



TONBRIDGE JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB

CHAIRMAN: REG SPICER

CLUB SECRETARY: AARON HILL

CLUB ADMINISTRATOR: ALI LAUNDER

GENERAL MANAGER: NICK THEMISTOCLEOUS

Please reply to: Three Squirrels, Ashes Lane, Tonbridge, Kent, TN11 0AP

www.tjfc.co.uk email Mark.roberts64@hotmail.co.uk



25th Anniversary Year

January 2018

Tonbridge Junior Football Club are holding their 25th Football Fiesta over the weekend of **9/10 June 2018**, and invite your Club to take part. This has been chosen to fully avoid the school summer holidays and to bring the Fiesta within the current year's affiliation period. We are again using the excellent playing surface at The Racecourse Sportsground, Tonbridge - just 5 minutes walk from the High Street, Tonbridge Castle, the Swimming Pool and River Walk for those that might not want to watch football all day.

Invitations have been sent to Clubs in 5 counties, giving you the opportunity of competing against new teams and forming new friendships. As last year, admission for adults will be £2, including a comprehensive programme, including fixtures and a site plan showing where each team will be playing. All children are admitted free.

Structure of the Tournament:

Age-groups are Under 7's – 15's (2017/2018 season, including all Under 6's who are 6 years old on the day). All agegroups will play on a league basis, followed by knock-out quarter finals, semi-finals and finals.

Each u7 – u15 team will play seven group fixtures on appropriately sized pitches, with minimal free periods between each game. This follows a detailed review of the structure of other tournaments - where many of our teams entered popular events, yet found that they played only three or four group fixtures. We believe that this simply extends the waiting time between fixtures, and does not justify the cost of entry.

The Fiesta fully complies with the Laws of Mini Soccer, other than minor changes approved by the KCFA which we believe improve the overall competition.

Age qualification for each age-group will be the same as your League registration for the (current) 2017/2018 season. Players need not be registered with your Club since managers, with next season in mind, may wish to try out new players. You can enter more than one team in each age-group, but any individual player may only play for one team during the tournament. The Under 7s and 8s will play 5-a-side with a maximum squad size of 10. The Under 9s - 15s will play 6-a-side, with a maximum squad size of 12.

Play for each age-group will be as follows:-

Saturday AM	Under 7s, 9s, 11s (Girls) and 12s	Kick off 09.00, expected to finish by 13.30
Saturday PM	Under 8s, 11s, and 13s	Kick off 14.12, expected to finish by 18.30
Sunday AM	Under 7s (Girls), 9s (Girls), 10s, 14s and 15s	Kick off 09.00, expected to finish by 13.30

Based upon popular demand, the duration of play will be 10 minutes for each match in all agegroups, and we have included Girls only teams at Under 7, Under 9 and Under 11.

Our thanks for the many kind remarks received at, and just after the 2017 Fiesta, and we assure you that we will take your comments into account when planning the 2018 Fiesta. In this regard, we have again decided to pre-define age-group timings, and will run quarter finals for most Cup competitions.

Entry Fee:

A fee of £35 per team should be sent when returning entry forms to cover the cost of the awards and the running of the event. We strongly recommend that you submit your entry forms early but, as we know that many managers pay for their team's entries before being able to recoup these fees from their players, **we will not bank any cheques received until 30th April 2018.**

Last Entry Date:

Over the past 24 years, the TJFC Fiesta has hosted some 20,000 matches – being the UK's largest six-a-side tournament for many years. It has certainly been noticed, as Scouts from 5 Premier League Clubs and lots of Clubs from the lower divisions regularly attend each year. Clubs will appreciate that the smooth running of fixtures is fundamental to its success and, to enable us to fully plan these fixtures.....

WE ARE SETTING THE CLOSING DATE FOR ENTRIES AT 31 MARCH 2018

We use 19 pitches (and have no plans to increase this number) but, to improve the overall competition, we will again give priority to all first teams from all clubs who apply by 31 March - and then admit additional teams on a first come first served basis where spaces are available. With so many entries, your early submission may avoid disappointment.

Entry Confirmation:

Confirmation emails will be sent to each team, and also a reminder nearer the time
No cheques will be banked until you gain admission, but the earlier you apply, the more likely you are to gain entry.

Awards:

The Winners and Runners-Up of the Cup Competition in each age-group will receive 8 players medals, and the Winners will receive a glass block trophy and can take photos holding the TJFC Cup.

Referees:

We hope, as in the past 24 years, to have qualified referees officiating all matches. Qualified referees very definitely improve the overall competition and, although many very experienced referees attend, we welcome newly qualified referees as we think the Fiesta provides them with excellent experience in a very friendly environment.

Entertainment:

Apart from the football itself, we will be welcoming back other forms of entertainment so that we can make the fiesta a day out for the whole family. Tonbridge High Street is only 5 minutes walk away, for those who want a break from football during the day.

Sportsmanship:

We hope that all players, parents, club representatives and spectators enjoy either playing or watching the football and we would again like to place the emphasis on sportsmanship rather than winning. The Premier League might think it impossible, but the standard of play at the Fiesta has resulted in only 24 red cards in 20,000 matches, and we genuinely hope that none occur in 2018.

If you have any queries regarding the Fiesta please email me at mark.roberts64@hotmail.co.uk

We look forward to your club taking part in our Football Fiesta on 9/10 June 2018.

Yours sincerely

Mark Roberts
Fiesta Co-ordinator

ENTRY FORMS SHOULD BE RECEIVED BY 31 MARCH 2018