

Football By-laws

1 The Competition

1.1 Matches to be played in accordance with The Laws of the Game of Football as settled by the International Football Board.

1.2 Competition Organisation

1.2.1 The competition shall be organised by the host islands sport organiser for football and his Management Committee.

1.2.2 The Competition will be controlled by the sports committee in partnership with the football Technical Committee

1.2.3 The Management Committee shall have power to apply, act upon, and enforce the rules of the competition, and with the Technical Committee shall also have jurisdiction over all matters affecting the competition.

1.2.4 The Management Committee in partnership with the Technical Committee shall appoint a jury of appeal and adjudicate in all cases of dispute, protest and complaint.

2 Players Qualification

2.1 Players must be registered with a Football club affiliated to a recognised National Association.

3 Island Representation

3.1 Each participating Island can name a squad of not more than **20 players**, each to be given assigned numbers which must not be changed during the competition.

4 Team Colours

4.1 Each competing team shall register its first and second choice colour and kit design thirty days prior to the commencement of the competition.

4.2 In the event of a clash of colours, the second named team in the draw shall change.

5 Players Equipment

5.1 Players equipment shall be in accordance with the Laws of the Game of Association Football.

6.1 The Competition

6.1.1 The competition shall be played on a league basis in the first stage, with teams divided into groups. Each team shall play one match against each of the other teams in its group. Three points shall be awarded for a win, and one point for a draw.

6.1.2 In the event of any teams being level on points for any place in their Group, the team(s) with the superior goal difference (goals scored less goals conceded) shall take precedence.

- 6.1.3 In the event of goal difference being equal, the team that has scored most goals shall take precedence. In the event of goal difference and goals scored being equal, the team(s) with the superior goal average shall take precedence. The goal average shall be calculated by dividing the goals scored by the goals conceded, but if two teams have not conceded any goals, the team scoring most goals will take precedence. If goal averages are equal, the result of the match(es) between the equal teams shall decide the Group placings. In the event of these being draws, the drawing of lots shall decide the placings.
- 6.1.4 In the event of a match being abandoned due to weather conditions or postponed because of an unfit pitch, the Management Committee will endeavour to arrange for the game to be replayed if possible. Failing this, the Management Committee will award each side one point during the Group matches, or will decide the placing by the drawing of lots.
- 6.1.5 In the event of a match being abandoned due to the conduct of one or both teams or their supporters, the Management Committee will adjudicate and will have the power to award the match result.
- 6.1.6 Any team failing to fulfil its fixture obligation may forfeit the match, which may be awarded to their opponents as decided by the Management Committee.
- 6.1.7 The Group winners will play for the gold and silver placings, and the two runners-up will play off for the bronze and fourth placings. Matches will also be played for other placings through the groups.
- 6.1.8 The Management Committee shall have the power to alter the competition format once the final number of teams is known.

6.2 Duration of Matches

- 6.2.1 All Group matches shall be of forty-five minutes each way duration.
- 6.2.2 All place matches shall be of forty-five minutes each way duration, with extra time of fifteen minutes each way in the event of a draw.
- 6.2.3 If, after extra time in any match, the team are still level, the match shall be decided by the taking of kicks from the penalty mark.
- 6.2.4 The half time interval shall not exceed fifteen minutes unless with the consent of the match referee.
- 6.2.5 **Penalty Decider**
- 6.2.5.1 The taking of kicks from the penalty mark to decide a match shall be in accordance with the International Board Decision 'Knock-Out Competition - Obtaining a Result', taking of penalty kicks from the penalty mark as contained in the Laws of the Game.

6.3 Team Sheets

- 6.3.1 Each team manager will be responsible to hand a team sheet to the match referee not less than thirty minutes before the kick-off, showing the squad number and name of

each player of the starting team and the squad numbers and names of the remaining members of the squad. No changes shall be made to the teams without notifying both team managers in the presence of the match referee before the commencement of the game.

6.4 Substitutes

6.4.1 Up to a maximum of three substitutes may be used from a maximum number of seven nominated substitutes in accordance with Law 3 and subject to the rule relating to the taking of kicks from the penalty mark. Save and except if the Honorary Medical Adviser considers that in view of the temperature in the Host Island on the day of the Opening Ceremony of a Games the maximum number of substitutes may be five from the seven nominated list of substitutes.

6.5 Reporting of Results

6.5.1 Each team manager will be responsible for completing a match result card showing all players used, goal scorers and match result, and must hand it to the match referee no later than twenty minutes after the conclusion of the match.

6.5.2 The referee shall be responsible for notifying the Management Committee of the result of each game at its conclusion by agreeing and handing in the match result cards.

7 Competition Officials

7.1 All match referees shall be current Class One officials, and will be appointed to matches by the Management Committee. No match fees or expenses will be paid to referees or assistant referees.

7.2 All such referees shall be from a neutral territory. Where practical each competing Island will supply a Class One official.

7.3 Assistant referees will be referees registered with the Host Football Association, or a referee invited from the other competing islands, and will be appointed to matches by the Management Committee.

7.4 Referees and Assistant Referees are to be at the grounds at least one hour prior to kick-off.

8 Protests and Complaints

8.1 All questions on interpretation of the Rules shall be referred to the Management Committee, but no objection relative to the dimensions of the pitch or other appurtenances thereon shall be entertained by the Management Committee unless a protest is lodged with the match referee prior to the commencement of the game.

8.2 All protests and complaints relative to a particular game in the Competition shall be made in writing to the Secretary of the Management Committee and be received by him within two hours of the completion of the match.

8.3 All such protests and complaints shall be heard by the Management Committee Chairman, Secretary, and three representatives of neutral territories, appointed by the Management Committee.

9 Trophies

9.1 Gold, Silver and Bronze medals will be awarded to the teams finishing in First, Second and Third places respectively.

10 Rules of the Competition

10.1 The Rules of the Competition are binding on the teams taking part.

11 Misconduct

11.1 A player who is sent off the field of play (red card) will automatically miss his sides next match, and will be reported to the Host Football Association who may, after considering the misconduct report(s), vary that suspension. All cases of field misconduct will be reported to the appropriate national association.

11.2 A player who receives two cautions (yellow cards) during the competition will miss his side's next match and will be reported to the Host Football Association.

12 The Ball

12.1 Size Five footballs shall be used in all matches, and will be supplied by the Management Committee.