

# Solihull Little League

## Junior Football



**“Offering a friendlier approach to junior football”**



For further information, please email:

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[www.solihull-ll.co.uk](http://www.solihull-ll.co.uk)

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Actionphotography

[www.actionphtography.co.uk](http://www.actionphtography.co.uk)

**What is Little League all about?**

## The Concept

Organised football is provided for boys and girls of any ability.



Every child plays each week during the season.



The pitches, goals and balls are reduced in size to suite the physical capabilities of players.



All games are played at home, encouraging a spirit of friendship and community involvement.



Emphasis is placed on enjoyment, team spirit and sportsmanship amongst players and parents alike.



**“Playing for pleasure is more important than winning at all cost”**

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Solihull Little League is a member of the National Little League Association, a Registered Charity, established in 1968

[www.littleleaguefootball.co.uk](http://www.littleleaguefootball.co.uk)

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**What is Solihull Little League all about?**

## Aims

Little League Football aims to provide organised football for boys and girls whatever their ability. The ethos of Little League Football is based on:

- ✓ Enthusiasm and friendship
- ✓ Mass participation
- ✓ A strong community involvement
- ✓ Team spirit, self-discipline and sportsmanship
- ✓ High standards of organisation

We firmly believe that “winning at all costs” attitudes are wrong for our age group of team sport.



## Local Leagues

Since Little League started in 1968, the formula has been welcomed in some 30 locations across the UK, with approximately 6,000 children playing each week, looked after by more than 1,000 volunteer mums and dads. Each local league is self contained and vary in size, but whatever the size of the league, they all work in the similar way and up hold the principles and ethos of Little League Football.

## Teams

Local Leagues have one or more divisions with six teams. The teams are as even in ability as we can make them, so all teams have an equal chance. The teams play 9 a side games, 25 minutes each way.



## Players

One of the features of Little League Football is that it is child-centred. All children are welcome and once in a team cannot be dropped for a better player. Each team consists of players of mixed ages: education years 6, 7 and 8. Each League provides kit, but each player must provide boots and shin-guards. The well being of the children is paramount and all adult volunteers are screened through the Criminal Records Bureau.

## Parents

Parents are encouraged to come and support their children and cheer them on from the touchlines. We promote lots of positive encouragement for the children, but don't expect them to be Premiership material just yet. Please note that criticism of the referee and assistant referee is not welcome. As mentioned before, the ethos of Little League Football is fun and enjoyment, your children are not competing in the World Cup. Parents do occasionally get a little carried away supporting their child's team and questioning a refereeing decision. However, if a parent is heard shouting abuse from the touchline, they will be asked to leave.

Solihull Little League has been in operation for over 22 years and conforms to the rules and principles of Little League Football. Our key objectives remain to this day:

*“A strong community involvement is a key feature of Solihull Little League. The emphasis is on mass participation rather than elitism, enthusiasm and endeavour rather than ability. Players are encouraged to develop team spirit, self discipline and sportsmanship and this also applies to the parents”.*

Solihull Little League is for boys and girls in reception to school year 8, we operate three age groups:

- Panthers Reception to Year 2
- Juniors Year 3-5
- Seniors Year 6-8

The Panthers and Juniors operate for one hour each Saturday and the session consist for football skills development and team games.

The Seniors consists of 6 teams, having squads of 12 playing 9 v 9 games and competing against each other, at the same venue (so there are no away matches) each Saturday, kick off times being: 09.00; 10.00 and 11.00. There are 4 competitions: Autumn League; Pat Duke Memorial Cup; Winter League and Spring Cup. The Senior teams also have a one hour training session one evening each week.

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