

FA CHALLENGE CUP COMPETITION

1. The competition shall be called "The Bermuda Football Association Challenge Cup Competition (FA Cup).
2. The Cup shall be the property of the Association.
3. The entire control and management of the competition shall be vested in the Executive Council of the Association.
4. The Competition shall be open to: -

One team from each Full Membership Organizations of the Bermuda Football Association who participates in senior competition as well as any Associate Member team or club designated as such by the Executive Council in accordance with Article 4(b) of the Statutes of the Association .
5. The Executive Council may reject the entry of any Club. The Cup shall be competed for annually, in accordance with the following rules, by teams, which shall represent the full strength of the club competing.
6. Each club desirous of entering shall complete the official Annual Registration Form and return it to the Administrative Office of the Association, together with the entrance fee so that the form is received on or before the registration deadline of the season in which the club propose to compete. Should the entry of any club be rejected in accordance with Rule 5 of the Competition then the entry fee will be refunded.
7. A player shall not in one season play for more than one membership club in the FA Cup Competition (this includes players that represent a non-league team, i.e. Corona League), but members of each respective team may be changed during the series of matches. In the rounds preceding the quarter-final of the competition, a player shall have been a duly registered player of his club. In the quarter-final, semi-final and final rounds, a player must have been a registered playing member of his club for more than fourteen (14) days before the time fixed for playing the match. A playing member is one who has actually played or has been included on the substitution form for the club during the current season and no playing member of a Club shall be permitted to enter this competition as a player for any other club. In the case of postponed, drawn or replayed matches, only those players shall be allowed to play who were eligible on the date fixed for the playing of the original match, except a player who has been suspended, who may play in matches after the term of suspension has expired.
8. The Executive Council shall have the power to disqualify any competing club, player or players of any competing club, who may proved to be guilty of any breach of the Rules of the Association.
9. All fields available for use in this competition shall be registered with the Association. The registration shall indicate its dimensions, enclosure and gate facilities, and also the name of the member operating the field. All rents or share of gate receipts paid for use of any field shall be paid to the registered operating member.

10. The dimensions of the field of play for all matches shall be in accordance with the FIFA Laws of the Game under Law 1.

LENGTH:	MAXIMUM 130 YARDS	WIDTH:	MAXIMUM 100 YARDS
	MINIMUM 100 YARDS		MINIMUM 50 YARDS

The playing area shall be enclosed by rope or fence at least 5 feet from the touch lines where possible and goal nets must be used in all matches.

11. A club whose grounds is less than the minimum allowed under Rule No. 10, or which is declared unfit for competition, under rule No. 14, prior to the commencement of the season, may on entering the competition obtain the consent of the Executive Council to play on another ground that fulfills the requirements and which the club has authority to use.

12. The competition shall be conducted in the following manner:-

- (a) No more than one team may represent any membership club. No team entering shall be permitted to apply for exemption from the first or any other round of the competition.
- (b) Teams shall be entered in the required number of preliminary round matches (as determined by the Executive Council, or the Competitions Committee acting on its behalf). The winning teams shall advance on to the first round, quarter-final, semi-final and final rounds.
- (c) All matches in each round shall be drawn in couples and the losing team in each match shall be eliminated from the competition. After the final match the winning club shall be crowned the FA Cup Champion for the current year. All matches drawn in each round prior to the Semi-Final round shall be played on the dates and at such time as the Executive Council or Competitions Committee acting on its behalf may determine.

13. The Administrative Office of the Association shall, immediately after each draw is made, notify each club of the name of its opponent and of the date and time when the match should be played. The draw for each round from the first to the semi-finals shall be made during the week following the completion of the previous round.

14. The Executive Council shall have the right to reject, at any time, any ground that does not fulfill the requirements of Rule No. 10, or which it may consider unsuitable for a match for any reason, and in such case the match shall be played on a ground selected by the Executive Council.

In the semi-final and final rounds the Executive Council shall select the ground on which the matches shall be played, and no ground shall be selected which, in the opinion of the Executive Council does not enable entrance and gate money to be properly controlled. . The Executive Council or the Competitions Committee acting on its behalf shall decide upon the replaying of any non-completed match.

15. Where the colors of two competing teams are similar the home team shall be required to change. Goalkeepers must wear colors, which distinguish them from other players.
16. In all cases re-scheduled cup matches shall have priority over any other scheduled matches.

In all rounds of the competition, if the score is tied at the end of regulation time then an extra thirty minutes shall be played in two equal periods. If the score remains tied then the winner shall be determined by the taking of kicks from the penalty mark in accordance with the Laws of the Game as published by FIFA.

A maximum of seven substitutes may be nominated. Subject to the below, a club may at its discretion use three of those seven substitute players within regulation time. **In the event that extra time is played, a Club may at its discretion use one additional substitute player, a fourth in total from the nominated seven substitutes, during such period of extra time.** A substitution can only be made when play is stopped for any reason and the Referee has given permission. Prior to the substitution being made the Club must identify to the Match Officials the number of the player out and the player in, in accordance with the Official Team Sheet.

In the case of all Women's FA Cup matches prior to the Final, if at the end of ninety minutes the score is tied, then the winner shall be determined by the taking of kicks from the penalty mark in accordance with the Laws of the Game as published by FIFA. During the Final, if at the end of ninety minutes the score is tied, then a half hour extra time shall be played in two equal periods. If the score remains tied then the winner shall be determined by the taking of kicks from the penalty mark in accordance with the Laws of the Game as published by FIFA.

17. If any club fails to play or complete a match, without showing a good and valid cause for such failure to play, may be judged to have been guilty of serious misconduct and liable to be dealt with by the Executive Council.
18.
 - (a) Referees and Assistant Referees for all matches shall be appointed by the Executive Council on the recommendation of the Referees Committee acting on its behalf. The Referee shall have the final decision as to whether a field is fit for play, subject to Rule No. 14. However, in all cases the Referee shall consult with the BFA Match Commissioner before making a final decision.
 - (b) In all other respects the duties of the Referee and Assistant Referees shall be those defined in the Laws of the Game. Fees shall be paid to the Referee and Assistant Referees as laid out in Rules Governing Referees and Assistant Referees. The Referee shall notify the Administrative Office of the Association of the result of the match through a Referee's Match Report submitted within 48 hours from the time fixed for the match to start. Failure by the Referee to submit the Match Report by the required time shall render the Referee liable for a fine in accordance with Article 8 (2) of the Rules Governing Referees and Assistant Referees.
 - (c) In the event of an Assistant Referees not reporting for duty, the Referee must secure the approval of the Chairman of the Referees Committee or his designated representative or if unable to establish contact then with the Match Commissioner for any substitute he might wish to make. In the event of a Referee not reporting for duty the Match Commissioner shall be empowered to assign one of the

Associations' appointed Assistant Referees in place of the Referee after consulting with one or either of the Chairmen of the Competitions Committee, Referees Committee or the General Secretary or their designated representative. In all cases and if appropriate the senior Assistant Referees will be designated to referee the match.

19. For all matches prior to the semi-final round, the games shall be operated and administered by the registered operating member club and the gross gate receipts shall be retained by the operating member club.

(a) At the conclusion of the competition the expenses and the revenue of the F.A. Challenge Cup shall be administered as follows:-

- i. The Association shall meet the general expenses of the competition from the gross revenue including the match officials, medals, advertising, match operations, etc.
- ii. The net revenue from the Semi-finals and the Final matches shall be divided as follows:

For all matches played prior to the semi final, two thirds to be retained by the Association's General Fund with one third to be retained in the Challenge Cup Pool to be equally shared among those clubs who did not host a match at their designated home venue in the rounds prior to the semi-final matches.

- iii. For the Final match, fifty percent to be retained by the Association's General Fund with the remaining fifty percent to be retained in the Challenge Cup Pool with two thirds awarded to the Champion and one third awarded to the Runner-up.
- iv. The share of the revenue paid to the competing clubs shall be in lieu of any further payment for other expenses in relation to the match.
- v. The registered operator of the field shall be responsible for the provision of gate keepers, police and/or other security where necessary, and other officials at the field for all matches played prior to the semi-final and final rounds.
- vi. For semi-final and final matches, all club members shall be charged for admission to the grounds. The Admission charges will be set up by the Executive Council.

(b) At all matches the club which is the registered Field Operator shall appoint a Representative who shall be present and be prepared to assist the Association's Match Commissioner in any way required.

(c) During the semi-final and final matches the Association shall be responsible for the operations and administration of the match and the Association's Match

Commissioner shall have the full authority to see that requirements for the match are carried out and have authority to issue instructions as he/she may see fit on the day of the match.

- (d) The Field Operator shall provide, where possible, separate changing facilities for the Match Officials from that provided for the players.
20. All questions relating to matches, the qualification of players, interpretations of the Rules, disputes, protests or complaints shall be referred to the Executive Council whose decision shall be final. Every complaint or protest, of whatever kind, must be made in writing and must contain the particulars of the grounds on which it is founded. Two copies of the protest or complaint must be lodged with the Executive Council accompanied with a fee of \$100.00 within 48 hours of the completion of the match to which it relates. The Executive may order any club engaged in any dispute, protest or complaint, to pay such sum, as may be considered necessary towards defraying the expenses incurred. Any protest relating to the ground, goal post or appurtenances of the game, shall not be entertained by the Executive Council unless notice with full particulars, has been submitted by the protesting club to the Referee immediately before and during the match once the grounds for the protest came to knowledge of the club. The Referee shall require the responsible club to rectify the cause of the objection if possible, without unduly delaying the game. If the grounds of protest can't be rectified at the venue, then a protest must be lodged with the Association within 48 hours of the schedule match time. No protest shall be withdrawn except by leave of the Executive Council.
 21. The Administrative Office of the Association shall send a copy of the protest and particulars to the club protested against. Each club may support its case by witnesses. Neither Barrister nor Solicitor shall represent a club at a hearing of a dispute, unless they are the President or Secretary of the club concerned, at the time the protest was lodged.
 22. When a match is postponed through causes over which neither club has control there shall be no compensation for any expenses to any party.
 23. Any match that has been ordered to be replayed as result of a breach of rules, misconduct, or other similar cause, the offending club may be fined by the Executive Council as they deem appropriate
 24. The winner of the FA Challenge Cup shall retain the replica trophy while the FA Challenge Cup shall remain in the possession of the Association.
 25. In addition to the Cup, the Association shall present to the teams in the Final match, gold medals to the players and officials of the winning team and silver medals to the players and officials of the losing team and commemorative medals to the Match Officials. When a player taking part is ordered to leave the field of play for misconduct, the medal shall be withheld at the discretion of the Executive Council.
 26.
 - (a) Challenge Cup matches must not be preceded by any other matches on the same day or the same field, unless the Executive Council or Competitions Committee acting on its behalf decides otherwise.
 - (b) In the Semi-Final and Final Rounds of the competition, there must be no other matches scheduled anywhere.

27. For all Rounds, the first name team shall be designated as the Home Team. For all Rounds prior to the semi-finals and final, the Home Team shall provide the match balls. These balls remain the property of the team, which provide them. In the semi-final and the Cup Final, the Association shall provide the match balls.
28. All notice required to be given to the Association in relation to any of these rules shall be addressed to the Administrative Office.
29. The Executive Council shall have the power to alter or add to these rules, as it may from time to time deem expedient.
30. The Executive Council shall have the power to decide on matters not provided for in these Regulations.