



WORTHING TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB – FOOTBALL FESTIVAL 2018

ADMINISTRATION & RULES

1. **MANAGEMENT OF THE COMPETITION**

The Competition shall be called the Worthing Town FC Football Festival 2018.

The Competition shall be governed in accordance with the Rules and Regulations of the Football Association. Matches shall be played in accordance with either the Laws for Mini-Soccer or Small Side Football as laid down by The Football Association (see Rule 17 below). Any other Rules must be specified. Where there are options these must be specified.

The Competition shall be sanctioned by the Sussex County Football Association. The Competition, all Teams and players, and other persons, shall be subject to the Rules and Regulations of that Association.

2. **AFFILIATION OF PARTICIPATING TEAMS**

All Teams will be affiliated to the Sussex County Football Association, through the Competition. The sanctioning of the Competition shall automatically accord to all participating Teams the status of affiliated Teams.

3. **TEAMS ELIGIBLE TO ENTER AND ENTRY FEE**

The Competition shall be open to all teams who are affiliated to their respective County Football Association. The entry fee shall be £40 per team.

4. **ORGANISING COMMITTEE AND POWERS**

An Organising Committee appointed by The Executive Committee of Worthing Town FC shall be appointed to organise the Competition.

The Organising 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, including any not provided for by these Rules.

The Organising Committee shall also adjudicate in all cases of dispute, protest and complaint.

5. **COPIES OF RULES**

A copy of these Rules shall be given to all participating Teams and are binding on the Clubs taking part.

6. **PLAYERS' QUALIFICATION**

The Competition shall be divided into the following age groups:-

Mixed: Under 7s, Under 8s, Under 9s, Under 10s

Boys: Under 11s, Under 12s, Under 13s, Under 14s, Under 15s, Under 16s, Under 18s

Girls: Under 10s, Under 11s, Under 12s, Under 13s, Under 14s, Under 15s, Under 16s

Inclusive Football (Pan Disability)

Ladies, Men's, Veterans (over 35s), Walking Football (over 50s)

Before the commencement of the Competition all Teams shall submit a list of players eligible to participate (together with details of their dates of birth) to the Committee.

All players may only play for one (1) team.

All players must have been eligible to play in their respective age groups during the 2017/2018 season. Failure to comply with this rule will result in the disqualification of the offending team, all results involving that team being declared null and void.

Each Squad shall consist of no more than eight players.

7. **TEAM COLOURS**

Each competing Team shall register its first (1st) and second (2nd) choice of the colours with the Competition. In the event of similar colours the second named Team shall change.

Players shall be dressed in uniform shirts and shorts, but the goalkeepers shall wear colours which distinguish them from other players and referees. The goalkeepers may wear tracksuit bottoms.

8. **ARRANGEMENT OF COMPETITION**

The Competition shall be played in either a Cup format or a League format. This will be determined by the Management of the Competition.

If an age group is playing a Cup format then a group draw (in the first stage) with the Teams divided by the Committee will take place. Three points will be awarded for a win, One for a draw and none for a loss.

Any team failing to complete a match or otherwise fulfil a fixture will forfeit the points to their opponents, the score of the match being recorded as 0:0. In addition, at the sole discretion of the Competition Committee, the team may also be disqualified from the tournament, in which case all results involving that team will be declared null and void.

In the event of teams being level on points then league placing will be decided as follows:

- The team with the superior goal difference will take precedence.
- If both teams have the same goal difference then the team who scored the greatest number of goals will take precedence.
- If both teams have scored the same number of goals then the team that won the league match between them will take precedence.
- If their match was drawn then five penalties and, if necessary, a sudden death shoot-out will decide the league placing.

A Knock-Out Competition will then take place.

Quarter-Final matches will be played as per the pre-tournament draw with the winner of each tie progressing to the Semi-Final matches. The two winners of the Semi-Final matches shall play in the Final.

In the event of a draw during the knockout stages, **five minutes one-way** extra time will be played. If the match is still tied after extra time then five penalties will be taken by each side and in the event of the match still being tied then sudden death penalties will decide, starting with the sixth player.

For all penalty shoot-outs, (to decide both league and knockout stage winners) the goalkeeper and the five outfield players who are on the pitch at the end of the match shall remain unchanged for all penalty kicks. A coin will be tossed to determine the sequence of teams. All the players have to be behind the ball in the opposite half while the kicks are being taken. Rebounds do not count.

If an age group is playing a League format then all eligible sides will playing the opposing sides in the competition with three points will be awarded for a win, one for a draw and none for a loss. There will be no competition Final played but the winner will be the side that accumulates the greatest number of points.

In the event of teams being level on points then league placing will be decided as follows:

- The team with the superior goal difference will take precedence.
- If both teams have the same goal difference then the team who scored the greatest number of goals will take precedence.
- If both teams have scored the same number of goals then the team that won the league match between them will take precedence.
- If their match was drawn then five penalties and, if necessary, a sudden death shoot-out will decide the league placing.

Please note that for **under 7s** **NO** results will be recorded and there will be **NO** league placing – there will also be **NO** knockout matches.

9. **REQUIREMENTS ON TEAMS**

Team managers must report to control with their completed team registration form at least 30 minutes prior to the start of the tournament. Any team failing to be so registered may be disqualified from the competition.

Teams should be ready for their matches at least five minutes prior to the published kick-off time. Any team arriving late for their kick-off time may forfeit the points to their opponents, in which case the score of the match will be recorded as 0:0.

All teams must provide an appropriate size match ball.

The first named team is the "HOME" team.

The "HOME" team is to provide the match ball. The "AWAY" team is to change their strip in the event of a colour clash.

10. **REPORTING OF RESULTS**

The referee shall be responsible for reporting the result of the game to the Committee at the conclusion of each game.

11. **REFEREES**

Referees shall be appointed by the Competition.

12. **PROTESTS AND COMPLAINTS**

All questions of eligibility, qualification of players or interpretation of Rules shall be referred to the 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.

13. **APPEALS**

Any appeal against a decision of the Committee must be made in writing to the Sussex County Football Association in accordance with its Rules within fourteen (14) days of the posting of the decision of the Committee and accompanied by an appeal fee of £35.00.

14. **MISCONDUCT**

To be dealt with in accordance with the agreed FA Procedures.

Issuing of Cautions and 'Timed Suspensions'

In Small Sided Football yellow cards and associated cautions are not employed. Referees should instead issue a blue card for a cautionable offence. The issuing of a blue card indicates that the recipient will serve an immediate 'timed suspension' ('sin bin').

The options for disciplining offenders are therefore as follows:

- Player shown a blue card and temporarily suspended from play
- Player issued with a discretionary second blue card and temporarily excluded from play
- Player issued with a red card and permanently excluded from play

A blue card offence should always be accompanied by a temporary suspension from play. The period of timed suspension in Small Sided Football shall be **two minutes**. The release of players from a temporary suspension should be at the direction of the Referee.

Disciplinary Procedures for Red Card Offences

'Serious' Red Card Offences

Offences not classified below will be the responsibility of the local County FA.

'Less Serious' Red Card Offences (as outlined below)

Offences classified below will be dealt with by the Management of the Competition under the delegated-authority of the County FA. The following disciplinary tariff of suspensions in such cases is outlined below.

Offence

Receiving a second 'blue card' in the same match
Denying a goal or an obvious goal scoring opportunity
Use of offensive, insulting or abusive gestures
Attempting to kick or strike another Player
Violent Conduct
Serious Foul Play

Suspension

1 Match suspension
1 Match suspension
2 Match suspension
3 Match suspension
3 Match suspension
3 Match suspension

15. **TEAM NAMES**

No Team must enter this Competition in the name of an affiliated Club without the full knowledge and authority of that Club.

16. **TROPHIES**

The winning team in each of the competitions will receive a trophy to keep forever.

All players (maximum of eight) in teams that are winners will receive a memento.

All players (maximum of eight) in teams that are runners-up will receive a memento.

All players (maximum of eight) in under 7s teams that participate will receive a memento.

All players (maximum of eight) in Inclusive teams that participate will receive a memento.

17. **RULES OF PLAY**

All competitions will be run under the FA mini-soccer rules.

The first named team in the programme (the 'home' side) shall have choice of ends with the second named team in the programme (the 'away' side) having kick-off.

All matches will be **12 minutes one way**.

In the Under 18s and Men's competition matches will be **eighteen minutes one way**.

The Under 7s and Under 8s will play 5a-side, under 7s being non-competitive matches. All other competitions shall be 6a-side. Unlimited "roll on-roll off" substitutions are allowed during the course of any match at the discretion of the referee. Only the eight players nominated to the Committee prior to the event may participate during the competition.

In the Under 7s, Under 8s, Under 9s, Under 10s competitions, goal kicks shall be taken from the edge of the penalty area. In all other competitions, goal kicks shall be taken from the goal line within six metres of the goal.

In all competitions except the Under 7s, Under 8s, Under 9s, Under 10s the goalkeeper is not allowed to kick the ball direct from their hands. The ball must be thrown or rolled into play by the goalkeeper or placed on the ground to be played with their feet.

In the Under 7s, Under 8s, Under 9s, Under 10s, at goal-kicks the opposition team must retreat to the halfway line to allow the ball to be played.

In the Under 7s and Under 8s only when the goalkeeper has possession the opposition team should be encouraged to retreat to the halfway line to allow the ball to be played.