

RFYS School Football and College Football



TOURNAMENT REGULATIONS 2018

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SECTION 1 :

INTRODUCTION



1.1: Definitions

In these Regulations:

“**Assistant Referee**” means the Match Officials appointed by RFYS who assist the Referee in controlling the Match and whose duties are defined in the Laws of the Game;

“**College Boys**” means the category of the tournament which has boys pursuing an undergraduate degree course in a college or university and is U-23 (born on or after July 1, 1995) and that fulfills the eligibility criteria laid down in Rule 3.1

“**City Head**” means the person appointed by RFYS in respect of each City to oversee matters related to Matches and other Tournament activities held in his assigned city. The Venue Head reports to him;

“**Football Competition Manager/s or FCM**” means the person/s appointed by RFYS to oversee and be in overall charge of the competition and operational management for the football Tournament. The City Heads and Match Commissioners report to him;

“**Force Majeure**” means any cause or event outside the reasonable control of any Participant, arising from or attributable to acts, events, omissions or accidents, including but not limited to the effect of any elections, abnormally inclement weather, flood, lightning, storm, fire, explosion, earthquake, structural damage, epidemic or other natural disaster, failure or shortage of power supplies, war, terrorist action, military operations, threat of terrorist action, riot, crowd disorder, strike, lock-outs or other industrial action (but not strikes, lock-outs or other industrial action of any participating Institute), acts or omissions of public authorities or any changes in any law, regulation or policy of the government;

“**Fourth Official**” means the Match Official appointed by RFYS whose duties are defined in the Laws of the Game and who shall replace the Referee or the Assistant Referee in case either is unable to continue;

“**Head Coach**” means, in relation to each Participating Team, the most senior Team Official responsible for coaching and/or managing such Participating Team;

“**Institute**” means any school, junior college or college that could be eligible to participate in the Tournament in accordance with the eligibility criteria prescribed by RFYS;

“**Institute Registration Form**” means the entry participation form to be submitted by an Institute without which an Institute is not eligible to participate in the Tournament;

“**Junior Boys**” For the Junior Boys competition, means the category of the tournament which has boys from Class 7-10 student (born on or after July 1, 2002) and that fulfills the eligibility criteria laid down in Rule 3.1;

“**Laws of the Game**” means the laws of the Game as determined and published by the International Football Association Board (IFAB) from time to time;

“**Lucky Loser**” means a Team which fails to qualify for the next round, but gets another chance to progress further via playing and winning additional Matches and/or having a better record among the losing Teams as per Rule 2.5 h i) below.

“**Matches**” means, together, the qualifiers, group Matches and the Play-Off Matches;

“**Match Commissioner**” means the Match Official appointed by RFYS who acts as RFYS’s official representative at a Match/venue and is responsible for overseeing the technical organization of the Match and compliance with the applicable Regulations (under his purview);

“**Match Officials**” means Referees and Assistant Referees (including any reserve officials and Fourth Officials), the Match Commissioner and any other person appointed by RFYS to officiate at a Match;

“**Medical Support Team**” means a medical team includes one paramedic, one support staff and one ambulance

“**National Qualifiers**” means stage of the competition where each zone is divided further into a two sub-zone and they compete for a place in National Championship

“**National Championship**” means stage of the competition where teams from each zone will compete with each other in a format suggested by RFYS to be crowned as RFYS National Champions

“**Participant or person subject to these Regulations**” means each Participating Institute, Player, Team Official and/or Match Official or any other person who from time to time is bound by these Regulations;

“**Participating Institute or Participating Team**” means any Institute duly registered and participating in the Tournament;

“**Player**” means a student who plays football and is enrolled as a full time student with a Participating Institute he is representing in the Tournament;

“**Play-Off Match**” means knockout Matches that shall follow the group Matches, namely quarter-finals, semi-finals and final (as applicable) to decide the overall winner of the City Championships stage and the National Championships stage;

“**Referee**” means the Match Official appointed by RFYS who controls the Match and whose duties are defined in the Laws of the Game. The Assistant Referees and the Fourth Official operate under the direction of the Referee;

“**Refereeing Matters**” means and include all disciplinary matters occurring between the time Teams arrive at the venue for a Match and the Referee leaves the field of play after the Match ends (including kicks from the penalty mark, if applicable), and which fall within the purview of the Referee as per the Laws of the Game;

“**Regulations**” mean these Regulations which may be amended from time to time by RFYS;

“**Reserve Players**” means the additional Players that can be registered by a Participating Team as part of their preliminary squad and who may be brought in when a Participating Team needs to replace a Player in their final squad as per 4.2 below;

“**RFYS**” means Reliance Foundation Youth Sports, the organizer and holder of all proprietary rights (including without limitation all intellectual property rights thereto) associated with the Tournament;

“**School Girls**” means the category of the tournament which has girls from 9-12th student and is U-18 (born on or after July 1, 2000) and, also on a special request case basis a squad may field 3 girl athletes, she is a class 7 or 8th student and U-18 (born on or after July 1, 2000) and that fulfills the eligibility criteria laid down in Rule 3.1;

“**Senior Boys**” means the category of the tournament which has boys from 11th or 12th student and is U-18 (born on or after July 1, 2000) and that fulfills the eligibility criteria laid down in Rule 3.1;

“**Team**” means the team selected by a Participating Institute to play in the Matches in the Tournament from within their final squad;

“**Team Bench**” means the benches/dugouts placed in the Technical area to seat Players and Team Officials listed in the Team Sheet;

“**Team Official**” means any teacher, officer, coach, doctor, physiotherapist or other person employed or otherwise appointed (whether temporarily or for the whole Tournament) and registered by any Participating Institute in relation to its Team;

“**Team Registration Form**” means the form to be submitted by each Participating Institute in respect of each Player being its full time student, under Rule 4.2 and 4.3, as the same may be amended by RFYS from time to time;

“**Team Representative**” means any student whether or not registered as a Player of the Participating Institute or any other person including owner, trustee, directors or any other person employed or otherwise appointed by such Participating Institute whether or not they are registered as a Team Official;

“**Team Sheet**” means the list of Players and Team Officials who will represent a Participating Institute in a particular Match and/or sit on the Team Bench;

“**Technical Area**” means an area which a coach, other Team Officials listed on the Team Sheet, and substitute Players are allowed to occupy during a Match. The technical area includes the Team Bench and a marked zone adjacent to the pitch;

“**Tournament**” means the amateur football tournament organized by RFYS in respect of which these Regulations are being published;

“**Tournament Disciplinary Committee**” means the disciplinary committee appointed by RFYS pursuant to Rule 5;

“**Tournament League Secretary**” means the person appointed as the league secretary to oversee primarily the administrative function of the disciplinary process and other functions as set out under these Regulations;

“**Venue Head**” means the person appointed by RFYS who acts as RFYS’s official representative at a venue and is responsible for overseeing the operational organization of Matches and compliance with the applicable Regulations at that venue;

“**Venue Partner**” means any Participating Institute providing its ground/venue for hosting RFYS Tournament Matches; and

“**Working Day**” means any day (not being a Saturday or Sunday) on which banks are generally open for business in Mumbai.



1.2: Interpretation

(a) Unless the context otherwise requires:

- (i) words importing the singular shall include the plural and vice versa; and
- (ii) words importing any particular gender shall include all other genders.



1.3: Organizers - Reliance Foundation Youth Sports (RFYS)

- a) The Football Tournament will be played under the auspices of RFYS.
- b) All rights associated with the Tournament which has not been granted by these Regulations and/or specific agreements to any Participating Institute or a Participant shall remain with RFYS.
- c) These Tournament Regulations and any other Guidelines, Circulars or Codes related to the Tournament are binding for all Participants.



1.4: Participating Institutes

- a) The obligations and responsibilities of the Participating Institutes are stipulated in the Institute Registration Form and in these Regulations and any other agreements reached between RFYS and the Participating Institute.

- b) Each Institute shall sign and submit the prescribed Institute Registration Form to RFYS not later than the registration deadline communicated to the Participating Institutes, in order to be eligible for participation in the Tournament. If the Institute Registration Form does not reach RFYS by the registration deadline, the participation application of the Institute shall be liable to be rejected as per the sole discretion of RFYS.



1.5: Delegation

RFYS shall be entitled to delegate any power or authority bestowed on it under these Regulations to any other sub-committee or to any other person/entity such as the Tournament Disciplinary Committee (TDC) and/or the Football Competition Manager (FCM) either generally or in respect of any individual events or circumstances.



1.6: Effective Date

Each Participant agrees that these Regulations shall come into force as on the date it is adopted. Participating in the Tournament shall constitute an agreement with RFYS and acceptance by each Participant to be bound by and comply with these Regulations. Participants can find the Regulations on rfyouthsports.com. Any amendment to these Regulations shall become effective upon the publication of the amended document on rfyouthsports.com.



1.7: General Conduct

Each person subject to these Regulations shall:

- (a) Not at any time act in a manner which does or which might be anticipated to bring such person, RFYS, its agencies /representatives, the Tournament, any Participating Team, any Player, RFYS Partners, any RFYS sub-committee, or any Committee Member and/or the Game into disrepute or adversely affect its/their reputation.
- (b) Strictly comply with these Regulations.
- (c) Co-operate with RFYS and its representatives to help run the Tournament to the highest possible standards and with the utmost integrity.
- (d) In the event that the RFYS enquires into any suspected or alleged breach of these Regulations, or if the Participating Institute/Team Official/Player becomes aware of any suspicious or unusual activities or information that may have an impact on the integrity of a Match or the Tournament, the Participating Institute/Team Official/Player shall report such matter within 72 hours of having become aware of such information/activity and co-operate with such investigative procedures and forthwith provide accurate and complete information of such activity to the RFYS.

SECTION 2 :

TECHNICAL REGULATIONS



2.1: Matches played in accordance with the Laws of the Game

- a) All Matches shall be played in accordance with the Laws of the Game laid down by the International Football Association Board and published by FIFA, except for the modifications provided, if any, with regards to youth football in the Regulations.
- b) Up to three (3) substitutes listed in the Team Sheet may play in a Match. A Player who has been substituted out may take no further part in the Match.
- c) If, at any time, a Participating Team is able to field fewer than seven (7) Players, the Match shall be abandoned/cancelled. In such a case, the Participating Team which has more than seven (7) Players shall be declared the winner by a score of 3-0 or the score at the time of abandonment, whichever is higher.



2.2: Duration of Matches

- a) For all rounds of the School Girls category, each Match shall last sixty (60) minutes, comprising two periods of thirty (30) minutes, with an interval of ten (10) minutes in between from the whistle ending the first period to the whistle starting the second period.
- b) For all rounds (including qualifiers, group stage and Play-offs) of the Junior Boys, and the qualifier rounds of Senior Boys and College Boys categories, each Match shall last sixty (60) minutes, comprising two periods of thirty (30) minutes, with an interval of ten (10) minutes in between from the whistle ending the first period to the whistle starting the second period.
- c) For the Senior Boys and College Boys categories, starting from the group stage, each Match shall last ninety (90) minutes, comprising two periods of forty five (45) minutes, with an interval of fifteen (15) minutes in between from the whistle ending the first period to the whistle starting the second period, unless required to be reduced to a period of sixty (60) minutes in accordance with and set out under Rule 2.11 (c) below.
- d) If the result is level at the end of normal playing time during the Knock-Out Matches, no extra time shall be played and Penalty Kicks shall be taken to determine the winner, in accordance with the procedures described in the Laws of the Game.



2.3: Field of Play

- a) Matches may be played on natural or artificial surface.
- b) The field markings shall be the same width or as close as possible to the width of the goalposts.



2.4: Footballs

- a) The balls to be used in Matches shall be as supplied by RFYS before the commencement of the Matches.



2.5: Competition Format

- a) The Tournament shall be played in three stages – the City Championships, National Qualifiers and the National Championships.
- b) Any knockout Match's result shall be determined taking into account Rule 2.2 c) and d).
- c) The system of play for all group Matches shall be each Participating Team playing one Match against each of the other Participating Teams in the same group, with three points for a win, one point for a draw and none for a defeat.
- d) RFYS shall form and/or rearrange groups at its discretion, taking geographical and organizational factors into consideration. The decision of RFYS on the group formation is final and binding on all Participating Teams.
- e) RFYS shall introduce a league plus knockout format in select cities and categories. League structure, teams participating and its format will be decided by RFYS. The decision of RFYS on the league formation is final and binding on all Participating Teams.
- f) **City Championships**
 - i. The City Championships shall consist of qualifying Matches in a knockout format up to the round of 32 in each city.
 - ii. For the purpose of the City Championships competition, certain neighboring areas of a city shall also deemed to be included in that city and shall compete with the Teams of such city (please refer to Annexure A at the end of the document for more details).
 - iii. The 32 winners from the qualifying Matches shall be divided into eight (8) groups of four (4) Participating Teams each. The distribution of Participating Teams into groups of four (4) shall be done by a draw of lots or any other mechanism deemed fit by RFYS in its sole discretion.
 - iv. The winner of each group, the ranking criteria for which shall be as per Rule 2.5 h) below, shall advance to the quarter-finals, which shall be a one-leg, knockout Match.

- v. The four winners of the quarter-finals shall advance to the semi-finals, which shall also be a one-leg, knockout Match.
- vi. The two winners of the semi-finals shall advance to the City Finals.
- vii. The winner of the City Finals shall progress to the National Qualifiers, the format of which shall be as per 2.5 f) below.

The structure for the City Championships shall usually follow the above format. However, the format may be tweaked, if necessary by RFYS as per its sole discretion, such as if fewer than 32 Teams or only a few more than 32 Teams have entered the Tournament in any category, such that it is felt that there is no requirement to play the qualifying rounds or there is a requirement to divide the Teams into fewer/more number of groups or fewer/more Teams in each group. RFYS' decision on all matters relating to such format shall be final and binding on all Participating Teams.

g) National Qualifiers

- i. Winners from each city of the City championships shall progress to the National Qualifiers and shall be divided into four zones – North, East, West and South – primarily basis their geographic location.
- ii. The National Qualifiers shall have the city winners divided into four zones of two sub-zones each (as shared in the below table) - north, east, south and west- and shall be played in a round-robin format with each team in their respective sub-zone once. If the result is level at the end of normal playing time during these matches, penalty kicks shall be taken to determine the winner
- iii. The division of the cities into zones and the number of Teams advancing to the National Championships from each zone shall be as follows:

Zone	Cities	Sub-Zone	No. of Teams to advance to National Championships
North	Delhi, Dehradun, Lucknow, Chandigarh, Jammu, Ludhiana	Each zone will be divided into 2 sub-zone	2 Teams (one team from each sub-zone)
East	Kolkata, Imphal, Aizawl, Jamshedpur, Bhubaneswar, Guwahati, Shillong	Each zone will be divided into 2 sub-zone	2 Teams (one team from each sub-zone)
South	Chennai, Bengaluru, Hyderabad, Kochi, Kozhikode, Coimbatore	Each zone will be divided into 2 sub-zone	2 Teams (one team from each sub-zone)
West	Mumbai, Pune, Goa, Ahmedabad, Indore, Kolhapur	Each zone will be divided into 2 sub-zone	2 Teams (one team from each sub-zone)

- iv. The ranking for the zones shall be decided in accordance with Rule 2.5 h) below.
- v. A total of eight (8) teams in accordance with Rule 2.5 f iii) above shall progress to the National Championships, the format of which shall be as per 2.5 g) below.

h) National Championships

- i. The National Championships shall have the eight (8) winners from the National Qualifiers divided into two (2) groups of four (4) Participating Teams each. The distribution of Participating Teams into groups shall be done through a draw of lots or in a mechanism deemed fit by RFYS in its sole discretion.
- ii. The Participating Teams finishing first and second in each group shall advance to the semi-finals which shall be a one-leg, knockout Match.
- iii. The winner of group A shall play the runner-up of group B and the winner of group B shall play the runner-up of group A in the semi-finals.
- iv. The two winners of the semi-finals shall advance to the National Finals.
- v. The winner of the National Finals shall be the overall champion of the Tournament in the respective category.

i) Ranking Determination

- i. If required, to make up an even number of Teams or to make up a required number of Teams for a particular round, RFYS may nominate "Lucky Losers" to advance into the next round.

The determination of Lucky Losers in the qualifying rounds will be in the following order:

- (a) Higher average goal difference across all qualifying round/s played by the Team;
- (b) Higher average number of goals scored in all qualifying round/s played by the Team;
- (c) Lower average number of goals conceded in all qualifying round/s by the Team;
- (d) Drawing of lots.

For any Team/s that has played zero Matches in the round/s of qualifiers due to having received bye/s and/or walkover, the said Team/s shall play a decider Match against the lowest ranked Lucky Loser Team/s determined to be proceeding to the next round by the ranking criteria in clause 2.5 (h) (i). The winner/s of this Match/es shall go through to play the next round. If there is more than one such Team then the draw of the decider Matches shall be done by drawing of lots by RFYS.

The determination of Lucky Losers in a group stage shall be determined as per Rule 2.5 h) iii), 2.5 h) iv) or 2.5 h) v) below, as applicable.

- ii. The position of Teams in the Table while the group Matches are in progress shall be determined by (in this order):
 - a) Maximum number of points obtained in all group Matches;
 - b) Higher goal difference in all group Matches;
 - c) Maximum number of goals scored in all group Matches;
 - d) Least number of goals conceded in all group Matches;
 - e) Maximum number of wins in all group Matches.
- iii. However, the final position of the Teams in the group Table (when all Teams have played all their group Matches) shall be determined by (in this order):
 - a) Maximum number of points obtained in all group Matches;

If two or more Teams are equal on the basis of the above criterion, their place shall be determined as follows:

- a) Maximum number of points obtained in the group Matches between the Participating Teams concerned;
 - b) Higher goal difference resulting from the group Matches between the Participating Teams concerned;
 - c) Maximum number of goals scored in all group Matches between the Participating Teams concerned;
 - d) Least number of goals conceded in all group Matches between the Participating Teams concerned;
 - e) Higher goal difference in all the group Matches;
 - f) Maximum number of goals scored in all the group Matches;
 - g) Drawing of lots.
- iv. If Participating Teams from different groups are required to be ranked in order to determine which team/s advance to the next round, the following procedure will be applied (using the second-placed Participating Team as an example):
- a) All the runners-up teams in each group shall be identified and ranked in the following order:
 - b) Maximum number of points obtained in all group Matches;
 - c) Higher goal difference in all group Matches;
 - d) Maximum number of goals scored in all group Matches;
 - e) Maximum number of wins in all group Matches;
 - f) Drawing of lots.
- v. If Participating Teams from different groups, where the number of teams in the groups varies, are required to be ranked in order to determine which team/s advance to the next round, the following procedure will be applied (using the second-placed Participating Team as an example):
- a) All the runners-up teams in each group will be identified;
 - b) Due to the varying number of teams per group, teams in different group would have played different number of matches. Therefore, in order to ensure equality when comparing the runner-up team of all the groups, all teams will be compared across similar number of matches. RFYS will decide on the number of matches in its sole discretion. In general, the results of the Matches between the runner-up team and the bottom placed team in the group will be considered null and void. All points, goals scored and goals conceded in this Match will not be taken into account;
 - c) Once B) is done the best team among those ranked second in the different groups will be determined as per Rule 2.5 h iv) above.
- vi. If a Participating Team is disqualified during the Tournament, the results of all of its Matches will be declared null and void, and the points awarded forfeited.

Notwithstanding anything contained herein, RFYS reserves the right to change the format of the Tournament at their sole discretion any time before and/or during the Tournament, if it deems it necessary.



2.6: Venues

- a) The Venues for the matches in the Tournament shall be decided at the sole discretion of RFYS.
- b) High standards of behaviour and discipline is expected from each Participating Team. Any damage that is caused to the venue or the facilities provided, attributable to any act of negligence or misconduct of a Player or Team Official shall be recovered from the Player/Team Official's Institute as compensation based on actual costs in addition to any sanction as prescribed under these Regulations.
- c) Due to a likely schedule of back-to-back matches at each venue and also otherwise, all Participating Teams are expected to strictly adhere to the pre-Match activities timings and kick-off times for the start and re-start of play after interval.



2.7: Team Benches and Technical Area

- a) Up to a maximum of three (3) Team Officials and a maximum of seven (7) Players (substitutes) are allowed to sit on the Team Bench during the Match, provided they are duly Registered as per Rule 4 and in possession of the appropriate accreditation/identity card issued by RFYS.
- b) All officials and Players on the Team Bench must wear their accreditation card at all times. The accreditation cards shall always be available for inspection prior to the start of and during the Match.
- c) All persons on the bench must wear kits that are contrasting with the kit of the Players and Referees on the pitch. In case of a clash, bibs should be worn on top of the jerseys.
- d) The benches (left or right when facing the field) shall be assigned to the Teams prior to the start of the Match.



2.8: Playing Kit

- a) Players shall compulsorily wear registered numbers on their jerseys and if possible on shorts as well. Each Player shall wear the same number allocated to him on the Player Registration Form submitted to RFYS during the registration process and his number shall remain unchanged throughout the Tournament.
- b) Teams are allowed to choose numbers only between 1-21 for their squad (including Reserve Players). If the Players of a Team come to a Match wearing jerseys which have numbers beyond 21 they will be asked to wear bibs (provided by RFYS which shall be numbered 1-21) as per their registered numbers on top of their jerseys.

- c) If there is a clash between the kit colours of competing Teams, the Referee will decide by a coin toss as to which Team would need to change their kit in order to achieve a clear distinction between the two Teams. It would be preferable for each Team to carry two sets of kits that are distinct in colour to each Match, however, in case this is not possible the Team that is asked to change its kit shall wear bibs on top of their jerseys. The bibs shall be provided by RFYS.



2.9: Match Officials

- a) A Referee, two Assistant Referees, a Fourth official and a Match Commissioner shall be appointed for each Match by RFYS.
- b) If the Referee or one of the Assistant Referees is prevented from carrying out his duties, such Referee or Assistant Referee shall be replaced by the Fourth official.
- c) After each Match, the Referee and Match Commissioner shall complete and sign the official Referee report and Match Commissioner report forms and shall also submit the official Team Sheet. On the report form, the Referee shall note all occurrences of significance, such as score, time of goals, and misconduct of Players leading to caution or expulsion (including citing the reason), and any other incident such as misconduct of a Team Official happening before, during and/or after the Match in as much detail as possible.
- d) The official match data report for each completed Match should be verified (i.e., score, cautions, send offs) immediately after the Match by the Team coach or another Team Official. Match reports that are not verified stand as submitted and may not be contested or appealed.



2.10: Match Schedule

- a) All Matches shall be played according to the dates, venue and kick-off times as set by RFYS.



2.11: Cancellation of Matches

- a) The Referee in consultation with the Match Commissioner and the Venue Head shall take the final decision on whether a Match needs to be delayed and/or cancelled due to Force Majeure reasons such as weather conditions or the field is not fit for play. If a decision is taken to delay or cancel a Match the Referee//Match Commissioner shall as soon as practicable submit a report to the Venue Head detailing the reason for the cancellation.
- b) If a Match cannot commence on time due to Force Majeure as stated above, the RFYS team based on the remaining schedule of the day, and in consultation with the Match Commissioner may, as per its sole discretion, reduce the duration of the remaining Matches (with the minimum duration of each Match being at least 40 minutes) but this shall be decided before the start of the relevant Match/es.

- c) In circumstances where it is not possible to play the Match at all due to a Force Majeure condition even after the delay as prescribed under paragraphs (a) and (b) above, RFYS may, in its absolute discretion and taking account of any relevant considerations such as Match scheduling, sporting or other organizational issues decide to order such cancelled Match to be played at the earliest possible date and time provided this can be done. If it is not possible to order the rescheduling of the cancelled Match (due to scheduling, sporting or other organizational issues), RFYS shall determine the result of the cancelled Match in accordance with the following:
- i. If the said Match is a qualifying round Match (before round of 32 in the City Championships stage), RFYS shall try and organize kicks from the penalty mark to determine the winner, however if even that is not possible, the winner shall be decided by draw of lots;
 - ii. if the said Match is a group Match, the result will be considered a 0-0 draw;
 - iii. if the said Match is a Play-Off Match Championships, the Team finishing higher in the group rankings (as per Rule 2.5 h) in that particular stage of the Tournament shall be considered the winner.
- d) No appeals may be lodged against decisions under Rule 2.11.



2.12: Abandonment of Matches

- a) The Referee in consultation with the Match Commissioner and the Venue Head shall take the final decision on whether a Match that is underway needs to be stopped due to Force Majeure reasons such as weather conditions or the field is not fit for play. If a decision is taken to stop the Match and eventually abandon it, the Referee/Match Commissioner shall as soon as practicable submit a report to the Venue Head detailing the reason for the abandonment.
- b) In case of the above, any re- start of the play shall account for the time lost and the remaining Match schedule of the day. If necessary, based on the remaining schedule of the day, the RFYS team in consultation with the Match Commissioner may reduce the duration of the remaining Match/es (with the minimum duration of each Match being at least 40 minutes), but this shall be decided before the start of the relevant Match/es. For the avoidance of doubt, the duration of the Match, which was already underway before stoppage, shall not be reduced.
- c) In circumstances where it has not been possible to complete a Match under paragraph (a) above, RFYS may, in its absolute discretion and taking account of any relevant considerations such as Match scheduling, sporting or other organisational issues decide (A) to order the part of such Match which has not been completed to be played at an earliest possible date and time provided this can be done, or (B) that it is not (due to scheduling, sporting or other organizational issues) possible to order the remainder of the abandoned Match to be completed under (A) of this paragraph in which case RFYS shall determine the result of the abandoned Match in accordance with the following:

- a) The Referee in consultation with the Match Commissioner and the Venue Head shall take the final decision on whether a Match that is underway needs to be stopped due to Force Majeure reasons such as weather conditions or the field is not fit for play. If a decision is taken to stop the Match and eventually abandon it, the Referee/Match Commissioner shall as soon as practicable submit a report to the Venue Head detailing the reason for the abandonment.
- (i) if 60 minutes or less (40 minutes or less for a 60-minute Match) and 25 minutes or less for a 40-minute Match have been played (according to the Referee's watch) at the time of the abandonment of the Match then the result will be a draw if either the score is level or if one Team is winning by a margin of 1 or 2 goals but if one Team is winning by a margin of 3 or more goals then such Team will be the winner and the score at the time of abandonment will hold; or
 - (ii) if more than 60 minutes (40 minutes for a 60-minute Match) and 25 minutes for a 40-minute Match have been played (according to the Referee's watch) at the time of the abandonment of the Match then the result will be a draw if either the score is level or if one Team is winning by a margin of 1 goal but if one Team is winning by a margin of 2 or more goals then such Team will be the winner and the score at the time of abandonment will hold;
 - (iii) In case of a draw subject to Rule 2.12 (c) – (i) and (ii) however, the goals scored by each Team will be accounted for in the points table, if it is a group stage Match
 - (iv) In case of a draw, if it is a qualifying round Match (before round of 32 in the City Championships stage), RFYS shall try and organize kicks from the penalty mark to determine the winner, however if even that is not possible the winner shall be decided by draw of lots;
 - (v) if the said Match is a Play-Off Match, the Team finishing higher in the group rankings (as per Rule 2.5 h) in that particular stage of the Tournament shall be considered the winner.
- d) In case of an abandoned Match, where under Rule 2.12 only the part of the Match, which has not been completed, is ordered to be played at an earliest possible date, the following principles shall apply:
- (i) The Match shall recommence at the minute at which play was interrupted, and with the same score line;
 - (ii) The Match shall recommence with the same Players on the pitch and the same substitutes available as when the Match was abandoned;
 - (iii) No additional substitutes may be added to the list of Players on the Team Sheet;
 - (iv) The Teams can make only the number of substitutions to which they were still entitled when the Match was abandoned;
 - (v) Players sent off during the abandoned Match cannot be replaced;
 - (vi) Any sanction imposed before the Match was abandoned shall remain valid for the remainder of the Match;
 - (vii) Any other matter not set out above shall be decided by RFYS at its sole discretion.
- e) No appeal may be lodged against decisions under Rule 2.12.

SECTION 3 :

ENTRIES FOR TOURNAMENT



3.1: Eligible Entries for Participating Institutes

- a) Only a school/junior college affiliated to a state government board, Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE), Council of Indian School Certificate Examination (CISCE), International Baccalaureate Programme or the Cambridge International Examinations (CIE) is eligible to participate in the Tournament.
- b) Only a full time student who is currently enrolled/registered for an undergraduate degree course at a college or university in India which is affiliated to a central university, state university, deemed university or a private university which is recognized by the University Grants Commission (UGC) shall be eligible to participate in this Tournament (post-graduate course students and diploma course students are not eligible).
- c) Apart from the above, other autonomous Institutes granted the permission to autonomously award degrees and falling under the administrative control of the Department of Higher Education such as the Indian Institutes of Information Technology, Indian Institutes of Technology, the National Institutes of Technology, the Indian Institutes of Science Education and Research, School of Planning and Architecture, the Indian Institutes of Management and all Institutes listed under Institutions of National Importance by Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) shall also be eligible to participate as long as the student is enrolled in an undergraduate degree course.
- d) The Institute must be in existence for at least 5 years, with at least 2 batches having passed from the following: i) from Class 10th, for the Junior Boys category, ii) Class 12th (for the Senior Boys and School Girls categories), /and iii) from the relevant college for the graduate College Boys category.
- e) Students studying in open Institutes or part of distance learning programs are not eligible to participate.
- f) An Institute can only enter a bonafide full time student who is currently enrolled/registered at the said institution.

- g) Foreign students are eligible to participate, however only up to five foreign students can be fielded and playing on the pitch at all times throughout each Match. Failure to comply with this rule shall result in a 3-0 loss for the defaulting Participating Team unless the opposing Team was winning/has won the Match by a better score, in which case the result on the pitch will be upheld.
- h) A student shall not be allowed to represent more than one Institute or play in more than one category during the same season of the Tournament.
- i) Provisional admission to an Institute shall not make a student eligible to represent that Institute.
- j) Institutes shall complete an official entry form (Institute Registration Form) in full and submit it to RFYS not later than the entry deadline communicated to the Institutes.
- k) Entry Forms received after the deadline and/or incomplete forms will not be accepted.
- l) A Participating Institute, who may also be the Tournament's Venue Partner, may get a direct entry into the round of 32 or the corresponding stage (in case there is a change in format due to any reason) in one of its participating categories.
- m) Any issue regarding the eligibility of a particular Institute shall be decided by RFYS in such manner as RFYS shall deem fit as per its sole discretion.



3.2: Duties and Obligations of the Participating Institute

On entering the Tournament, the Participating Institute shall automatically undertake:

- a) To observe any agreement entered into with RFYS as well as these Tournament Regulations, decisions, guidelines and circulars issued by RFYS and/or its sub-committees from time to time;
- b) To comply with the Laws of the Game laid down by IFAB;
- c) To accept that all the administrative, disciplinary and Refereeing Matters connected with the Tournament shall be settled by RFYS in compliance with these Regulations;
- d) To respect their opponent and observe the principles of Fair Play;
- e) To be responsible for the behavior of their Players, Team Officials and any person carrying out any duty on their behalf throughout the Tournament;
- f) To accept all arrangements made by RFYS for the conduct of the Matches;
- g) To attend and participate in all Matches as scheduled and organized by RFYS;

- h) To ensure that its Team reports at the venue well in time and at least an hour before the communicated kick-off time to ensure a timely start to the Match;
- i) To inform the Organizers as soon as practicable in case of an unavoidable delay and/or their inability to attend a Match due to Force Majeure. Whether the reason is reasonable and acceptable and whether the change can be accommodated shall be decided by the FCM at his sole discretion. If the reason is not recognized or deemed unacceptable the FCM can sanction the Participating Institute including with a 3-0 forfeit of the Match and/or other measures decided by him at his discretion in accordance with Rule 3.3 e). For avoidance of doubt, even in the case a Participating Institute has a valid reason, if the FCM is unable to accommodate the change and reschedule the Match, the FCM may award a 3-0 walkover to the opposing Team of such Participating Institute;
- j) To accept the use and/or sub-license by RFYS of any of the records, names and images of its Players and Team Officials, including any still and moving representation thereof, which shall appear or be generated in connection with the Participating Institute and its Players and Team Officials in the Tournament.



3.3: Withdrawal, disqualification, arriving late, penalty for failing to play and replacement

- a) Participating Institutes shall play in all their Matches in the Tournament.
- b) If a Participating Institute withdraws after entering, RFYS has the right to replace it with another eligible Institute if the withdrawal takes place before the start of the Tournament. Where it is not possible for RFYS to replace the said team and if the fixtures for the Matches have already been created, RFYS may give a bye to the opposing Team at its discretion.
- c) If a Participating Team withdraws while still in contention in the Tournament, it shall be sanctioned as decided by the FCM or TDC. RFYS shall, at its discretion, also take such necessary steps as are required to make up for the withdrawal or disqualification of a Team. This could include changing the fixture, format, giving a Participating Team a bye or inviting a Luck Loser to replace the Participating Team that has withdrawn or been disqualified.
- d) If a Participating Team is disqualified during the Tournament, the results of all of its Matches will be declared null and void, and the points awarded forfeited.
- e) If a Participating Institute does not report for a Match at any stage of the Tournament, except in cases of Force Majeure recognized by RFYS, or if it refuses to continue to play or leaves the stadium before the end of the Match, the Participating Institute shall:
 - i. Forfeit the Match by a score of 3-0 unless if the Match was already underway and the opponent Team was winning by a higher margin then the Match score shall stand;
 - ii. At least one-match suspension for the Team coach;

- iii. Be referred to the FCM for further action, if required;
- f) Other than in the case of Force Majeure recognized by RFYS, if a Participating Team fails to arrive at the match venue by the scheduled time of match kick-off as communicated to it, then its opponent Team (provided they have arrived at the venue by the scheduled kick-off time) shall get a walkover, resulting in a 3-0 win for the latter.
- g) Other than in the case of Force Majeure recognized by RFYS, if neither Team arrives at the match venue until the scheduled match kick-off time, a maximum delay of up to 30 minutes will be allowed for the Match to take place. In such a case,
 - i. If only one Team makes it to the venue within that extended period then it shall get a walkover win of 3-0 but shall receive Penalty Points in accordance with Rule 5.11.
 - ii. if neither Team has arrived at the match venue even after the completion of this extended 30 minutes, then both Teams shall be handed a 3-0 loss resulting in both of them being eliminated in case it is a knockout match. In a group stage match, the 3-0 loss result shall be added to both teams' tally in the points table. Additional sanction in accordance with Rule 3.3 e) above shall also be applied.
 - iii. if as per point g ii) above, both Teams end up being eliminated, then RFYS shall take such steps as necessary to make up for it. This could include giving a bye to the eliminated Teams' opponents in the next Match or selecting a replacement Lucky Loser should the need arise.
- h) RFYS shall take whatever action it deems necessary in cases of Force Majeure.

SECTION 4 :

TEAM OFFICIALS & PLAYERS



4.1: Eligibility of Players

- a) A Player is eligible to play in the Tournament provided he/she fulfills the following conditions relevant to his/her relevant category of the competition:
- i. He/She fulfills the conditions set out in Rule 3.1;
 - ii. For the Junior Boys competition, means the category of the tournament which has boys from Class 7-10 student (born on or after July 1, 2002);
 - iii. For the Senior Boys competition, means the category of the tournament which has boys from 11th or 12th student and is U-18 (born on or after July 1, 2000) and;
 - iv. For the School Girls competition, means the category of the tournament which has girls from 9-12th student and is U-18 (born on or after July 1, 2000) and, also on a special request case basis a squad may field 3 girl athletes, she is a class 7 or 8th student and U-18 (born on or after July 1, 2000);
 - v. For the College Boys category, means the category of the tournament which has boys pursuing an undergraduate degree course in a college or university and is U-23 (born on or after July 1, 1995) and that fulfills the eligibility criteria laid down in Rule 3.1.
- b) A Player is deemed ineligible if:
- i. He/She does not fulfill the conditions set out in Rule 3.1 and 4.1 a).
 - ii. RFYS finds that any document submitted during registration is false.



4.2: Registration and Replacement of Players

- a) In each participating category, each Participating Team shall register a squad of a minimum of eleven (11) Players and a maximum of twenty one (21) Players, of which at least two (2) must be goalkeepers.

- b) Participating Teams can replace Players in their squad during the Tournament for reasons such as injury, a Player leaving the relevant Participating Institute and other exigent
- c) The Team Sheet shall identify the starting eleven (11) and up to seven (7) substitute Players for each Match during the Tournament.



4.3: Documentation for Registration of Players

- a) For the registration of Players, Players must be registered using the Team Registration Form with the supporting documents as mentioned in the form.
- b) Documentations for the registration of Players are, but not limited to, the following:
 - i. Team Registration form;
 - ii. Color Copy of Birth Certificate and/or National ID (mentioning the birth date), which should preferably be an aadhaar card (unless the Player is a foreigner in which case a passport copy shall be submitted);
 - iii. Passport-size colored photo (taken within 6 months prior to the submission of the registration);
 - iv. Institute student identity card (in its original form as issued/attested by the Institute).
- c) Each column in the Team Registration forms must be completed with correct information.
- d) Any Form with missing information or documentation will not be accepted. All eligible Players will be issued with an official accreditation/identity card.
- e) It is the responsibility of the Participating Institute to ensure that all forms and supporting documents are submitted within the deadline communicated by RFYS.
- f) RFYS reserves the right to request for additional documents/information than those mentioned in clauses b) and c) above, if it deems it necessary.
- g) All Players must carry their original ID (this ID shall be the same as a copy of which was submitted during the registration process) during all Matches for verification. Accreditation cards to students shall be given after the verification which shall be done at the registration desk at the relevant venue.



4.4: Registration and Replacement of Team Officials

- a) In each participating category, each Participating Team may register up to three (3) Team Officials, of which at least one must be designated as the Head Coach.
- b) Participating Teams may replace or add officials subject to maintaining the maximum limit of three (3) officials provided all necessary documents have been submitted as per Rule 4.5.



4.5: Documentation for Registration of Team Officials

- a) For the registration of Team Officials, officials must be registered using the Team Registration Form.
- b) Documentations for the registration of Officials are, but not limited to, as following:
 - i. Team Registration form;
 - ii. Passport-size colored photo (taken within 1 year prior to the submission of the registration);
 - iii. Color copy of National ID, which should preferably be an aadhaar card (unless the official is a foreigner in which case a passport copy shall be submitted);
 - iv. Coach's Institute identity card (in its original form as issued/attested by the Institute).
- c) Each column in the Team Registration Form shall be filled up with correct information.
- d) Any Form with missing information or documentation will not be accepted. All registered Team Officials will be issued with an official accreditation/identity card.
- e) It is the responsibility of the Participating Institute to ensure that all forms and supporting documents are submitted within the deadline communicated by RFYS.
- f) RFYS reserves the right to request for additional documents/information than those mentioned in clause b) above, if it deems it necessary.
- g) In addition to the team official registration one Parent will be nominated by the school to be single point of contact, coordinates of this person will be required for communicate regularly with the team



4.6: Size of Delegation Attending Matches

1. In each participating category, each Participating Institute is entitled to bring an official delegation ("Official Delegation") to the relevant venue, consisting of a maximum of eighteen (18) Players and up to three (3) Team Officials, who must all be registered as per Rule 4, for a City Championships stage Match. This Rule needs to be strictly adhered to.
2. The size of the Official Delegation allowed for National Qualifiers and National Championships stage Matches shall be notified to Participating Teams on their qualification to that stage.
3. Participating Institutes, at their own cost, shall be allowed to invite guests and other spectators to watch the Match. For avoidance of doubt, the Participating Institute shall be solely responsible for the conduct and behavior of such guests/spectators.



4.7: Team Sheet

- a) Participating Teams must mark the names of their eleven (11) Players who will start the Match while other seven (7) Players shall be marked as either substitutes or not playing in the Team Sheet. Each Team must also identify its team captain and the Team Officials that will be sitting on the bench in that Match on the Team Sheet. This shall be done at least thirty (30) minutes before the kick-off of their Match.
- b) After the Team Sheet has been completed and signed by both Teams' officials and returned to the Referee, and if the Match is yet to be kicked-off, the following instructions apply:
 - i. If any of the eleven (11) Players selected to start the Match are not able to start the Match for any reason, they may be replaced by any of the substitutes listed on the Team Sheet.
 - ii. The replaced Player shall be eligible to participate in the Match as a substitute.

SECTION 5 :

DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES AND MEASURES

RFYS shall appoint a Match Commissioner for each Match or Match day, one or more Tournament Football Competition Manager (FCM) and a Tournament Disciplinary Committee (TDC) to oversee disciplinary matters. Their disciplinary tasks and functions are defined below.



5.1 Match Commissioner (MC): Refereeing Matters

- a) Disciplinary matters in respect of Level 1 will be dealt with by the Match Commissioner if the incident occurs before, during and after a Match and is a Refereeing Matter (as defined above).
- b) In instances of disciplinary Level 2 offenses under Refereeing Matters, the MC shall award sanctions for such offence based on the range of minimum sanctions prescribed under the Regulations.
- c) In addition to 5.1 b) above, the Match Commissioner shall refer any case of Level 2 to the Football Competition Manager (FCM) where he feels that any higher sanction needs to be imposed over and above the prescribed range of minimum sanction as full and appropriate corrective action. The FCM shall then refer it to the Tournament Disciplinary Committee (TDC) with the assistance of the Tournament League Secretary (TLS) for further action.
- d) Any incident of Level 3 under the purview of the MC will be immediately reported to the Football Competition Manager by the MC, for being placed before the TDC.
- e) All decisions taken by the MC are final and binding and not subject to appeal.



5.2 Venue Head (VH): Non –Refereeing Matters

Any incident of Level 1, Level 2 and/or Level 3 offense not covered under the purview of the MC will be reported to the FCM by the Venue Head.



5.3 City Head (CH):

Any complaint specifically against the MC or the VH only, shall be sent directly to the City Head at cityhead@rfyouthsports.com. The CH shall forward it to the FCM for further action, after reviewing the merit of the complaint. The FCM shall then review the matter and take appropriate corrective action, if necessary.



5.4 Football Competition Manager (FCM):

5.4.1 Football Competition Manager (FCM):

- a) Level 1 offences: Any incident reported by the VH will be dealt with by the FCM, and he/she shall award sanctions from the prescribed range of minimum sanctions in these Regulations. The decision of the FCM in such matters shall be final and binding and not subject to appeal.
- b) Level 2 offences: In instances of such offenses, the FCM shall award sanctions based on the range of minimum sanctions prescribed under these Regulations. He may further refer the matter to the TDC (Tournament Disciplinary Committee) in case of any written appeal by any relevant party against the FCM's imposition of minimum sanctions as authorized under this clause 5.4.1 (b) which is received not later than two Working Days of the date of the decision.
- c) In addition to 5.4.1 (b) above, the FCM may refer any case of Level 2 to the TDC where he feels that any higher sanction needs to be imposed over and above the prescribed range of minimum sanction as full and appropriate corrective action.
- d) Level 3 offences: The FCM shall refer each such case to the TDC directly for a hearing and a decision.

5.4.2 Refereeing Matters:

Level 2 and Level 3 Offences: For matters referred to the FCM by the MC under 5.1 c) and /or 5.1 (d) above, the FCM shall refer the same to the TDC with assistance from the Tournament League Secretary (TLS) for further action;

For clarity, the communication of decisions taken by FCM may not necessarily be made through him. The FCM shall have a team to support the implementation and compliance of the Regulations and communication on his behalf may be sent by designated authorized persons such as, without limitation, a relevant City Head or Venue Head.



5.5 Tournament Disciplinary Committee (TDC):

- a) The TDC shall entertain cases with a disciplinary hearing and shall impose sanctions in cases of:
 - i. Any matter placed by the Football Competition Manager before the TDC under 5.4.1 (c), 5.4.1 (d) and 5.4.2 above;
 - ii. Any other matter not specified under the Regulations which could be deemed a Level 2 or Level 3 offence; For the avoidance of doubt, any matter not specified under the Regulations which is deemed to be a Level 1 offence will be referred for adjudication to the MC (Refereeing Matter) and/or the FCM (Non-Refereeing Matter);

iii. Failure to comply with any directions or decisions given by the MC and/or the FCM may result in further action involving a disciplinary hearing by the TDC on receiving such report of non-compliance from the FCM;

iv. The TDC shall be the final authority in all such matters and all relevant parties including the subject of any complaint (the "Subject") shall be bound by its directions and orders.

b) Every person (natural or legal) under reference with the TDC has :

i. The right to expect fair and consistent treatment;

ii. The right to adequate notice from the TDC;

iii. The right to legal representation at a hearing;

iv. Except in cases of a Level 3 offence, no Subject will be expelled from the Tournament for the first instance of (i) Level 1 offence and/or (ii) Level 2 offence unless the TDC decides otherwise as per its sole discretion;

v. All disciplinary actions taken by TDC will be duly recorded and placed on file for reference at a future date.



5.6 Offences Leading to Disciplinary Action

The actions listed below may be interpreted to fall within the purview of "Level 1", "Level 2" and "Level 3" offence. However, the lists are not to be considered as fully inclusive, exhaustive or covering all possible offences, and in case of any ambiguity of interpretation, the TDC shall be the final authority on the same and their decision shall be binding.

5.6.1 Level 1 :

"Level 1" is the carrying out of an offence by a Subject considered to be of a minor nature (unless frequently repeated) and will normally incur the minimum sanction prescribed under the Regulations imposed by the Match Commissioner or the Football Competition Manager as the case may be. Examples of offences that may be considered a Level 1 offence include: -

- Not being punctual for pre-Match activities such as submission of Team Sheet and Matches;
- Discourteous, crude, indecent, inappropriate, abusive or offensive behavior which is not very serious;
- Offensive disregard for equipment or property;
- Refusal to carry out reasonable instructions issued by Tournament officials or organisers;
- Any action, which in the opinion of the FCM, may prejudice the reputation of the Tournament, RFYS and/or the Organizers, or which left unpunished, may result in the detriment of the Tournament or other Participants / stakeholders;
- Any other actions of similar gravity to the above on field and off field, at the discretion of the Match Commissioner and Football Competition Manager respectively.

5.6.2 Level 2 :

“Level 2” is the carrying out of an offence by a Subject of such gravity that in the opinion of the relevant disciplinary authority it warrants a higher sanction than a Level 1 offence. Examples of offences, which may be considered as Level 2 include:

- Level 1 offences mentioned above if specially grave or repeated;
- Deliberate or persistent breaches of Level 1 offence;
- Theft or misappropriation;
- Use of aggressively threatening or grave abusive behaviour;
- Continuous inappropriate or indecent behavior towards any other person;
- Refusal to play or Failure to attend and participate in a scheduled Match;
- Serious damage to equipment or property;
- Disregard for one’s own or other people’s safety;
- Any action, which may seriously prejudice the reputation of the Tournament, RFYS and/or the Organizers, or which left unpunished, may result in the detriment of the Tournament or other Participants / stakeholders.

5.6.3 Level 3 :

“Level 3” is an offence by the Subject of such seriousness that the FCM or the TDC may require the expulsion and/or a disqualification of the Subject from the Tournament/future editions of the Tournament. The Subject shall have a right to a disciplinary hearing in such case, however, the FCM or the TDC, as applicable, may provisionally expel such Subject on immediate basis and the Subject shall remain provisionally expelled till such time that the disciplinary hearing is conducted and such expulsion is either confirmed or withdrawn. Examples of Level 3 are:

- Physical violence or assault by a Participant or its supporters towards other persons at a Match or Tournament event or related activity, including serious threatening, intimidating or forceful behavior;
- Participating in the Match whilst under the influence of alcohol or banned drugs;
- Reckless disregard of safety and basic safety rules;
- Any attempt to achieve gains or advantage over others by unfair or unscrupulous means or partake in match manipulation;
- Deliberate or persistent breaches of Level 2 offence (or a Level 1 offence, the persistent breach of which has already categorized it into a Level 2 offence);
- Providing false information on the registration form (including Player or Institute eligibility);
- Acts that may bring the Tournament, RFYS and/or the Organizers into seriously grave disrepute;
- Other acts that are considered to be of an extremely serious nature perpetrated against the Tournament, any other Participant or any other party.



5.7 Disciplinary Hearing

- a) On receiving a reference of any matter, the TDC shall:
 - i. Advise the complainant that if a disciplinary hearing is called, then the complainant and all relevant witnesses will be invited to attend and give evidence. Such attendance would ordinarily be appropriate but the TDC could decide that this is not required;
 - ii. Contact the Subject (or Participating Institute representative), to advise of the official complaint and request the Subject to submit a written statement of events. The Subject will be entitled to see a copy of the complaint;
 - iii. In cases of disputes of a personal nature, the TDC will attempt to resolve the situation amicably and to the mutual satisfaction of the parties concerned;
 - iv. If settlement cannot be agreed between the parties, or if the offence merits it, then a disciplinary hearing will be arranged as soon as possible;
 - v. Notify all parties as to the hearing date and ensure the parties have all relevant copies of paperwork in good time prior to the hearing.
- b) The panel for the TDC shall be decided by RFYS.
- c) The quorum for the TDC may consist of a single member and shall be decided on a case-to-case basis by the Tournament Legal Secretary in consultation with RFYS.



5.8 Disciplinary Procedure

- a) The procedure followed at the Hearing shall be at the discretion of the Tournament Disciplinary Committee, provided that the Hearing is conducted in a fair manner and in accordance with the principles of natural justice.
- b) After the TDC has reached a decision, the relevant parties shall be notified in writing of such decision and informed of any penalties within 7 days of the decision being reached, penalties will be effective from the date of the decision.



5.9 Penalties/sanctions

Following the hearing, the TDC will apply such penalties/sanctions as the TDC may consider appropriate, including temporary or permanent expulsion of the Subject from the Tournament. The decision of the TDC shall be final and binding on all parties without any further appeal.

For the avoidance of doubt, the fact that any Subject is liable to face sanctions or has pending any other criminal, civil or disciplinary proceedings in relation to the same matter shall not prevent or fetter any disciplinary authority set out in these Regulations from conducting proceedings and/or imposing sanctions under these Regulations.



5.10 Cautions, Expulsions and Suspensions

- a) A caution (yellow card) is a warning from the Referee to a Player during a Match to sanction behavior or action of a less serious nature (in accordance with Law 12 of the Laws of the Game).
- b) Head Coaches are responsible for the conduct of their Teams. In the absence of a Head Coach due to suspension or any other reason, he shall designate this responsibility to another Team Official. The same should be indicated on the Team Sheet.
- c) A suspended Player and/or Team Official shall not be allowed on the Team Bench or enter the field of play before or during the Match.
- d) Two cautions received during the same Match results in an expulsion (indirect red card) and, consequently, shall result in an automatic suspension from the next match. The two cautions that resulted in the red card are rescinded and not counted in the Player's overall tally of yellow cards.
- e) For the City Championships stage, a Player who receives four (4) cautions in four (4) separate Matches shall automatically be suspended from participating in the Match following the Match in which he received the fourth caution.
- f) For the National Qualifiers stage Matches, a Player who receives two (2) cautions (yellow cards) in two (2) separate Matches shall automatically be suspended from participating in the Match following the Match in which he received the second caution.
- g) For the National Championships stage Matches, a Player who receives three (3) cautions (yellow cards) in three (3) separate Matches shall automatically be suspended from participating in the Match following the Match in which he received the second caution.
- h) For the avoidance of doubt, a pending suspension from the accumulation of four (4) cautions in four (4) separate Matches in the City Championships stage shall carry over to such Player's first Match of the National Qualifiers stage (if qualified) with the effect that the Player shall be suspended from playing in such first National Qualifiers Match. However, if a Player receives less than four (4) cautions during these separate City Championships stage Matches, then such cautions shall not be carried forward to the National Qualifiers stage

Matches (such that he shall be deemed to have no accumulated cautions at the start of the National Qualifiers stage). After any suspension of a Player as a result of him receiving four cautions as provided above, the Player shall then have no accumulated cautions.

- i) For the avoidance of doubt, a pending suspension from the accumulation of two (2) cautions in two (2) separate Matches in the National Qualifiers stage shall carry over to such Player's first Match of the National Championships Stage (if qualified) with the effect that the Player shall be suspended from playing in such first National Championships Match. However, if a Player receives less than two (2) cautions during these separate National Qualifiers stage Matches, then such cautions shall not be carried forward to the National Championships stage Matches (such that he shall be deemed to have no accumulated cautions at the start of the National Championships stage). After any suspension of a Player as a result of him receiving two (2) cautions as provided above, the Player shall then have no accumulated cautions.
- j) If an abandoned Match is to be replayed, any caution issued during that Match shall be annulled. If the Match is not to be replayed, the cautions received in the Match are upheld.
- k) An expulsion is the order given by the Referee to someone to leave the field of play and its surroundings, including the Technical Area, during a Match. The person who has been sent off may be allowed into the stands unless he is serving a stadium ban.
- l) Expulsion takes the form of a red card for Players. The red card is regarded as direct if it sanctions serious unsporting behaviour as defined by Law 12 of the Laws of the Game; it is regarded as indirect if it is the result of an accumulation of two yellow cards as elucidated in point d) above.
- m) If a Player is guilty of serious unsporting behaviour as defined in Law 12 of the Laws of the Game and is sent off (via a direct red card), any other caution he has previously received in the same Match is upheld. A Team Official who is sent off during a Match shall also automatically be sent off from the field for that particular Match.
- n) An expulsion also automatically results in a suspension from the subsequent match, even if imposed in a Match that is later abandoned and/or annulled. The duration of the suspension may be extended depending on the cause of the expulsion.
- o) If a suspension is to be served, only those Matches actually played count towards execution of the suspension. If a Match is abandoned, cancelled or forfeited, suspension is only considered to have been served if the Team to which the suspended Player or official belongs is not responsible for the facts that led to the abandonment, cancellation or forfeit of the Match.
- p) Carrying over of Match Cautions and Suspensions
 - i. Cautions received during one season of the Tournament are not carried over to another season;
 - ii. Match suspensions resulting from several cautions issued to a Player in different Matches shall not be carried over from one season to another;

iii. Match suspensions resulting from two cautions issued to a Player in the same Match shall not be carried over from one season to another;

iv. Suspensions not served during one season of the Tournament shall be carried forward to the same age-category Tournament next season or the subsequent season whenever the Player/Official and/or the Participating Team participates (in case of a Player/Official this will apply regardless of whether he has changed his Institute);

v. Where the suspension cannot be served in the same age group category, it shall be carried over to a higher age category should and when the Player/Official and/or Participating Team participate in the Tournament again.

q) Each Participating Institute shall bear the responsibility of monitoring the cautions and/or suspensions received by their Players and Team Officials and shall ensure that all Players and Team Officials are eligible to play or sit on the Team Bench in respect of the relevant Match.



5.11 Code of Conduct

Basis the below Code of Conduct, Match suspensions will be applicable for individuals while Penalty Points (PP) will be imposed on Participating Teams, as per the prescribed sanctions, if and when a Participating Team is also liable. An accumulation of 20 Penalty Points for a Participating Team (for the same or different offences) will result in a 3-0 forfeit or a possible 3 point deduction (if applicable such as in a group stage) for the Participating Team in the Match subsequent to the one in which their tally of PP added up to 20 or more points. Subsequently, if a Participating Team accumulates 30 or more points it will be reported to the TDC for stricter and appropriate action.

Offense Description	Level 1	Level 2
Receiving a second caution (yellow card) in a Match	1 Match	NA
Denying an obvious goal scoring opportunity by an offence punishable by a free kick or penalty kick (Law 12)	1 Match	NA
Denying an obvious goal scoring opportunity by handling the ball	1 Match	NA
Serious Foul Play	1-2 Match	2-4 Match
Violent Conduct (such as elbowing, punching, kicking etc)	1-2 Match	2-4 Match
Spitting at another Participant	NA	2-4 Match

<p>Team Misconduct: 5 or more Players receiving a sanction (cautions or expulsions) in the same Match</p>	<p>First Time: Warning, 2nd Time: 3 Penalty Points</p>	<p>5 Penalty Points each time third time onwards</p>
<p>Team Misconduct: Several Players and/or officials from the same Team threaten, harass or misbehave with a Participant/s or a Match Official</p>	<p>0-2 Match for individual 3 Penalty Points for each infringement up to two times</p>	<p>2-4 Match for individual 6 Penalty Points each time third time onwards until it is categorized as a Level3 offence for persistent breach or because of the gravity of the incident</p>
<p>Involvement in a brawl</p>	<p>0-2 Match for individual 3 Penalty Points for each infringement up to two times</p>	<p>2-4 Match for individual 6 Penalty Points each time third time onwards until it is categorized as a Level 3 offence for persistent breach or because of the gravity of the incident</p>
<p>Not being punctual for pre-Match activities such as submission of Team Sheet and start and restart of Matches</p>	<p>First Time: Warning, 2 Penalty Points thereafter for each infringement up to two times</p>	<p>3 Penalty Points each time fourth time onwards</p>

<p>Indulging in offensive, insulting or abusive language or behavior (including discrimination)</p>	<p>1-2 Match for individual 3 Penalty Points for each infringement up to two times</p>	<p>2-4 Match for individual 6 Penalty Points each time third time onwards until it is categorized as a Level 3 offence for persistent breach or because of the gravity of the incident</p>
<p>Engage in intimidation, abuse or harassment of Match Officials</p>	<p>1-2 Match</p>	<p>3-4 Match</p>
<p>Entering the pitch during or after the Match by any Team Representative to protest any decision of the Referee</p>	<p>First Time: Warning 3 Penalty Points thereafter for each infringement up to two times</p>	<p>4 Penalty Points each time fourth time onwards</p>
<p>Bringing or allowing unauthorized person (such as Players or officials not part of the Team) in or around the Technical Area.</p>	<p>First Time: Warning, 2nd Time: 3 Penalty Points</p>	<p>4 Penalty Points each time third time onwards</p>
<p>Disregard for equipment or property</p>	<p>Warning-2 Match for individual, 3 Penalty Points for each infringement up to two times and Payment of amount equal to the monetary damage charged to the Participating Team</p>	<p>2-4 Match for individual 4 Penalty Points each time third time onwards until it is categorized as a Level 3 offence for persistent breach. Additionally, payment of amount equal to the monetary damage charged to the Participating Team</p>

Participating Team arriving later than the communicated time of kick-off	NA	As per Rule 3.3
A Participating Team refusing to play a Match or to continue playing one which it has begun	NA	As per Rule 3.3
Failure to attend and participate in a scheduled Match	NA	As per Rule 3.3
An action which brings any one or more of the following into disrepute: RF, RFYS, any Match Official, any Participating Team, any Player or the Game or which left unpunished, may result in the detriment of the Tournament or other Participants / stakeholders.	1-2 Match for individual 4 Penalty Points for each infringement up to two times	2-4 Match for individual 6 Penalty Points each time third time onwards until it is categorized as a Level 3 offence for persistent breach
Theft or misappropriation	NA	Warning-4 Match and return of or compensation for the stolen item
Participating in the Match whilst under the influence of alcohol or banned drugs	NA	Level 3 offence
Disregard for one's own or other people's safety	1-2 Match for individual First Time: 3 Penalty Points for each infringement up to two times	2-4 Match for individual 6 Penalty Points each time third time onwards until it is categorized as a Level 3 offence for persistent breach

Engage in public criticism of the Match or Tournament officials or making any adverse comment (such as about the integrity of a person) in media etc. anytime	1-2 Match for individual 3 Penalty Points for each infringement up to two times	2-4 Match for individual 6 Penalty Points each time third time onwards until it is categorized as a Level 3 offence for persistent breach
Unruly behavior such as, but not limited to, bursting of cracker, stone pelting, water bottle throwing, using laser beam pointed towards Players/officials by Team Representatives or supporters of a Participating Team.	0-2 Match for individual 3 Penalty Points for each infringement up to two times	2-4 Match for individual First Time: 6 Penalty Points 6 Penalty Points each time third time onwards until it is categorized as a Level 3 offence for persistent breach
Fielding suspended Player/official or an ineligible Foreign Player (in regard to Rule 3.1 g)	NA	3-0 forfeit
Fielding ineligible Player or participation of ineligible Institute	NA	NA – Level 3 offence which will be decided by TDC

For red card offenses, the above listed sanctions are including the automatic one match suspension.

In exceptional circumstances, the relevant disciplinary authority may, even where a minimum sanction is specified in these Regulations, choose to impose a sanction lower than the minimum due to significant mitigating circumstances.

In general, a sanction would be on the higher side of the range when an offence committed is against a Match Official/s, which shall be considered an aggravating circumstance.

Unless otherwise specified, the disciplinary authority may increase a sanction if an infringement has been repeated, which shall be considered an aggravating circumstance.



5.12 Indiscipline or Violent Conduct

- a) Any Player, Team Official, Team Representative or Participating Team reported for indiscipline or violent conduct anywhere at the venue including but not limited to the field of play, the dressing rooms, and/or at their place of stay, if applicable (if a Team has travelled out of their city for a Match and been accommodated by RFYS) which directly affects or is a consequence of the Participants' participation in the Tournament shall be dealt with by the relevant disciplinary authority as described in the disciplinary procedure above.



5.13 Protest

- a) A protest is an objection of any kind to any matter that has a direct effect on Matches and any matters related to breach of these Regulations such as the fielding of an ineligible Player/s or ineligibility of a Participating Team.
- b) Unless otherwise stipulated in this article, protests shall be submitted in writing to the Match Commissioner/Venue Head within 90 minutes of the end of the Match by the Team concerned and with a protest fee of Rs. 1000. No protest shall be entertained after the stipulated time and without the payment of the fee. The Match Commissioner, at his discretion, may resolve or reject a protest falling under his purview there and then at the venue. If required, the Match Commissioner and/or the FCM may ask a Team to follow up the initial protest with a full written report to enable them to make a decision.
- c) Protests against any incidents that occur during the course of a Match shall be made to the Referee by the team captain immediately after the disputed incident and before play has been resumed.
- d) No protests may be made against the Referee's decisions regarding facts connected with play, such decisions being final.
- e) If any of the formal conditions of a protest as set out in these Regulations are not met, such protest shall be disregarded.
- f) In the case of a protest on a Player's eligibility concerning his / her age or a Participating Institute's eligibility, it is mandatory for the Team which lodges the protest to produce proof to support the protest. The Participating Institute shall submit this proof within 24 hours of the end of the Match. The FCM and/or TDC will at its sole discretion determine the veracity of the proof submitted by the Team concerned and its decision shall be binding.
- g) Should the relevant disciplinary authority determine that a protest is irresponsible or malicious, it may impose Penalty Point/s on the Team that lodged the protest.
- h) The FCM can decide to refer a protest regarding ineligibility directly to the TDC, if he deems it appropriate.

SECTION 6 :

MISCELLANEOUS



6.1 Matters not provided for

- a) All the prize money due to the City Champion institutes will be credited after the culmination of the National Championship.
- b) Any damage that is caused to the venue or the facilities provided, attributable to any act of negligence or misconduct of a Player or Team Official shall be recovered from the Player/Team Official's prize money due to them from winning the City / National Championship
- c) Matters not provided for in these Regulations and cases of Force Majeure shall be decided by RFYS whose decisions are final.
- d) In case of illness, or injury caused to an RFYS athlete while participating in any RFYS competition, basic /emergency medical treatment shall be administered by the RFYS Medical Support team at RFYS cost. However in case of hospitalization, and/or special care or treatment required to treat such injury or illness, the Athlete or his / her Institute shall be obliged to arrange and pay for such treatment without liability to RFYS. However, in case of exceptional circumstances, if RFYS is required to incur any expenses towards such hospitalization, and/or special care or treatment, the Athlete or his / her institute shall reimburse the expenses to RFYS within three working days of request for payment by RFYS.
- e) RFYS shall have the right to delete, add or amend these Regulations.

RFYS adopted these Regulations on 1st June, 2018

ANNEXURE A

West Zone Centres	
CHAMPIONSHIP CENTRES	CITIES / REGIONS INCLUDED
Mumbai	Mumbai Navi Mumbai Thane
Pune	Pune Pimpri Chinchwad
Goa	Entire state
Ahmedabad	Ahmedabad
Indore	Indore
Kolhapur	Kolhapur

South Zone Centres	
CHAMPIONSHIP CENTRES	CITIES / REGIONS INCLUDED
Chennai	Chennai
Coimbatore	Coimbatore
Bengaluru	Bengaluru
Hyderabad	Hyderabad
Kozhikode	Kozhikode Malappuram Palakkad Kannur
Kochi	Kochi Thiruvananthapuram Kollam Idukki

North Zone Centres	
CHAMPIONSHIP CENTRES	CITIES / REGIONS INCLUDED
Chandigarh	Chandigarh Mohali Panchkula
Delhi	New Delhi Gurgaon Noida/Greater Noida Faridabad Ghaziabad
Ludhiana	Ludhiana
Jaipur	Jaipur
Dehradun	Dehradun
Lucknow	Lucknow

East Zone Centres	
CHAMPIONSHIP CENTRES	CITIES / REGIONS INCLUDED
Kolkata	Kolkata Barasat Hooghly Kalyani
Guwahati	Guwahati Kokrajhar Tangla Changsari
Shillong	Shillong Ri-Bhoi Jowai Khliehriat
Aizawl	Aizawl Lunglei
Imphal	Imphal
Jamshedpur	Jamshedpur
Bhubaneswar	Bhubaneswar

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