

Braishfield Bees Youth Football Club

(registered at The Recreation Ground, Braishfield, SO51 0QF)



6-a-Side Football Tournament 2026 Mountbatten School, Romsey

TOURNAMENT RULES (UPDATED: 20/08/2026)

REGISTRATION:

All teams **MUST** report to the registration area upon arrival to confirm their team (sheet) from their emailed 2-character check-in code and to confirm attendance. Team will be considered **NOT** present if not confirmed.

There will be NO on pitch managers briefing session before matches – each team is deemed to have read and understood these rules – a copy of which be notified to registered team contacts and posted at <https://braishfieldbeesfc.co.uk/tournament/registrant-information/>. By registering, you are confirming all players forming your squad are both registered with your club (6 maximum for U7 playing 3v3, 9 maximum for U8 to U16 playing 6v6) and are in the appropriate age group. Please bring proof of eligibility of all players on the day as spot checks maybe carried out by tournament organisers throughout the day. Any checks made and player/s found to be in the incorrect age group may result in disqualification/exclusion from the tournament.

The Tournament Organiser reserves the right to alter or modify the tournament in the event of a late withdrawal/no show of team/s. **Please note that no VEO or similar match recording cameras/devices/tripods are permitted on site – their use is prohibited and you will be asked to remove them.**

SECTION 1

TEAMS:

A maximum of 6 players on the pitch at any one time (3 players for U7) and 9 registered players per squad are permitted (6 players for U7). No player shall play for more than one competing team or age group. It is the responsibility of team manager/coach to ensure **ALL** players are entered in the correct age group for season 2026/2027. Any player / teams entered in incorrect age group may result in disqualification / exclusion from the tournament.

PITCHES:

Pitch size will be U7 – 15x10, U8 to U12 – 60x40, U13 to U16 – 65x30 (4G).

GOALS:

U7 will play mini goals 4 X 2.5 ft. All other age groups will play with mini-soccer goals 12 X 6.

DURATION OF MATCHES:

Expected to be 10 minutes but to be confirmed on the day and dependent on pool sizes. Matches will be played straight through with no half-time. Home team will have kick off and away team has choice of ends. NO more than 90 second turnaround between matches is expected so teams **MUST** be ready to play next match as final whistle blows.

MATCH RULES:

Standard mini soccer rules will apply for 2026/2027 season (U7 – U11). U12 and over please see Section 2. All age groups are competitive, other than U7 which is non-competitive. Where the competitive event is a single-pool event there will be a subsequent cup knockout format competition for the top four teams, consisting of semi-finals then final. Where the event is a 2-pool event there will be a subsequent cup knockout competition (formed by places 1 and 2 from each pool) and plate knockout competition (formed by places 3 and 4 from each pool), each consisting of semi-finals then final.

MATCH CONTROL / REFEREES:



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A Braishfield Bees Youth FC Pitch Marshall will be appointed for each match. A Referee will be appointed for each match with the exception of U7 matches where the coaches of the respective teams will act as match facilitators.

The Referee is in control of each match and their decision is final and will **NOT** be overruled. The Referee Organiser/Tournament Organiser will **NOT** enter into discussions concerning a referee, their decisions and/or the laws/rules. **We operate a zero tolerance of any abuse / misconduct towards a referee.** Any reported abuse will result in the relevant player, coaching team, parent or other spectator being excluded and asked to leave the premises immediately.

KIT / COLOUR CLASHES:

The team drawn first are deemed to be the home team. In the event of a colour clash between teams or with the match official, the "away" team is to provide bibs or an alternative colour match shirt. The tournament organisers will provide a match ball of suitable size for the age group event. The ball must be returned to referee at the end of the match.

GROUP PLACINGS:

Group placings will be decided on the following:

- 3 points for a win.
- 3 points (and 1-0 result awarded) for a BYE if a team does NOT turn up to the tournament, is removed during the group stage or fields an incorrect age group (over aged) player / team.
- 3 points (and 1-0 result awarded) if a team refuses to play or withdraws from a match.
- 1 point for a draw.
- 0 points for a loss.

Determining group positions is auto calculated in the following order; 1. Points accrued / 2. Goal difference / 3. Goals for / 4. Who won the head-to-head, but if draw / 5. Penalty shoot-out (see below)

At the knockout stage (semi-finals / final); in the event of a draw there will be a penalty shoot-out (see below).

In the event of a team being removed from the tournament (or found to have fielded an overaged player / team) or withdrawing themselves during group stages, for any matches that had been played or are still to play the opposition team will receive 3 points and a 1-0 win. At knockout stages, the opposition will be awarded a BYE with a 1-0 win.

KICK OFFS:

U8 to U16 – opposing players must be 5 yards away (3 referee paces) away from the ball.

PENALTIES / SHOOT-OUT:

If required in U8 to U16 matches, penalties will consist of five penalties per side which will be taken alternately as indicated by the Referee. If the two teams are still level following five penalties then there will be a sudden death shoot-out. Each penalty taker may take **NO more than 2 steps back** and will only take one penalty unless the shoot-out goes to sudden death, in which case penalties will be taken in same order as taken by the same five players. Team to take first penalty is decided by the toss of a coin by the referee. The goalkeeper on the pitch at fulltime **MUST** be the goalkeeper who faces the penalties in shoot-out and may NOT be changed over prior to the shoot-out.

N.B. All players and coaches apart from the 'kicker and the GK' must be on the halfway line when the kick is taken.

GOAL KEEPERS (GK):

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U8 to U11 - GK can fly kick (punt) the ball out, they can roll the ball out of their box and then kick it, or they can throw it out underarm or overarm. GK can come out of their boxes to clear but cannot dribble and venture over the halfway line with the ball however, they can take a free kick in their own half.

GOALKICKS:

U8 to U11 - Goal kicks can be kicked from anywhere on the frontline of the penalty area. Players must retreat to the halfway line when goal kicks are taken under the direction of the referee. The referee will be in line with halfway so players know where to stand.

BACK PASSES:

The goalkeeper cannot pick up the ball from a back pass or a throw in (except U8).

FREE KICKS:

All free kicks are **direct** and the defending team must retreat 5 yards away from the ball (3 referee paces). However, if awarded in the penalty area it will be **indirect** and will be inline of the penalty spot adjacent where offence took place (If the free kick is given in the penalty area and the result is normally a penalty kick, i.e. foul tackle or handball then it will be a penalty).

CORNERS:

Defending players must be 5 yards away (3 referee paces) from the kicker.

THROW-INS:

Normal rules apply; throw-ins can be taken from the spot or further back, but not further forward. If the thrower gets the throw wrong, the same thrower will take the throw again, after a quick instruction by the referee. If that player gets in wrong again, the throw-in will go to the opposing side.

PASS-INS / DRIBBLE INS:

Normal rules apply; the kicker-in may touch the ball again before it's touched by another player. The ball must be stationary on the touchline upon delivery at the point where it left pitch. All opponents must be 5 yards away from the kicker / touchline when taken. A goal **CANNOT** be scored directly from a pass in.

HEADERS:

Other than age groups **U7 to U11 which is NOT allowed**, heading of the ball is allowed and will not be penalised however, it is not to be encouraged.

OFFSIDE:

There is NO offside in any age group.

SUBSTITUTES:

On a rolling basis at any point in the match when the ball is out of play – but must be authorised by Referee before entering field of play at U8 to U16. No extra time will be added on for substitutions.

DISCIPLINE:

Sin Bin - for a maximum of 3 minutes for dissent, arguing, kicking towards the referee and kicking the ball away.

Red Card - will be used for violent conduct, dangerous play, e.g. studs up tackle, fighting or swearing. Normal FA rules apply.

Any red cards issued to a player/s will mean they will **NO** longer take part in the rest of the tournament.

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PROTESTS:

Any complaints/appeals are to be made to the Tournament Organiser (at the scoretent) directly after a match but within 5 minutes of the match finishing. No protest in relation to a decision by the Referee shall be entertained. The Tournament Organiser's decision is final.

SAFETY:

In accordance with FA rules, and our own Tournament rules, the wearing of jewellery/piercings of any description is banned. Piercings/rings and the like must be removed prior to entering the field of play. Shin pads (**NOT Micro**) are mandatory for players and **MUST** be worn at all times.

MISCELLANEOUS:

Any rule not covered above will comply with FA Mini Soccer League / FA rules. Supporters are reminded to abide by the FA Respect Campaign and remain behind the designated spectator barriers/cones or line at **ALL** times and **NOT** enter the field of play. (**NOTE:** Only teams that are playing on 4G are allowed onto the pitches. Parents/guardians/supporters of playing teams are to stand behind the lower fence. All other non-playing teams; including coaches, players, parents/guardians/supporters are to remain outside the high fence until playing).

SECTION 2

The following additional rules apply to **U12 to U16 age groups**. In order to allow the games to flow, we have taken the decision to adopt the following variation in rules for the older age groups:

GOALKEEPERS (GK):

GK **CANNOT** fly kick or volley the ball out however, they can roll the ball out and kick it or throw **underarm ONLY** (throwing overarm will result in an indirect free kick on edge of the penalty area adjacent to the offence). GK can come out of their boxes to clear but cannot dribble and venture over the halfway line with the ball however, they can take a free kick in their own half.

GOAL KICKS:

Goal kicks must be kicked from any part of the back touchline. Should a player other than the goalkeeper take a goal kick the goalkeeper **MUST** stand behind the goal line.

COACHES / PARENTS / SUPPORTERS:

Please remember this is a youth football tournament and is ultimately about fun and enjoyment. Any protests and disputes that are not dealt with in a calm and friendly manner will be seen as a breach of rules and FA Respect guidelines which could lead to disqualification and removal of team from tournament and reported to Hampshire / relevant County FA.

You are **ALL** responsible for the conduct and welfare of your players/children/supporters. We shall not be responsible for any loss, damage or theft of property nor be held liable for any injury sustained by any player, coach/manager or your supporters whilst attending the tournament.

The Tournament Organiser will disqualify any team for **serious misconduct / damage / damage to property** belonging to / hired / lent to Braishfield Bees Youth FC by any of your players, coaching teams, parents or supporters and person/s will be held responsible for the cost of repair or replacement whilst within the confines of Mountbatten School (including car park / neighbourhood areas) and will be reported to Hampshire / relevant County FA. Any communication to Braishfield Bees Youth Football Club volunteers, external vendors / or Tournament, whether verbally, in person, text, email or social media deemed to be unsuitable/abusive/offensive will be reported to Hampshire FA/relevant County FA.