**MIDDLESEX FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION (*Appendix 2)***

**RULES OF THE [ ] COMPETITION**

*The following rules are for guidance only and intended as template for your Competition to adapt. If the Competition wishes to add any additional rules, please ensure these are highlighted in YELLOW. Those Rules Italicised can be removed if not applicable to your Competition. All information entered in* ***[ ]*** *should remain in* ***bold****. Once completed, please send to* [*discipline@middlesexfa.com*](mailto:discipline@middlesexfa.com)*.*

1. **COMPETITION**
   1. This Competition will be known as **[ ]**.
   2. The Competition shall be sanctioned by Middlesex FA. The competition, all clubs and players and other persons shall be subject to the rules and regulations of the Association.
   3. The competition is by *open invitation/closed 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. **AFFILIATION**
   1. All clubs must be affiliated to a County Football Association, during the playing season of the date of the Competition.
   2. No team must enter this competition in the name of an affiliated club without the full knowledge and authority of that club.
   3. *An entry fee of £* ***[ ]*** *per team shall be payable by* ***[ ]*** *days before the Competition date.*
3. **MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**
   1. The Management Committee shall have the power to apply, act upon and enforce the rules of the competition and shall also have jurisdiction over all matters affecting the competition.
   2. A Management Committee consisting of **[ ]** people shall be appointed to organise the competition. These are:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| * Chairman |  |
| * Secretary |  |
| * Other |  |

1. **AGE GROUPS**
   1. Age groups will relate to the **[ ]** season.
   2. The Competition shall be divided into the following age groups: (please tick as appropriate)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Age Group | U7 | U8 | U9 | U10 | U11 | U12 | U13 | U14 | U15 | U16 | U17 | U18 | OPEN AGE |
| Male |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Female |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Mixed |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

1. **QUALIFICATION OF PLAYERS**
   1. Each team shall register a squad of players on the day of the competition, with a maximum of **[ ]** players per team.
   2. Before the commencement of the Competition, all clubs shall produce a list of players eligible to participate (together with details of their dates of birth if playing Youth Football). All players shall be bona fide members of their listed club.
   3. A Player may not play for more than one team throughout the duration of the tournament.
   4. 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.
   5. All players must wear shin pads and appropriate footwear.
2. **FORMAT**
   1. The format of this Competition is [League Basis Only, League Basis and Knock Out, Knock Out Basis Only, Development] *(Please delete as appropriate, definitions are provided in the Appendix 3)*
   2. The Formats for each Age Groups is listed below:

*(Please tick as appropriate outlining whether the age group will be following mini-soccer laws, small-sided laws or Laws of the Game.)*

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Age Group | Format | Mini Soccer | Small-Sided Laws | Laws of the Game |
| U7 |  |  |  |  |
| U8 |  |  |  |  |
| U9 |  |  |  |  |
| U10 |  |  |  |  |
| U11 |  |  |  |  |
| U12 |  |  |  |  |
| U13 |  |  |  |  |
| U14 |  |  |  |  |
| U15 |  |  |  |  |
| U16 |  |  |  |  |
| U17 |  |  |  |  |
| U18 |  |  |  |  |
| Open Age |  |  |  |  |

1. **DURATION OF MATCHES & BALLS**
   1. All matches will be **[ ]** minutes in duration *per half*.
   2. *Half time will be no longer than* ***[ ]*** *minutes.*
   3. In the event of a draw in the knockout competition *extra time of* ***[ ]*** *minutes shall be played each way. If after extra time the scores are still level* kicks from the penalty mark shall be taken in accordance with the Laws of the Game.
   4. All teams are responsible for ensuring players’ playing time does not exceed The FA’s guidelines on maximum playing time for children.
   5. Each Team will register its colours with the Competition when returning their application form. Should there be a clash of colours a changed strip can be worn or bibs can be used.
   6. No Team playing in the competition shall play in predominantly black, navy or any other colour that does not clearly distinguish players from the referee.
2. **SCORES & RESULTS**
   1. 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.
3. **PLAYING RULES**
   1. The Competition shall be governed in accordance with the rules and regulations of The Football Association. *Matches will be played in conformity with the laws of Mini-Soccer or Small Side Football (dependent on age groups) or Laws of the Game as issued by The Football Association.*
   2. 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.
4. **PLAYERS, OFFICIALS AND SUPPORTERS CONDUCT**
   1. This competition uses the yellow and red card system.
   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.
   3. Two yellow cards in one match equals a red card and the player will be sent off.
   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.
   5. All cautions and red cards will be dealt with on the day of the match.
   6. Any misconduct from the tournament will be reported to Middlesex FA by the referee as normal.
5. **REPORTING RESULTS**
   1. The referee shall be responsible for reporting the result of the game to the Committee at the conclusion of each game.
6. **PROTESTS AND APPEALS**
   1. All questions of eligibility, qualification of players or interpretation of Rules shall be referred to the Management Committee, whose decision on the matter shall be final and binding for the duration of the competition.
   2. 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.
   3. Any Appeals against the decision of the Management Committee must be made to [discipline@middlesexfa.com](mailto:discipline@middlesexfa.com) within 14 days of the notification of the decision and be accompanied by an appeal fee of £10.00.
7. **REFEREES**
   1. Referees shall be appointed by the Competition.
   2. *Referees shall, if they choose to accept it, be paid a fee of* ***[ ]****.*
8. **MISCONDUCT** 
   1. Serious misconduct must be sent to the Parent Association of the offending Team.