



Southam United FC - Tournament Rules

Conditions of Play

1 – All age groups are permitted to register and play no more than the maximum squad size set for the appropriate age group during the competition:

Age Group	U7's	U8's	U9 Girls	U9's	U10	U11 Girls	U11	U12	U13	U14
A-Side	5	5	5	7	7	6	6	6	5	5
Max Squad	10	10	8	10	10	9	9	9	9	9

* Every game in the competition will last 12 minutes without a change of ends – unless otherwise stated *.

Clubs are requested to support the spirit of the competition and not play any players that are registered with FA registered Football Academies.

2 – There is no limit to the number of substitutions that can be made in a game.

3 – Players can go on and off the pitch more than once.

4 – Players may only play for one side in the competition and only compete in one age group.

5 – Each team is requested to bring bibs or a change of shirt to avoid colour clashes.

6 – In the event of a colour clash, the second named team is to change colours.

7 – Each game will start with a toss of the coin to decide ends & kick off.

8 – All players must be within their respective age groups on 1st September 2018.

9 – Age groups U7's – U9's will use size 3 balls. U10's – U14's will use size 4 balls.

Rules of Games

10 – All free kicks are direct. Defending players must be at least 5 yards away from the ball until it is in play.

11 – There is no head height restriction.

12 – There is no offside.

13 – Goalkeepers can pick up back passes for U7. Normal FA back pass rule applies for U8's - U14's. In the U7's, goalkeepers can take goal kicks out of their hands. All other age groups will be off the floor. U8's, U9's & U10's – normal Mini Soccer rules apply. U11's - U14's, goalkeepers cannot kick out of their hands – only throws.

14 – U7's - U9's will play the 'Retreat Line' rule (A player of the defending team kicks the ball from any point within the penalty area. Opponents must retreat to their own half until the ball is in play. The defending team does not have to wait for the opposition to retreat and has the option to restart the game before should they choose to).

15 – If a goalkeeper is deemed to pick up a back pass by the referee, a penalty to the opposition shall be awarded.

16 – If a goalkeeper is deemed to kick out of their hands by the referee, a penalty to the opposition shall be awarded.

Basis of Leagues

17 – First phase games will be played in groups on a league basis. U7's will be played as 'friendly' matches according to FA rules.

18 – There will be 3 points awarded for a win, 1 point for a draw.

19 – League positions will be decided on points gained, and then goal difference, and then goals scored, and then goals conceded (the least being successful).

Basis of Knockout Stages

20 – U8's - U14's will play a league, then knockout stages if successful.

21 – The two top teams from each group will play in the semi-finals with the winners of group (1) playing the runners-up of group (2) and the runners up of group (1) will play the winners of group (2).

22 – In the knockout stage only, in the event of a draw, 2 minutes will be played as extra time to decide the winner. If after this the scores are still level, penalties shall decide the winner in accordance to rule 24.

23 – Five penalties per team, followed by sudden death if a result is not achieved. The Manager shall give players' names to the referee prior the kicks being taken and only players on the pitch at the end of extra time shall be allowed to take part in the penalty shoot out.

Disciplinary / Misconduct

24 – Any player sent off shall miss the next game.

25 – No substitute is allowed to replace a player sent from the field of play.

26 – Any player sent off for the following – striking, swearing or spitting at an opponent or referee shall take no further part in the competition.

27 – Any team that, in the view of the organising committee, fails to control the actions of its players and/or supporters shall be excluded from further play in the competition.

28 – The organising committee reserve the right to apply whatever rules they deem fit on the day to preserve football and the tournament being played in the right spirit.