



WorldNet & BigTamVets 2026

Referees Pack

Welcome to the WorldNet and BigTamVets Tournaments for 2026 here at Yorkshire Main FC, Doncaster.

On behalf of all teams and players, as well as the organisers, we would like to thank you for playing your part as match officials for our event.

This pack contains everything you should need and will greatly assist the IFA committee in ensuring the weekend runs smoothly.

If you have any questions at all as the weekend progresses, our contact details are below.

Have a great weekend!

IFA WorldNet 2026 Organisers Group Leads:

Damo (Trans-Pennine Irons (West Ham United)): 07519 429243: on-site both days

Fatman (Stretford End FC (Manchester United)): 07808 557003: on-site both days

Rich Walker (Watford IFC) - 07881 658415: remote Saturday, on-site Sunday

David Fraser (Fir Park Corner (Motherwell)) - 07920 424590: remote both days

Schedule for Weekend

Full fixtures, results and other details are available on the tournament portal at wn26.theifa.uk

For all the updates across the weekend, including match scores and draws please visit the portal.

Saturday

08:30

Access to Yorkshire Main FC Complex for organisers and officials

09:00

Team Registrations outside Pitch 1 entrance gate

10:00

Kick Off for WorldNet & BigTamVets 2026

17:00

Group Fixtures complete. Draws for Knockout Rounds outside rear door to of Clubhouse

Sunday

09:30

Access to Yorkshire Main FC Complex for organisers and officials

11:00

Knockout Stages Begin

13:40

WorldNet Plate Final & Big Tam Vets Plate Final

14:20

BigTamVets Final

15:00

WorldNet Cup Final

15:40

Presentations

Close of WorldNet & Big Tam Vets 2026

Match Conditions

The Tournaments' Match Conditions are as per the standard Laws of the Game, with the following adjustments:

Playing Time: all matches are to be played over two periods of 15 minutes, with a maximum three-minute half-time break.

Knockout Stage Extra Time – one 10-minute period of 'Golden Goal' extra-time shall be played in the knockout stages in matches where scores are level at 30 minutes.

Penalty Shoot Out – where Extra Time fails to provide a winner in a Knockout Stage match, the match will be decided by a Penalty Shoot Out. Only players on the pitch at the end of Extra Time are eligible to participate in the Shoot Out.

Substitutions – teams are permitted to make unlimited substitutions on a maximum of three occasions during each match on a "rolling substitutes" basis. Half-time substitutions are in addition and are unlimited. Substituted players should leave the field of play at the closest possible point, with all substitutes entering the field of play at the half-way line.

In the event of Golden Goal Extra Time, one additional substitute occasion can be used during play. In the event of any injury to a player after the permitted occasions, one additional substitute can be used.

Disciplinary – match officials should issue yellow cards as deemed necessary. Any cautions for dissent automatically attract a 5-minute Sin Bin, to be served immediately.

In the unlikely event of a player being dismissed from the field of play, they will miss their team's next match. In the case of any sending-off, this should be reported to the Organisers by the official and further disciplinary measures may be enforced.

BigTamVets Rules

As per standard WorldNet rules, with the addition of:

At least **NINE** players **MUST** be at least **THIRTY-FIVE YEARS OLD** during all action of the BigTamVets tournament. Whilst we don't expect all participants to be carrying around identification, we do expect all teams to respect this rule and the legacy of our BigTamVets tournament.

Footballs

Two match balls have been allocated to each team. An electric ball pump is available in the pavilion should footballs require pumping up between matches.

IFA Spirit

The IFA Spirit is our interpretation of the way in which we like our games to be played. One thing is not in any doubt: the aim of the IFA has always been and always will be to build bridges between groups of fans of different clubs by playing a friendly game of football.

We know that everyone wants to win while wearing their team shirt, but the focus is on the true meaning of the word friendly, rather than the usual footballing meaning, throughout the WorldNet weekend.

Put simply, we encourage good-natured banter between our teams and believe games should be played with smiles on faces. This means there should be no handbags with the opposition, no disputing decisions and no arguing with or abusing opponents, team-mates or you.

We're not naïve; we all know those little moments that can flare up in a game of football, and no-one is expecting such Corinthian spirit to shine through 100 per cent of the time.

But the IFA has survived this long because it's different from the average football league and it's up to every player, every manager and every team to ensure flare-ups are dealt with quickly if and when they happen.

We allow rolling subs for this very reason. If someone is acting up, you are free to ask team managers to sub them for 5-10 minutes. That can sharpen the mind more than a yellow card!

We are very clear about equality of opportunity and all players and those involved in IFA football should not only be aware of our rules regarding this, but should also do everything in their power to uphold those rules. Every one of us is responsible for this.