



Launton tournament referee's rules and guidance

General information

Tournaments are meant to be fun, let's make this happen. However, we have seen tournaments become very competitive especially with the older age groups.

It is expected that all players, coaches and spectators will abide by the FAs RESPECT campaign.

Referees and cover referees.

Cover referees have been provided to cover 2 or 3 pitches. The aim of these referees will be to cycle through the pitches they have been appointed providing rest breaks for all referees throughout the day. e.g. U7s 32 games 5 referees 6/7 games each? It will be left to the referees how you would like to work the cover.

Drinks (none alcoholic) and refreshments will be provided to all referees.

Game rules

1. Squad size

- a. Maximum of 8 players. Any more than 8 will lead to the team being disqualified and removed from the tournament.

2. Format

- a. U7s and U8s – 5v5
- b. U9s - U16s – 6v6

3. Start of play

- a. All teams must be ready by their pitch 5 minutes prior to the designated kick off time.
- b. The home teams will choose ends and the away team will kick-off.
- c. After a goal is scored the game will be restarted by the opposing team from the centre spot.
- d. At any kick off teams will not be allowed to shoot directly at goal.



Launton tournament referee's rules and guidance

4. Game time

- a. League stages 8 minutes (no half time).
 - i. No extra time or penalties.
- b. Knock out stages 10 minutes (no half time).
 - i. Extra time - One period of 3 minutes of extra time will be played if scores are level.
 - ii. Penalties - If scores are still level after this period, 3 penalties each will be taken, then sudden death (penalties are only to be taken by players on the field of play at the end of extra time)

5. End of play

- a. Pitch time is tight! Some games there is only a 2-minute turnaround time. So please limit an additional time added to the game to a minimum.
- b. Don't add time on for balls going out.
- c. If a player is injured encourage them to leave the field of play (if safe to do so), so the game can continue.

6. Score cards

- a. Score cards will be provided for each pitch.
- b. Please complete the score card (making sure the result is clear)
- c. Provide the winning team with the score card to bring to the control hub. If the score is a draw the home team are to bring the score card back to the control hub.

26 Collina Pierluigi											
Date	Time	Pitch	Category								
29.12.	10:30	1	U08/A								
Home Crumlin Utd						Away Manortown FC					
Shirts Green						Shirts Red					
Result 1 - 2			HT			PEN			-		
Winner Manortown FC											Walkover
Instructions Size 4 balls. No offside. 1x15min.											
Home		X									
Away		X	X								

7. Goalkeeper general

- a. The goalkeeper cannot drop kick the ball.
- b. The goalkeeper must roll or overarm throw the ball back into play (all ages).
- c. The goalkeeper **cannot drop the ball to the ground and kick it into play (All age groups). If they do, it will be an indirect free kick on the edge of the goalkeeper area.**

8. Goalkeeper returning the ball into play

- a. U7s – U10s goalkeeper are allowed to take goal kicks on the edge of the box.



Launton tournament referee's rules and guidance

- b. U11s – U16s goalkeeper are to take goal kicks from the goal line anywhere within the goalkeeper area (oppositions must be 5 yards away).

9. Goalkeepers' area

- a. All outfield players are allowed into the goalkeepers' area at either end of the pitch. Goalkeepers themselves are allowed to exit the area.

10. Retreat line (U7s – U10s)

- a. Players will retreat to the halfway line for goal kicks.

11. Back pass

- a. Back pass rule applies.
- b. Discretion should be offered by the referees to U7s and U8s in the league stages (1 warning to be provided).
- c. If the goalkeeper picks up the ball an indirect free kick will be awarded on the edge of the goalkeeper area.

12. Playing kit

- a. If a clash of colours, the team names first will be required to change their shirts or wear bibs.

13. Balls

- a. A match ball will be provided by the team named first (it is suggested they bring 2 balls) to avoid any delay in game time.

U7s U8s U9s U10s	Size 3
U11s U12s U13s U14s	Size 4
U15s U16s	Size 5

14. Free kicks

- a. Opposing players must allow 5 yards from all free kicks. All free kicks are direct with the exception of a back pass and the goalie kicks the ball out of their hands. These are indirect free kicks.



Launton tournament referee's rules and guidance

15. Throw-ins

- a. Normal over arm throw only, both feet on or behind the touch line, opposing players to be 2 yards from the ball.

16. Corners

- a. Standard corners from the corner position. Opposing player to be 5 yards from the ball.

17. Penalty kicks

- a. The defending Goalkeeper shall be on the goal line, normal FA rules apply.
- b. The player taking the penalty is only allowed a maximum of 3 steps up to the ball.

18. Head height rule

- a. The ball will be allowed overhead height.

19. Offside

- a. There will be no offside rule.

20. Substitutions

- a. Teams can use substitutes; however, the player may not re-join the same game.
- b. Substitutions can only be made when the ball goes out of play and getting the referees permission to enter the pitch.

21. Powerplay rule

- a. The power play rule is not in use for this tournament.