**1.  Name of Competition**

Shall be known as Willingdon AYFC Fiesta and shall be played in accordance with the Rules and Laws of the Football Association with the exception of those shown within Rules 14, 15 and 17

**2.  Qualification**

It is determined by the age of the players as at 31st August and age groups for the 24/25 season. A player may only be registered with and play for one team during the tournament. Players at a Centre of Excellence or Academy or playing in an Elite League at any time during the 24/25 season shall only be permitted to play if playing up a year in this tournament. (Not applicable to U18s or Ladies)

**3.  Protests and Complaints**

Any protests or complaints concerning eligibility, qualification of players or interpretation of Rules shall be referred to the Management Committee by a Club Official. No objection relative to the dimensions of the playing area or other appurtenances thereon shall be entertained unless a protest is lodged with the referee before the start of the match

**4.  Teams**

**U9 and above:**All teams shall consist of six players of whom one from each team shall be a goalkeeper, plus up to three substitutes per team who may be used at any time during the games. All players shall play for only one team in this Competition. A Squad shall consist of a maximum of 9 players who must be registered before the teams’ first scheduled match.

**U6-U8:**All teams shall consist of five players of whom one from each team shall be a goalkeeper, plus up to four substitutes per team who may be used at any time during the games. All players shall play for only one team in this Competition. A Squad shall consist of a maximum of 9 players who must be registered before the teams’ first scheduled match

**5.  All age groups – Rolling Subs**

Rolling Substitutes will be allowed i.e. a player who has been replaced may return to the playing area as a substitute for another player subject to the following conditions: -

1. The player leaving the playing area shall do so from the sideline, coming on at the substitute area.
2. The player entering the area shall do so from the substitution area, but not until the player leaving the playing area has passed completely over the sideline

**6. Ineligible Players**

If a team is found to have played an ineligible player (see above), the match and points will be awarded to their opponents

**7.  League**

The tournament in each age group will be divided into equal sections consisting of between 2 and 4 Groups. Each team in each group will play one another.

Three points will be awarded for a win and one point for a draw.

The top 8 teams across the Groups will progress to the Cup and Plate Semi-finals.

Positions in the League Group will be determined, first of all by points. In the event of a tie for any place then position will be decided by the following: -

            a)         First by goal difference

            b)         Second by the result of the game between the sides (Head-to-Head)

            c)         Third by a penalty shoot-out of 3 penalty kicks per team then sudden death

**8.  Determining Winners in Semi Finals and Final**

In the event of a draw at the end of normal time in the SEMI\_FINAL the winners will be decided by penalty shoot-out of 3 penalty kicks per team then sudden death.

In the event of a draw at the end of normal time in the FINAL, the winners will be decided by penalty kicks, **each member of the team (including goalkeeper) playing at the final whistle will take a penalty (so a total of 6 penalties per team)**. If still level sudden death penalty kicks will apply

**9.  Referees**

Referees shall be appointed by the Management Committee

**10. Reporting of Results**

The referee shall report the result of each match to the Results Tent.  They may, however, use a manager from either team

**11.  Duration of Game**

The match will be two halves of 5 minutes unless otherwise stated at registration. 1st named Team has 1st kick off, 1st named Team must provide a ball.

Semi-Finals will be two halves of 5 minutes then penalties as above.

Finals will be two halves of 7.5 minutes then penalties as per above.

**12. Goal Keepers**

Pass backs and Throw backs to the goalkeepers’ hands will be allowed only in the under 8 and younger age groups.

The goalkeeper may throw the ball either under or over arm.  They may not fly kick. Once the ball has left the goalkeepers hand(s) he/she cannot touch it again until it has been touched by another player.

The sanction will be an indirect free kick from the point on the front of the penalty are nearest to where the goalkeeper picked the ball up

**13. Sanctions**

1. On field Discipline and Sanctions:

Either a Blue or Yellow card will be shown for all YC offences except dissent.  Two such offences in the same game will result in a Red card offence being committed.

For Yellow card Dissent offences the laws of the game apply except that a 2 minute sin bin suspension will be applied.

For Red card dismissals the following sanctions will apply:

  2 x Yellow cards – 1 Game Suspension

                         Denial Of a Goal Scoring Opportunity – 1 Game Suspension

                          Foul or Abusive – 1 Game Suspension

                          Dangerous Play – 2 Game Suspension

                          2 x Red cards – Permanent Exclusion

                          Violent Conduct – Permanent Exclusion

Any of the above offences and sanctions may be reported to Sussex County FA

**14.  Laws of the Tournament**

* No Offside
* Goal Keepers are not allowed to drop kick. The keeper may ROLL and throw the ball.
* Players will take goal kicks from the goal line
* Goal Kicks: Up to and including under 10’s:  Goal kicks may be taken from anywhere withing the goal area.  Opposing players must retreat to the halfway line subject to the kicking Team wishing to take the kick early.
* Under 11 and older, kicks to be taken from the goal line. A goal **CANNOT** be scored directly from the goal kick.
* At U6-U8 GKs CAN pick up the ball from pass backs.
* Opposing players shall be at least 3yds away from the ball when a free kick is taken.
* You **CANNOT** score directly from kick off either at the start of the half or on a restart.
* All other rules of the game will apply.