NEWPORT PAGNELL TOWN 5/6-A-SIDE TOURNAMENT— Saturday 20th and Sunday 21st June 2020

TOURNAMENT RULES

1. Except where other provisions in these rules are made, the laws of association football apply.

2. All players must be age-eligible for Under 7’S, 8’s, 9’s, 10’s, 11’s, 12’s, 13’s, 14’s, 15’s, U10 Girls and U14 Girls respectively as per the 2019/20 season.

3. Teams playing in the Under 7 and Under 8 age groups will be playing on a NON-COMPETITIVE basis. All players will receive the same awards for competing. No club/team will be declared outright winners.

4. Each squad shall consist of a maximum of 10 players. Only U7s & U8s team shall consist of **FIVE** players and a maximum of five substitutes **PER MATCH**. Each team (U9 and above) shall consist of **SIX** players and a maximum of four substitutes **PER MATCH.**

5. Substitutes may be used at any time during the game with the permission of the Ref. Once substituted the player may be re-used on a roll on / roll off basis.

6. There will be a maximum of two “guest” players allowed per squad (i.e. players who are not included on the league registration card / sheet for that team for season 2019/20, however proof of Date of Birth will be required). Academy players from the current playing season (2019/20) are ineligible. New Academy players for the 2020/21 season are eligible to play, provided they were not an academy player in the 2019/20 season. The 2019/20 season is deemed to end on 30th June 2020.

Naming or fielding an illegible player (incorrect age group, academy, exceeding allowed number of guest or a player that has already featured for another team in this tournament) will result in a 1-0 defeat being recorded against the offending team FOR ALL FIXTURES.

7. **League registration cards** for the season 2019/20 may be required, keep them with you on the day in case of challenge (you may need to photocopy cards if they are required to be returned to your local league). Prior approval is required if you are a NEW team.

8. The competition for Under 9s and above shall consist of a number of group games and knock out games:

#  *Group Stages*

 Each age group will consist of two groups, with each team playing one another (in their group) on a league basis.

3 points are awarded for a win, 1 point for a draw and 0 points for a loss.

* Second named team selects ends
* First named team starts the game and supplies the ball.
* Ball sizes = U7-U9 Size 3 / U10-U14 Size 4 / U15 Size 5
* First named team wears bibs if colour clash
* The Referee will capture and record the results
* The Referee is responsible for reporting the results to the Control Tent.

Match durations will be 9 mins straight play with a 1 min turnaround time between each game

If a team fails to fulfil a fixture at the group stage, a 1-0 score line will be recorded against the team that failed to fulfil the fixture, unless, by their failure to appear in a particular match or matches, that team gains an advantage. In this case the tournament committee shall make a decision. Their decision will be final and not open to appeal.

 ***Qualification for the knockout stages***

 The top four teams in each group after all the league games have been completed will qualify for the next stage of the competition (quarter finals). Where there are 2 groups at the same age group, if one group has more teams than the other group (IE one group has 8 teams and another has 7) it will still be the top 4 from each group that progress

(For age groups where there is only on Group, the top 4 teams in that Group will qualify for the Semi Finals)

Final league positions will determine opponents in the first round of Knock-out stages.

In the event of a tie on points, goal difference, then goals scored, then Head to Head will apply. If teams are still level a play-off match/matches of 5 minutes’ straight play will take place after which, if the teams are still level, a penalty shoot-out will take place (see ‘Penalty Shootouts’ below)

In the event a team in a group does not turn up, all other teams in the group will receive a 1-0 win for the relevant fixture.

 Fair Play

 At the end of each group stage, there will be fair play award to one team from each age group. The winners of the fair play award from each age group. will be decided by a totting up process from points awarded by each referee for each game. There will be a trophy for the winner of each fair play award.

 *Knockout Competition*

 In the knockout stages of the competition, if the scores are level at full time an extra 3 minutes straight play will follow. If the score is still level a penalty shoot-out will decide the winners.

*Penalty Shoot Out*

 Each team will take five penalties. If the scores are level at the end of this, a sudden death shoot out takes place. Any player from the relevant squad (regardless of whether or not they were on the field of play at the end of Full Time or Extra Time) can take part in the Penalty Shoot-out.

Both teams will remain in an orderly manner in /around the centre circle and may be joined by a maximum of two officials from each team only. The team Manager or Captain will select the order in which his players will take the penalties and make it known to the referee. This sequence will apply throughout the shoot out in the match.

9. There will be no offside rule

10. Qualified referees will officiate in all games, unless specified by the organisers, and their decision will be final.

11. A player cautioned will automatically be ineligible for his/hers teams next match. A player cautioned twice during the competition or sent off, will take no further part in the tournament. The referee is obliged to report all cases of misconduct to the relevant association within two days. No substitute will be allowed to take the place of the player that has been dismissed.

12. Goal kicks – All teams from U11s & above will take goal kicks from the goal line either side of the goal. U7-U10 will take goal kicks from the edge of the area and U7-U10 opposition players will retreat to their own half for Goal Kicks.

 From open play, Goalkeepers may only distribute the ball from hand by throwing or rolling the ball to a team-mate. U11s and above may only distribute the ball by underarm. The ball cannot be rolled for the goalkeeper to take a further touch him/her self (i.e. he cannot roll it out for him/herself).

13. Players may not score direct from kick-off or Goal Kick. In the event of the ball entering the goal from kick-off or Goal Kick without touching any other player, a goal-kick will be awarded to the defending team.

14. Any case of misconduct involving player(s) or spectator(s) from any team are liable to immediate suspension and the team(s) concerned will take no further part in the tournament and will be asked to leave the premises.

15. Any dispute must be raised immediately. If it is in relation to a league placing that affects the semi/quarter Final it MUST be raised prior to the first ball being kicked in the FIRST semi/quarter Final. In the case of any dispute the decision of the tournament committee will be final.

16. ALL competing teams must ensure that their registration forms are returned to the control point at least 20 minutes before the first game in their group.

17. An entry fee of £35.00 per team will be charged. This fee is not refundable in the event of cancellation.