



Langton Green Fiesta 2019: Rules

The Laws of Football will apply apart from the following:

Team / Squad Sizes:

U7 and U8 are 5-a-side.

U9 to U15 are 6-a-side.

Squads can be any size, but in competitive age groups we only have 8 medals per winning team / runner up, so any more than 8 players and some will go without a medal.

Goal Kicks:

U7 & U8s: can be taken from anywhere in the penalty box.

U9 to U15: to be taken from anywhere on the goal-line.

For u7 to u10s when a goal kick is being taken the other side must all return to their half (unless the goal-kicking team elect to take the kick quickly before the opposition has retreated).

Drop Kicks:

Under 9 to Under 15s - once the goalkeeper has held the ball in their hands they are not permitted to kick the ball until it has been touched by another player. Instead they must roll or throw the ball out. If the goalkeeper kicks the ball before it has been touched by another player of either side, an indirect free-kick will be awarded to the other side at the point where the ball was kicked.

Only under 7 and under 8 goalkeepers can take drop-kicks.

Offside:

There is no offside.

Substitutions:

Roll on / roll off substitutions are permitted when the ball is out of play, subject to referee blessing.

Set Pieces:

All age groups: Players must retreat at least 5 yards from all free kicks, corners etc.

Ball Size:

u7-u9 = Size 3

u10-u14 = size 4

u15s = size 5

Duration of play:

5 mins each way, with 30 seconds half time. No half time team talks!

Age Qualification:

Age groups are based on the 2018 / 2019 season.

A player may play in their own age group as well as the age group above (up a maximum of one year). For example, an U8 player from the 2018 / 2019 season may play in the U9 age group, but not the U10 age group.

All players must be at least 6 years old by the date of the tournament.

No player can play for more than one team in the same age group during the course of the tournament.

Results, Points & Competition Specific Rules:

There is no result reporting for U7s. All players receive a medal at the end of the tournament.

For ages U8-U15 there are group stages followed by knockout stages. There is also a plate competition for ages U8 to U15. Winners and runners up in each competition receive medals (max 8).

In the competitive age groups, 3 points will be awarded for a victory, 1 for a draw.

There is no goal difference! No need to run up the score on lesser teams. Please don't.

Group placings will be determined by total points. If tied then the head-to-head result of the group match between the tied teams decides it. If still level then the team with the most score draws advances. Failing that the following will apply:

- To determine group winner, a 3 player penalty shoot-out.
- To determine advancing vs elimination (or to decide between advancing to cup or plate) a 3 player penalty shoot-out).
- To determine positions where tied teams are advancing in the same competition, a coin toss.

Determining 'best 2nd place' etc. across different groups will be done by 'highest points per game', or a 3 player penalty shoot-out if still tied.

In the knock out stages there is no extra time - drawn matches will be decided by a 3 player penalty shootout; if still undecided, sudden death will follow. Only players on the pitch at the final whistle can take a penalty.

In the event of a colour clash the 2nd team named must change colours.

Referees and Respect:

The referee's decision is final. Players, officials and spectators are required to respect decisions made. Spectators to please stand 1 metre back from playing areas, and not behind the goals.

If the referee deems an offence worthy of a caution they will ask that the player be immediately substituted and take no further part in that game. If a player is sent off for violent conduct or foul and abusive language they will be excluded from the rest of the tournament. Any team found to be fielding a player who has been disqualified will have all games in which that player was fielded after their exclusion recorded as 1-0 defeats.

For each age group competition there will be a pitch-side Marshall responsible for ensuring smooth running of the groups, and dealing with queries. They will be patrolling the pitches for the group concerned, and responsible for updating the group league tables pitch-side, as well as announcing and organising the knockout stages. Their record of results is final. Please keep your own and feel free to cross check.

Disputes will be taken first to the pitch side Marshall of your age group competition. If unresolved then they can be taken to the control area near the clubhouse. Do not expect a referee's authority to be undermined. We know they can make errors, but respect for their decisions is paramount.

Knockout stages are exciting, but inevitably it means winners and losers, heroes, and heartbreaks. Please be respectful. We want the children to experience these situations in a way that is positive for them, whatever the outcome of the game or the shootout.

The spirit of the game is important. The organisers reserve the right to penalise any club deemed to be acting in a manner inconsistent with fair play and sportsmanship.

Contact / Queries:

If you have any pre-tournament queries about these rules please e-mail Chris Allen on cma_5963@yahoo.co.uk or Ian Knapp on ian.knapp@langtongreencsa.org.uk