**Croft Junior FC Small Sided Competition Rules 2015**

1. Each team shall be registered by their manager no later than 15 minutes before the start of the tournament, unless due to exceptional circumstances, and as agreed by the Organising Committee. **Teams not arriving before their first match will be deemed to have withdrawn and will forfeit all fees paid.**
2. Age qualification for each age group shall be 1st September 2014. Eg Under 10 = Under 10 on 1/9/14.
3. Teams will consist of 5 players and a max of 2 substitutes who may be used as rolling substitutes at any time during the game, **which is encouraged**, and once play has been stopped and authorised by the referee.
4. No player may play for more than one team on the day.
5. In the event of a colour clash the first named team will be required to wear bibs which will be available pitchside for the whole squad.
6. The team named first in the schedule will have choice of ends and their opponents will have kick off.
7. Any team not ready to start their match within 3 minutes of their allotted kick off time will forfeit the match 0-3.
8. At the end of the match the two managers will verify the result card with the referee and the winning team manager (or in the event of a draw the first named team manager) will take the slip to the registration tent. No changes can be made to the result slip once it has been received. **These need to be done after each match.**
9. The first named team will supply the relevant sized ball for the age group concerned.
10. There are no offsides.
11. Goal kicks are taken from the goal line except for U7, U8, U9 and U10 where the ball must be kicked from the edge of the penalty area or from the goalkeeper’s hands. The retreat law will also be applied for these age groups.
12. A five yard retreat rule applies for all free kicks for all ages and all free kicks are direct.
13. In open play all goalkeepers must return the ball via a throw once in their hands and may not touch again until it has been touched by another player. This does not apply for U7, U8, U9 and U10.
14. Points awarded in the league stage of all age group competitions will be 3 points for a win, 1 point for a draw and no points for a loss.
15. For **ALL AGE GROUPS**, the top two placed teams in each group will contest semi finals and final for the Individual Trophies, 3rd and 4th placed teams will contest semi finals and final for the Chairman’s Trophies (Team awards only) and the bottom two placed teams will contest semi finals and final for the Plate Trophies (Team awards only). This is dependent on numbers (based on 12 per age group). All teams will be advised prior to starting as to any changes to this. All U7 to U10 age group players will also receive medals, apart from the Winners and Runners Up of the main Trophy event who will receive individual Trophies. **The** **Chairman’s and Plate Trophies are for teams only and include Runner’s Up as well, irrespective of age group.**
16. In deciding best placed teams within leagues the following will apply:
17. Points gained.
18. Goal Difference.
19. Goals scored if B is equal.
20. If B and C are identical then the result of the match between the teams will be taken.
21. If B, C and D are equal then there will be a penalty shoot out to decide which will initially

be 3 penalties per side followed by sudden death. In semi finals or finals the same procedure will apply to penalty shoot outs in the event of a draw. There will be no extra time.

1. Any player who is sent off will automatically miss his/her team’s next game. They must report to the registration tent with the referee and their manager, and if decided by the Organising Committee, and based on the referees report, may even be excluded from the tournament.
2. No player may score a goal direct from a kick off.
3. In any aspects not defined above the normal rules of football will apply.
4. The referee shall be the sole arbiter on points of dispute during any match within this competition. The referees decision is final and shall be respected by all.
5. Any matters which are arising which are not covered by the above rules shall be dealt with by the Organising Committee at the registration tent.
6. Croft Junior FC, Croft Sports Centre or the Organising Committee cannot be held responsible for any injury, theft or damage sustained as a result of this competition either on or off the field of play.
7. The organisers reserve the right to change the format of any age groups competition should circumstances dictate, however this will be communicated to all prior to the start of any age groups event.
8. Parents/Carers are also reminded of their responsibilities and asked to be fair and encouraging to all. Managers are reminded to be aware of their own parents/carers and to act accordingly. The Organising Committee reserve the right to eject any parent/carer who is not acting responsibly and in the best interests of all concerned.
9. **RESPECT AWARENESS PLEASE REMEMBER THIS IS INTENDED TO BE A FUN EVENT FOR ALL, INCLUDING PARENTS/CARERS, SO LET US ALL ENJOY AND ABOVE ALL RESPECT EACH OTHER, OUR TEAM MATES, OUR OPPOSITION, OUR WATCHING PUBLIC, OUR ORGANISERS, OUR FACILITY PROVIDERS AND ABOVE ALL THE REFEREES.**