



GIBRALTAR FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION (the "GFA")

RULES OF

THE GIBTELECOM CUP COMPETITION



1. NAME OF CUP

- 1.1 The Cup shall be called “The Gibtelecom Rock Cup” (hereinafter referred to as “The Cup”)

2. CUP OWNERSHIP

- 2.1 The Cup is property of the Gibraltar Football Association (“hereinafter referred to as “the GFA”).
- 2.2 The Champions trophy shall be presented to the winner of the Cup Final (the “Winner”) at the trophy ceremony. At the conclusion of the trophy ceremony, the GFA will retain the Champions Trophy and present the Winner with a replica trophy which the Winner is entitled to keep.
- 2.3 The Board of Directors of the GFA (hereinafter referred to as (“the Board”) may in its sole discretion present to the Team and its players who have won the Cup for and/or been runners up thereof replica miniature cups, medals or other prizes. When a Player Member taking part in the final of the competition is ordered to leave the field or play for misconduct, the medal or other prize (if any) to which he may entitled may be withheld at the discretion of the Board.

3. CONTROL OF COMPETITION

- 3.1 The ownership, organisation, control and management of the Competition shall be vested entirely and exclusively in the GFA.
- 3.2 The Board shall have the power to make, delete and amend the rules for the organisation, control and management of the Competition as it from time to time deems expedient (hereinafter referred to as “The Competition Rules”).
- 3.3 All Teams participating in the Competition shall be bound by and shall comply with these Rules as may from time to time be amended by the Board.
- 3.4 In relation to any matter not specifically mentioned in these Rules, the Board shall have the power to take such action and make such decisions, orders, ruling’s and impose such penalties as it deems necessary and follow such procedures as it considers appropriate.
- 3.5 The GFA shall itself be exclusively entitled, or to authorise others, to use sell of otherwise exploit all marketing and commercial rights associated with the Competition without limitation.

4. ELIGIBLE TEAMS

- 4.1 The Competition shall be open to all Teams participating in the Gibraltar National League.
- 4.2 No other Gibraltar FA Registered Teams are allowed to participate in the Competition.
- 4.3 The Board may, in its sole discretion, reject the entry of any Team.

- 4.4 Subject to the provision of clause 4.1, each Team wishing to compete in the Competition shall complete an entry form and return it to the General Secretary of the GFA together with such fee (if any) as may from time to time be prescribed by the Board, by no later than 7 days after invitation into the Competition.

5. THE DRAW

- 5.1 The draws for the Competition shall be held at a date, time and in a location chosen by the GFA, and in the presence of the Board, and all those Team officials invited to attend by the GFA.
- 5.2 The date, time and location of the draw shall be notified in writing by the GFA to the respective Teams via email by no later than 72 hours prior to the date of the draw.
- 5.3 The Teams competing for the Cup shall be drawn in pairs. These Teams shall compete against each other and the winning Teams shall be drawn and shall compete in the same manner and this shall be continued until the end of the Competition, when the winning Team shall win the Cup.
- 5.4 Immediately after each draw is made, notice shall be given to each Team of the name of its opponent and the date and hour when the tie shall be played. All ties in each round shall be played at such times and on such days as the Board may determine.



6. LAWS OF THE GAME

Matches (as this term is defined below) in the Competition will be played in conformity with the Laws of the Game promulgated by the International Football Association Board ("IFAB") as amended from time to time.

7. TEAM COLOURS

- 7.1 Where the colours (shirts, shorts or stockings) of two competing Teams are similar, the Teams playing away must change unless the competing Teams mutually agree alternative arrangements.
- 7.2 Teams' colours must not clash with the outfit being worn by the Cup officials appointed for the fixture.
- 7.3 Players' shirts must be clearly numbered on the back and must be in accordance with the name of the Player Member stated in the Team Sheet submitted before the commencement of the fixture and there must be no change of numbers during the match. The Captain shall wear a distinguishing arm band to indicate his status. Only the name of the Player Member wearing the shirt can be displayed on the shirt.
- 7.4 Advertising is permitted as per the Gibraltar FA League Rules.

8. DURATION OF MATCHES

- 8.1 The duration of each match throughout the Competition shall be one and a half hours, except that in special cases provided for in these Rules, an extra half hour must be played. The referee shall allow for time wasted or lost time through accident or other cause. The referee shall be the sole judge of allowance of time whether lost through accident or other cause and his/her decision on this matter shall not be subjected to appeal.
- 8.2 The half time interval shall be fifteen minutes.
- 8.3 Except in a semi-final tie and in the final, a match ending in a draw shall be determined by the taking of kicks from the penalty mark in accordance with the procedure adopted by the International Football Association Board.
- 8.4 If a semi-final tie or final tie ends in a draw after 90 minutes, an extra 30 minutes must be played, divided into two halves of fifteen minutes each. If the score is still level after extra time the winners shall be determined by taking of kicks from the penalty mark in accordance with the procedure adopted by the International Football Association Board.
- 8.5 The Board shall have power to vary the arrangements provided in this Rules if it is deemed necessary.
- 8.6 If a match is cancelled, it shall be played as directed by the Board. If a match is abandoned prior to full time due to weather conditions or the state of the pitch it shall be replayed. If a match is abandoned during extra time due to weather conditions or state of the pitch, the full thirty minute extra time stipulated in 8.4 must be replayed.
- 8.7 Where a match is abandoned through the fault of a Team and/or their supporters, the Team Member, players and supporters shall be liable to disciplinary proceedings for misconduct.

9. PROVISIONS FOR WITHDRAWING FROM THE COMPETITION

- 9.1 Any Team intending to withdraw from the Competition must give written notice of their intention to do so to the secretary of the opposing Team and to the Disciplinary Regulations Officer of the GFA not less than 72 hours before the date fixed for playing.
- 9.2 Any Team failing to comply with rule 9.1 shall be liable to misconduct in accordance with the GFA Disciplinary Regulations.
- 9.3 Teams failing to give satisfactory reason for withdrawing shall not be allowed to enter the Competition the following season. The Management Board shall determine whether the reason for withdrawal is satisfactory.

10. PROVISION CONCERNING ELIGIBILITY OF PLAYERS

- 10.1 The Cup shall be competed for annually in accordance with these Rules as from time to time amended.
- 10.2 Players for each Team in the Competition shall be duly registered as Player Members in accordance with the Rules of the GFA.
- 10.3 A Player shall not in the same season play for one or more competing Team, but the players of each respective Team may be changed during the series of matches.
- 10.4 A Player who has been suspended may play in postponed, drawn or replayed ties after the term of his suspension has expired.
- 10.5 In order to be eligible for the final ties, players must have been correctly registered as per 10.2 and 10.6 above and eligible for the semi-final round of the Competition.
- 10.6 In any tie, a Team shall abide by the Home Grown Player Rules set out in the Gibraltar FA National League Rules.
- 10.7 If the Board have any doubt as to the qualifications of any Player Member taking part in this Competition, they shall have power to call upon such Player Member, or to the Team to which he belongs, of for which he played to prove that he is Qualified according to these rules and failing satisfactory proof being given the Board may disqualify such Player Member, and remove the Team from the Competition and impose such other penalty as they may think.

11. DISQUALIFICATION

- 11.1 The Board shall have the power to disqualify any competing Team, or Player from any competing Team, found to have breached the Rules of the GFA or these Rules. The decision of the Board in this respect shall be final.

12. REFEREES AND ASSISTANT REFEREES

- 12.1 In all matches the referees and assistant referees shall be appointed by the GFA Referee Department.
- 12.2 The duties of the referees and assistant referees shall be defined in the Laws of the Game and these Rules.

13. PROVISION RELATING TO PROTESTS

- 13.1 All disputes or complaints by a Team regarding another Team in relation to any matter applicable to this Competition, shall be dealt in accordance with the GFA Disciplinary Rules.

14. MATCH DAY

- 14.1 The referee appointed for the match shall be the sole authority to decide all questions referring to the fitness or otherwise of the ground at the time of the scheduled kick-off of the said fixture.
- 14.2 The first named Team in the draw shall be known as the Home Team and the second shall be the Away Team.
- 14.3 Each competing Team shall accurately complete the Team sheet which can be found in the COMET system, containing a list of Players, substitutes and corresponding shirt numbers (as per 15.4 below) by no later than 60 minutes prior to kick-off. It is the responsibility of each team to ensure that the Players listed in COMET are in fact eligible to play in accordance with these Rules.
- 14.4 A Team sheet must be composed of the following persons :-
- 14.4.1 A minimum of Seven (7) and a maximum of Eleven (11) starting Players (of which at least 4 must be a Home Grown Player);
 - 14.4.2 A maximum of seven (7) substitutes ; and
 - 14.4.3 A maximum of seven (7) Team officials who fulfil the following roles :
 - 14.4.3.1 Head Coach (mandatory) ;
 - 14.4.3.2 Assistant Coach (mandatory);
 - 14.4.3.3 Physical Trainer;
 - 14.4.3.4 Physiotherapist or GFA Accredited Sports Therapist (mandatory);
 - 14.4.3.5 Doctor;
 - 14.4.3.6 Team delegate; (mandatory)
 - 14.4.3.7 Coaching Staff
- 14.5 Only the persons listed in 14.2 above named in the team sheet are allowed in the technical area.
- 14.6 No changes will be allowed after the deadlines set at 14.1 and 14.1 above, unless there is an injury to a player in the starting 11 prior to kick-off, in which case, a named substitute can replace the injured player. This will be done by a Match Official.
- 14.7 Save under exceptional circumstances, if team sheets are not completed within the deadlines above, a team will only be able to submit its starting Players as per 14.2. No named substitutes will be allowed on the bench, and no substitutions will be allowed prior or during the match.

14.8 The GFA shall use its best endeavours to ensure that the information provided for in COMET is correct at all times, however, as an IT system, there is always the risk of error, and as such, it is the sole responsibility of each Team to keep a record of its active cautions and suspensions, and ensure that the information provided in each team sheet is correct and accurate and that the listed players and coaches are eligible to participate in accordance with GFA Rules.

14.9 The Match Officials will check each team Sheet in accordance with the GFA Referee Regulations.

15. CHECKING OF IDENTITY

15.1 Players and officials mentioned in the Team sheet are obliged to have with them the Gibraltar FA Identity Card.

15.2 The Gibraltar FA Identity Card of all persons listed on the Team sheet will be checked by the Match Official(s) prior to kick off.

15.3 In the case where a player's identity could not be ascertained because he does not produce his Gibraltar FA Identity Card, the player will not be allowed to play. In the case of a Team official, he/she will not be allowed to sit in the technical area.

15.4 In the case of a protest, complaint, charge or investigation, the burden of proof as to the identity of a player or official taking part in a match shall rest with the player and his Team.



16. NOTICES

16.1 All notices required to be given to the Board by any of these rules shall be addressed to the Operations Director of the GFA in writing.

17. INTERPRETATION OF RULES

17.1 The Board shall be deemed to be the sole authority for the interpretation of these rules and the decision of the Board upon any question or matter relating to the administration and organisation of the Competition which is not provided for herein shall be final and binding on all Teams and/or players.

19 PRIZE MONEY

19.1 There will be prize money available to participating teams, in accordance with Schedule 1 of these Rules.

20 DISPUTES AND COMPLAINTS

- 20.1 Any dispute or complaint by a Team regarding a match or another Team in relation to any matter applicable to the Cup, must be officially reported to the GFA within 48 hours from the conclusion of the match in question. The matter shall be dealt in accordance with the GFA Disciplinary Rules.
- 20.2 Any special request made by a Team in relation to a match must be made in writing to the General Secretary.
- 20.3 All requests must be made at least 24 hours prior to the match in question. The General Secretary may waive this time limit in exceptional circumstances.
- 20.4 With regards to requests for a minute silence prior to a match, this shall only be permitted under the following circumstances :
- 20.4.1 An international tragic event;
 - 20.4.2 A national tragic event;
 - 20.4.3 A national event e.g. Remembrance Sunday
 - 20.4.4 Observing respect for the death of individuals who have contributed to the Game in Gibraltar.
 - 20.4.5 Death of a player or team official.

21 POLICIES AND REGULATIONS

- 21.1 The following Statutes, Policies and Regulations apply to these Rules :-

- 21.1.1 Anti-Doping Regulations;
- 21.1.2 Social Media Policy;
- 21.1.3 Regulations on the Status & Transfer of Players;
- 21.1.4 Referee Regulations;
- 21.1.5 GFA Disciplinary Rules;

- 21.2 A copy of the above shall be made available to all Club Members participating in the League, and it is the responsibility of each Club Member to ensure their registered Player Members are fully aware of the repercussions in the event of their breach.

22 BREACH OF RULES

- 22.1 Any breach of these Rules will be dealt with by the GFA Disciplinary Regulations

23 APPLICABILITY OF RULES

- 23.1 These Rules have been adopted by the Board with immediate effect on 14th February 2020.



SCHEDULE 1

PRIZE MONEY

The prize money for the Competition shall be distributed in accordance with the Gibraltar FA Pillars Programme :

