14 and Size 5 for Under 15.
16. Qualification to the knock out stages will be decided as follows:-
  - For age groups consisting of 4 groups of 4, 5 or 6 teams then the winners and runners up in each league will progress to the quarter finals.
  - For age groups consisting of 2 groups of 5 or 6 teams then the winners and runners up in each league will progress to the semi-finals.
  - For age groups consisting of 3 groups of 4, 5 or 6 teams then the winners and runners up and the 2 best scores from the remaining teams, will progress to the quarter finals. If more than the required numbers of teams are equal on points, then the teams ranked highest in accordance with rule 17 below will qualify.
  - For age groups consisting of 5 groups of 4, 5 or 6 teams then the winners and the 3 best scores in the age group will progress to the quarter finals, from the remaining teams, will progress to the quarter finals. If more than the required numbers of teams are equal on points, then the teams ranked highest in accordance with rule 17 below will qualify.
17. League positions will be decided by the following order of priority:-
  - Highest number of points awarded
  - Highest goal difference
  - Highest number of goals scored
  - Head to head result
  - Toss of a coin
18. This competition uses the BLUE Card system instead of yellow cards. The options for a match official imposing disciplinary sanctions are therefore:
19. Player issued with a red card is immediately and permanently excluded from play and the remainder of the competition
20. Player shown a blue card is immediately and temporarily suspended from play (2 minutes in the sin bin) - the booking is not sent to Herts FA but recorded by the Senior Referee
21. Player who receives a second blue card in a game or in the competition is immediately and permanently excluded from play and the remainder of the competition
22. NB: If a player has received one or more Blue cards in the competition, it is his team manager's responsibility to inform the referee of each subsequent game before kick-off. Any failure to do



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so will result in 3 points being deducted from the team (group stages) or the team forfeiting that game (knockout stages).

23. A player who is permanently excluded from play may be replaced by a teammate nominated on the team sheet for subsequent matches, but not in the match during which he was sent off.
24. Registered Referees shall control all matches where possible and all misconduct or straight red card offences will be reported to the appropriate County FA.
25. Teams must arrive at and complete their registration on time, (by 8.45am for the morning sessions and 12.45pm for the afternoon sessions).
26. All team managers must attend the managers briefing, (at 9.00am for the morning sessions and 1.00pm for the afternoon sessions).
27. All managers are responsible for ensuring that no single player exceeds the FA guidelines for 'total playing time in one day'.
28. The referee's decision is final
29. Any matter not covered above, will be decided by the Tournament Committee