

TOURNAMENT RULES

RULES OF THE CUFFLEY FC MINI FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT

1. Competition Format

1.1 This Competition is called Cuffley FC Mini Soccer Tournament and is sanctioned by the Hertfordshire County FA

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.

2. Age Groups, Squads & Player Qualification

2.1. Age groups will relate to the 2022/23 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 **U7's** & U8's 8 players U9's & U10's 10 players U11's – U12's – U13's 9 players U14's & U15's 8 players.

Pitch sizes are 5v5 for U7's & U8's and 7v7 for all other age groups.

2.4. Each registered player shall only play for one team throughout the duration of the tournament.

2.5. Each team shall appoint a 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.

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

3. Duration of Matches & Balls

3.1. All matches will be 10 minutes in duration, straight through change of ends.

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. Size 3 U7's-U8's-U9's- U10's Size 4 U11's-U12's-U13'-U14' and size 5 for U15's.

3.4. In the event of a clash of colours, the second named team should provide alternative shirts / bibs.

4. Scores & Results

4.1. The competition shall be played on an initial league basis for all age groups.

Three points for a win, one for a draw. In the event of non-attendance of a team the opposition will be awarded a 0-0 walk over.

If two or more teams finish with the same number of points, then the highest placed team will be determined by:

- the result of their head-to-head
- then goal difference
- then the team that has scored the most goals
- kicks from the penalty mark in accordance with the Laws of the Game.

4.2 All knockout matches will be decided by the teams scoring the most goals during normal time. If the score is equal after normal time, an extra 6 (3 minutes each way) minutes will be played. If the score is equal after extra time, kicks from the penalty mark will decide the winner in accordance with IFAB procedures.

4.3 Qualification to the knockout stage

* For age groups consisting of 2 groups of 5 or 6 teams, the winners, and runners up in each league will progress to the semi-finals. If more than the required teams are equal on points, then the teams ranked highest in the accordance with rule 4.1 will qualify.

* For the age group consisting of 3 groups of 4,5 or 6 teams, the winners, and runners up in each league, plus the two teams with the highest point totals from the remaining teams, will progress to the quarter finals. If more than the required teams are equal on points, then the teams ranked highest in the accordance with rule 4.1 will qualify.

* For age groups consisting of 4 groups of 4,5 or 6 teams, the winners, and runners up in each league will progress to the quarter finals. If more than the required teams are equal on points, then the teams ranked highest in the accordance with rule 4.1 will qualify.

* For the age group consisting of 5 groups of 4,5 or 6 teams, the winners and the highest points totals from the remaining 3 teams in the age group will progress to the quarter finals, If more than the required teams are equal on points, then the teams ranked highest in the accordance with rule 4.1 will qualify.

5. Playing Rules

5.1. The Laws of association football will apply.

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

5.3 The off-side rule doesn't apply.

5.4 No drop kicks for the age groups U11's – U15's inclusive allowed by goalkeepers.

5.5 The competition does not allow teams/players who compete in the Eastern Junior Alliance League, unless they are dual registered. Any dispute on qualification will be at sole discretion of Tournament Committee.

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 suspended from the next match.

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

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

6.5 All cautions and red cards will be dealt with on the day of the match.

6.6 Any misconduct from the tournament will be reported to County FA by the referee as normal.

7. Reporting Results

7.1. Winning team shall be responsible for reporting the result of the game to the result co-ordinator at the conclusion of each game, in the event of a draw the home team shall report the result.

8. Protests and Appeals

8.1. All questions of eligibility, qualification of players or interpretation of Rules shall be referred to the Tournament Committee, but no objection relative to the dimensions of the playing area or other appurtenances thereon shall be entertained by the Committee unless a protest is lodged with the referee before the commencement of the game.

9. Referees

9.1. Referees shall be appointed by the Competition; referee's decision is final.

10. Medals and trophies

10.1 The following will receive a medal: Winners, Runners-up, and some age groups will receive participation medals.