

# GAME OF TOURNAMENTS RULES

## REGISTRATION OF YOUR TEAM

Your Team must be FA Affiliated to your local County FA.

When registering a team online you must use your Registered Team Name with the County FA

Any Teams Looking to play a year up must have written permission from the Tournament Organiser & it also must be agreed & checked first with your local county FA.

## REGISTRATION OF PLAYERS

All players must be registered at the start of the tournament on the online registration form provided. Failure to adhere with this could lead to your team being disqualified from the tournament.

Failure to provide identity may lead to the team or player being disqualified.

Any team found guilty of fielding ineligible players will be disqualified from the competition.

Players can only play for the team they are registered with – any team found guilty of playing the same player for more than one team will be automatically disqualified.

## ACADEMY PLAYERS

BOYS – Strictly no academy or centre of excellence players are allowed to participate in any event unless stated.

Any player who has played for an academy or centre of excellence during the season leading up to the event must provide a release form from the respective club. No other form of paperwork will be accepted.

GIRLS – Players signed to ETC's (Emerging Talent Centres) are eligible to play for their grassroots team and are therefore eligible to play at the tournament.

Players signed to PGA's (Professional Game Academy) are not eligible to play at the tournament & must provide Release papers if they are released.

Any team breaking this rule, shall be disqualified from the tournament.

## GUEST PLAYERS

Must meet the ability standard of the tournament that you are entering. Please refer to Matrix system or Team entry requirements at the bottom

Must fall on your team insurance to take part or have own personal insurance

## RECOMMENDED SQUAD SIZES

Under 7 – 8

Under 8 – 8

Under 9 – 10

Under 10 – 10

Under 11 – 13

Under 12 – 13

Under 13 – 16

Under 14 – 16

Under 15 – 16

Under 16 – 16

Please note that these are recommendations only. GOT Does not want to stop children from playing football due to teams carrying high volume of players.

## **GROUP STAGE QUALIFICATION**

Unless communicated otherwise

Teams Finishing 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> place qualify for the Knockout rounds of the Cup

Teams Finishing 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> place qualify for the knockout rounds of the Plate

5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Place teams Exit the Competition

Should any team pull-out of the competition all previous games will be null and void.

The following points are awarded during the group stages.

3 points for a win

1 point for a draw

0 points for a loss

The following order will decide which team goes forward to the next round:

1. Most points gained
2. Goal difference
3. Most goals scored for
4. Least goals conceded
5. Head to Head Result
6. 6. If still level, a penalty competition will decide the final position.

## **KNOCKOUT STAGES**

If the score line is a draw at the full time whistle a penalty shootout shall decide which teams progress to the next stage

## **PENALTY SHOOTOUT**

5u5 – 3 Penalties Each

7u7 – 3 Penalties Each

9u9 – 3 Penalties Each

11u11 – 5 Penalties Each

Please Note

Only players on the pitch at the full-time whistle can take penalty kicks.

Players not partaking in the penalty shoutout should be either off the pitch or wearing a different colour training bib / jacket whilst penalties are taken.

The referee will be the sole judgement if the ball has crossed the line or if the goalkeeper has come off their line during the penalty shootout.

## RETREAT RULE

At goal kicks the opposition MUST retreat to the halfway line U7s – U10s.  
Quick goal kicks can be taken before retreat at goalkeeper's discretion.

## OFFSIDES

There will be no offsides for U7s – U10s.  
U11s – U16s offside rule applies as per FA Rules.  
The Referee and only the referee is responsible for the judgement of Offsides.

## FREEKICKS

All free kicks: the opposing team must be 5 yards away from the ball U7s – U10s.  
U11s – U16s the opposing team must be 10 yards away from the ball

## THROW INS / KICK INS / DRIBBLE INS

5V5 & 7V7 Formats – Normal throws okay with the **option** to Kick in  
9v9 & 11v11 Formats – Normal Throw ins Apply

### What is a kick in?

“A kick in is a side foot pass under knee height” Opposition Players must be 5 yards away from the ball. Play is restarted on the choice of the team in possession providing the ball is stationary at the time of action.

Kick ins played in any other way than a side foot pass or played over knee height will be penalised with the kick in going the Other way!

### What are the benefits of a kick in?

Simple really 80% of the time you will retain possession and at your feet!

**NO Dribble ins for this event! But will be introduced to tournaments in the near future**

## HEADING THE BALL

Due to Rules being sanctioned subject to new changes .

Heading is currently allowed for summer tournaments but the introduction of No Heading will be introduced in the near future for the respective age groups

## BACK PASS RULE

Back Pass Rule doesn't apply for Under 7 Football

Back pass rule applies to all other age groups (ball cannot be handled by the Goalkeeper following a back pass from their own player)

In the event of a back pass it is a indirect freekick from the edge of the penalty area

## SUBSTITUTIONS RULE

3 Substitution slots per game allowed. Referee must be notified and ball out of play at time of sub.  
For avoidance of doubt multiple players can be used in 1 substitution slot

## KICK OFFS

The Ball can go forward or back from kick off.  
A Goal cannot be scored directly from kick off.

## MATCHBALL SIZES

Under 7 – Size 3  
Under 8 – Size 3  
Under 9 – Size 3  
Under 10 – Size 3  
Under 11 – Size 4  
Under 12 – Size 4  
Under 13 – Size 4  
Under 14 – Size 4  
Under 15 – Size 5  
Under 16 – Size 5

## MISCONDUCT

Tournament Sin Bin offence is for 5 Minutes.

Each Sending off offence will be judged on Merit after liaising with the match official & Referee coordinator.

Players sent off for Two bookable offences will receive a tournament match ban.  
Players sent off for denying & clear obvious Goalscoring opportunity will receive a match ban.

Any player sent off for Violent Conduct will miss the rest of the tournament.

All misconduct/discipline will be reported to the relevant County FA as per FA Rules.

Foul and abusive language and/or violence will not be tolerated.

Foul and abusive language and/or violence from spectators and other club officials towards players and/or officials will result in your team being disqualified.

**All the above rules and regulations can be subject to change on the event day. The Event Manager in conjunction with the Referee Coordinator will have full and final decision on such changes.**

**PLEASE SUPPORT THE REFEREE – THEIR DECISION IS FINAL AND SHOULD NOT BE CONTESTED.**

## TOURNAMENT ENTRY ABILITY REQUIREMENTS

### MIDDLE LEVEL REQUIREMENTS

1. Guest players must meet the middle level criteria as shown in the matrix section
2. No higher division players allowed as guest players
3. If your team has signed on players that play in the higher section of the matrix for another team on a different day, then we will only accept your team if your team has No more than

2 higher players at 5&7aside  
3 higher players at 9aside & 11aside.

## **LOWER LEVEL REQUIREMENTS**

1. Guest players must meet the lower-level criteria as shown in the matrix section  
2. No Middle / higher division players allowed as guest players  
3. If your team has signed on players that play in the Middle / higher sections of the matrix for another team on a different day, we will only accept your team if your team has no more than

2 mid / higher players at 5&7aside  
3 mid / higher players at 9aside & 11aside.

4. We do not allow any teams that are a year younger to step up and play in this Lower League event. Even if they have been placed in the lower leagues by their League. Any teams with higher level players from the year below are exempt from this competition and should look to enter open events back at their own age or at the age group

5. We ask that if you are not a lower team, but you are placed in the lower leagues to think twice before entering!

## **GENUINE LOWER REQUIREMENTS**

1. Guest players must meet the Genuine lower-level criteria as shown in the matrix section  
2. No Lower / Middle / higher division players allowed as guest players  
3. If your team has signed on players that play in the Lower / Middle / higher sections of the matrix for another team on a different day, you should not be entering!  
4. We do not allow any teams that are a year younger to step up and play in this Genuine Lower League event. Even if they have been placed in the lower leagues by their League. Any teams with higher level players from the year below are exempt from this competition and should look to enter open events back at their own age or at the age group.  
5. We ask that if you are not a Genuine lower team, but you are placed in the Genuine lower leagues to think twice before entering!

If there are any challenges to the above. Then the Tournament Organiser will have the final say on participation after all information has been considered.