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| C:\Users\jlangdon\Dropbox\Wargrave Tournament\2019\Logo.JPG | Wargrave Women and Girls FC Five-a-side Football Tournament | C:\Users\jlangdon\Dropbox\Wargrave Tournament\2019\Logo.JPG |

DRAFT RULES (subject to number of teams)

The tournament will be played according to the Laws of Association Football except where other provisions are made below.

# Schedule

* 8 pitches will be used for the competition, and these will be clearly marked on the day
* Teams should ensure they are at the appropriate pitch **at least 5 minutes** before the scheduled start time of their games (pitch coordinators will be present to keep matches on schedule)
* The **schedule** and live updates can be viewed via Tournify on the day with results and league positions
* The U8 age group will play friendly matches on a league basis, with the emphasis on participation and fun, rather than winning or losing
* For everyone else, the format is a **League** competition, followed by a knockout phase determined by the number of Age Group entries:  
  Age Groups with 10 or more entries will be formed into 2 leagues and then a **Champions** knockout for teams placed 1st and 2nd and a **Europa** knockout for teams placed 3rd and 4th; in each league.

Age Groups where there are up 9 entries will be formed into a 1 league followed by a **Champions** knockout for the top 4 teams.

* Teams will play a minimum of 4 games and a maximum of 9 games (depending upon the number of teams entered), with most teams playing 5-6 games

**Teams**

* Tournament entry is restricted to FA affiliated clubs.
* Players must be within their age limit for season 2023-24. Proof (league ID) of affiliation and player age may be requested.
* A first aider will be present and a first aid area provided. Each team must however have a nominated & qualified emergency aider present for all games.
* Clubs/Teams must be Affiliated to a County FA.
* The tournament is for recreational and not Academy players.
* U8/U9, U10 age groups will play **6-aside** with a maximum of 8 in a squad
* All other age groups will play **5-aside** with a maximum of 7 in a squad
* Players can only represent one team in each age group

**Equipment**

* All jewellery must be removed before playing
* Shin pads must be worn by everyone
* Trainers or football boots are acceptable
* For U8’s, U9’s and U10’s the ball size shall be **size 3**
* From U11’s to U14’s the ball size shall be **size 4**
* All U15’s and upwards will play with a **size 5** ball
* All other equipment issues are at the discretion of the referee

**Matches**

* In the event of a colour clash the team named first shall be required to change shirts/turn them inside out/or wear bibs
* The team named first shall have **choice of ends**
* The team named second shall **take kick off**
* The team named first shall provide the **match ball**
* The U8 and U9 matches are **8 minutes long**, all other matches are **10 minutes long** - there is no half-time
* There is a **2-minute break** between all matches. Please ensure you are not late for your kick off, lateness may result in the referee awarding a one goal head start to the opposition followed by decreased playing time
* Substitutions are **roll on roll off**. Please however wait for a break in play, and the referee’s consent to do so
* Any player who has been replaced may return to the playing area as a substitute for another player
* Any of the other players may change places with the goalkeeper, provided that the referee is informed and that the change is made during a stoppage in the game
* If a team is **reduced to 2 players** the match will be awarded to the opposition

**Scoring**

* **3 points** shall be awarded for a win, **1 for a draw** and **1 bonus point** for scoring 2 or more goals
* If points are still level after all group games placing shall be determined via the following:
  + Goals for
  + Goal difference
  + Results between the two teams
  + Earliest registered team
* In the event of a draw in the knockout phase the match shall go **straight to penalties**
* Penalties are 3 per team then **sudden death**, i.e. the first team to miss loses (the first named team in the match goes first). There is a maximum of 8 penalties per team, if after that there is still no winner then the match will be decided by a coin toss.
* The tournament directors may at any time award the penalty shoot via a coin toss

**Goalkeepers**

* The goalkeeper can’t handle the ball from a **direct pass back**, but can kick it
* Goal kicks will be taken from the **goal line**
* The **penalty area** will be clearly marked
* Goalkeepers are allowed to leave the penalty area, and equally players are allowed inside it
* Fly kicks are **not** allowed the ball must be rolled under arm or thrown over arm
* Another player must touch the ball before the keeper can touch the ball again

**Discipline**

* Any cautions shall result in a goal awarded to the opposition
* A red card will result in the player being banned from taking part in any further matches
* There will be **no off-sides**
* All dead ball situations will require the opposition to stand at least **3 metres back** from the placement of the ball, including corners, free kicks and throw ins
* A goal **cannot** be scored directly from kick off
* Please deal with any minor injuries via the substitution rule
* The referee has the right to stop play for any injury he/she deems to be serious
* Please note that **first aid** will be in attendance for any injuries to players
* All players participate at their own risk
* All of the officials used in the tournament, will have the full backing of the tournament directors. We will be using a wide range of match officials, some with more experience than others, and **we would ask that you be tolerant**. Referees will be appointed to age groups that are relevant to their own age and experience.

**Disputes**

* WGFC reserves the right to remove any team, player, coach or spectator whose conduct is deemed to be unacceptable
* The **referee’s decision is final**
* Any major disputes can be taken up with one of the tournament directors

**Trophy Presentations**

* A **Team trophy and individual trophies** will be awarded to the overall winners of the **Champions** knockout stage
* Medals will also be awarded to the **runners up** in the **Champions** knockout stage
* **Winners** of the **Europa** knockout stage will also be awarded a **Team Trophy and Medals**
* Trophies and medals will be presented on completion of the group/knockout phases (see **Schedule** for timings)
* The U8 group will receive participation medals

**Play well, play fair and have fun**