



The Worshipful the Mayor
of the London Borough of Barnet
Councillor Tony Vourou



The London Boroughs Youth Cup

6-a-Side Tournament

Rules and Format

Date/Time: Sunday May 18th 2025 - Registration 9am – first match 9.30am

Venue: Barnet Football Club, The Hive London, Camrose Avenue, London HA8 6AG

Parking: Due to ongoing construction works at The Hive there will be limited parking available on site. Free parking is available in the surrounding streets. Closest tube stations are Canons Park or Queensbury on the Jubilee line.

The tournament pitches are on the Fives pitches at the North end of the stadium.

Managers to report to the control desk at 9am. Managers Briefing at 9.15

The Teams

- All players must be (Current School Year 6 or Year 5 U10 or U11). For safety reasons no one outside this age bracket is eligible to play.
- Each team must be under the control of a qualified coach. The details of the coach must be given to the tournament organisers in advance and they must be present throughout the event. Any other person helping, assisting or coaching the team must be named in the pre-tournament registration sheet
- All adults responsible for the team should have undergone a full DBS check.
- Each team can have a squad with a minimum of six players and a maximum of nine.
- The squad of players should remain the same throughout the stages of the tournament, with the exception of replacements as a result of illness or injury.



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Equipment

- Pitch dimensions will be approximately 25m x 20m
- Goals will be five-a-side 12x4 ft goals (mini soccer goal 12x6 to be used for semi-final and final)
- Size 4 Footballs
- Shin guards and the correct footwear for the surface must be worn for all games – astro turf shoes or moulded boots, no metal studs or blades
- Please bring bibs of an alternative colour to your home kit. In the event of a kit clash the away team shall wear bibs

Competition Format (6v6)

- Teams will play a league format in groups of 4 or 5 teams, depending on the number of entrants.
- Each match will last for 12 minutes with no half time
- The top team of each group will progress to a semi-final knock out stage.
- Six players will be on the pitch for each team at any time, unless the 'Power-Play' rule is active.
- 'Power-Play' rule - Should a team find themselves at a 3-goal deficit at any point during the game, this team can field an additional player, making the game 7 vs 6. Should the same team find themselves at a 6-goal deficit, again they have the opportunity to field a second additional player, making the game 8 vs 6. Should this team score, reducing the deficit to 2 or 5 goals, they would then have to remove a player in accordance with the 'Power Play' ruling goals to player ratios (minimum 3-5 goals = 1 additional player and 6+ goals = 2 additional players).
- In league matches, the winner of each game will be determined by the team that scores the most goals. The winner will be awarded 3 points. In the event of a draw both teams will receive one point.
- Placings in final league tables will be decided by points won. If points for two teams are level, goal difference should be taken into account. If teams are still level, then goals scored will be used to try and determine final league position.
- If after all of the above has been taken into account the positions are still level, then the match result between the two teams concerned will count.
- A penalty shoot-out can then be used to determine the winner if there is no difference in the playing records.

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- If knock-out matches are played, and the scores are level at the end of the game, they will go straight to a penalty shootout with three allotted penalty takers from each team. A coin toss should decide who goes first and kicks should be taken in traditional ABAB format.
- There should be no further substitutions following the final whistle and the same goalkeeper who finished the game must remain in goal. Kicks from the penalty mark must be taken in line with FA regulations and the goalkeeper must have at least one foot on the line when the ball is kicked.
- Players taking a penalty should only take a few steps forward before striking the ball, and this is at the referees' discretion.
- If the scores are still level at this time a sudden death penalty shoot-out will determine the winner, with the players who were on the pitch at the final whistle taking kicks in turn.
- Additional rules for semi-final/final: For these games when the scores are level at full-time, then a period of 5 minutes of extra-time will be played. If the scores are still level then a penalty shoot-out will take place as above, but with five penalties taken by each team. If the scores are level after five penalties each side, the sixth players on the field at the end of the match should start the sudden death process, followed by the full complement of substitutes taking turns. If the game has still not been decided, then the starting players kick again.

Playing Rules

- The law relating to offside does not apply in this competition.
- The ball is allowed to go above head height.
- A goal can be scored from anywhere on the playing area.
- *No Throw ins – No hands to be used! The ball must be passed in to play, ALONG THE GROUND, using the feet. Opponents must be 2 meters away from the ball when the ball is played. A goal cannot be scored from a pass in.*
- Corners and goal kicks are taken as normal, the latter to be taken from anywhere within the penalty area.
- 'Retreat Line' rule - When the defending team are taking a goal kick, the opponents must retreat to their own half until the ball is in play. The ball is in play when it is kicked directly out of the penalty area. The defending team does not have to wait for the opposition to retreat and has the option to restart the game beforehand, should they choose.

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- *Goalkeepers must roll the ball out in open play and could be penalised (referees' discretion) with an indirect free kick if they distribute the ball either by kicking from their hands or placing the ball on the floor and kicking from the ground.*
- Players can go anywhere on the pitch. Attacking and defending players are allowed in both penalty areas.
- Players must be two metres away from any free kick, kick off, throw-in, pass on or corner. This is again at the referee's discretion.
- A player cannot score direct from a kick-off.
- Goalkeepers cannot pick up the ball from a back pass. If this happens, an indirect free kick will be awarded to the opposition on the edge of the box.
- Repeated/rolling substitutions may be made. Substitutions must be carried out in accordance with Law 3 of the Laws of the Game and players may only enter play (when making a substitution or through the Power Play rule) under the direction of the referee and when there is a stop in play.
- Players who are substituted then become substitutes and may return to the game later.

Discipline

- Any player sent from the field of play under FA Rules on Misconduct will take no further part in that particular stage of the competition.
- A player should miss the rest of the competition if guilty of a serious offence including violent conduct, abusive behaviour, racist or homophobic comments or spitting at an opponent.
- For a technical offence such as deliberately handling a goal bound shot or an obvious and clear professional foul to gain an advantage, a sending off would be punishment enough.



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Equality, Diversity & Inclusion

- Clubs are encouraged to consider diversity within staff attending and the referees officiating.

Fixtures & Results

We will be using the Tournify App to manage the tournament. A QR code will be available for all coaches and spectators at the the control desk. The QR code will link to the webpage where you will see all the tournament tables, fixtures, results and kick off times.

Please ensure you check this frequently to ensure you don't miss your kick off times!

Respect

The tournament will operate a zero tolerance approach to inappropriate behaviour, including verbally or physically abusing referees, tournament staff, opposition players or coaches or spectators. There will be security staff on site during the day. Anyone deemed to be demonstrating inappropriate behaviour will be asked to leave the site. The decision of the tournament organisers will be final.

Let them play

The players enjoyment is the main reason for us running this tournament. Please remember they are young children learning the game that they love. This is not the Champions League or the Euros! so please try and let the kids play and enjoy the day. Please share this message with your parents/spectators.