

Annexure 5

Metropolitan League

Article 1 - Competition Format

1. A club may not enter more than one team into the same division unless the club enters more teams than there are divisions or at the discretion of Football West.
2. Other divisions will comprise teams, where possible, which are located in similar geographical locations.
3. The team finishing in first place of each division at the conclusion of the season will be crowned the champion team for that season. The order in which teams finish the competition will be determined by the criteria specified in Article 2.
4. A club may request a change to the division of one or more of its teams in the Metropolitan League. Any such change may or may not be granted at the discretion of Football West, and if granted any change will be subject to the applicable fees. The decision as to whether or not a change request is granted by Football West is final.

Article 2 - Competition Points

1. Three points will be awarded for a win, one point for a draw and no points for a defeat. Points are not transferable between divisions.
2. If two or more teams are equal on points on completion of the season, the following criteria are applied in order to determine the higher ranking team.
 - a) the team with the superior goal difference
 - b) the team with the higher number of goals scored
 - c) the number of points gained in matches between the teams concerned
 - d) the superior goal difference in matches between the teams concerned
 - e) the team with the lower number of red cards
 - f) the team with the lower number of yellow cards
 - g) the drawing of lots

Article 3 - Individual Awards

1. An award will be presented to the player who scores the most goals in his division during the regular season. If two or more players score an equal number of goals, an award will be presented to each of those players.

Article 4 - Venue

1. The home venue of a Metropolitan League club must meet the criteria of a Class D venue as specified in the Football West Competition Management Regulations.
2. A club may request to change its home ground venue but may do so only by written application to Football West. Football West reserves the right to refuse any application if the facilities do not meet the criteria as specified in the Football West Competition Management Regulations.
3. Football West reserves the right to reject any application for a change of venue if the proposed new venue is within 5 kilometres of another Metropolitan League club.
4. Football West reserves the right to require that its sponsors' signage is prominently displayed at all Football West matches.
5. Football West reserves the right to take whatever action is deemed necessary in the event that Metropolitan League Matches are affected by changes to the availability of any venue or venues.

Article 5 - Matches

1. With the exception of abandoned matches, each period of a match must last for a minimum of 30 minutes in order that a result may be recorded.
2. The duration of the half time interval will be 10 minutes.
3. The referee may adjust the duration of a match to ensure that a following match on the same field of play commences at the scheduled kick-off time.
4. When a match is shortened in accordance with paragraph 3, each match official is entitled to receive the full amount of his normal match fee.
5. On days in which the temperature is expected to be high, the referee may use his discretion to allow players to take drink breaks. During any such break, all players must remain on the field of play.
6. The home club must provide one stretcher which is to be placed in a safe and accessible position. The stretcher must be in position before the commencement of the first match of the day until the conclusion of the final match of the day unless being utilised.
7. Each team must have a first aid kit available at the venue on the date of the match.
8. The result of each match must be entered into Sports TG by the home club no later than 8:00pm on the day of the match, unless the match kicks off after 3:30pm.
Penalty for Breach \$30
9. Football West may from time to time nominate any match as being under the direct control of Football West. In such circumstances, Football West will determine the conditions under which the match is to be played.
10. Substitutes in the Metropolitan League are not bound by the condition in Law 3 of the Laws of the Game forbidding further participation in the match. All substitutes in the Metropolitan League are able to be substituted on and off the field of play on multiple occasions.
11. No more than 5 named substitutes may be listed on the team list of which a maximum of 5 may be used in any one match.

Article 6 - Ground Marshals

1. Each club must appoint a ground marshal who is 18 years of age or older for each match whose duties are:
 - a) to ensure the security and safety of players, match referees and club officials;
 - b) to supervise the conduct of ball persons if provided;
 - c) to liaise with club officials and emergency services if required;
 - d) to ensure the security of the venue, players, match referees and club officials at the conclusion of the match; and
 - e) to provide an escort for the referee to and from the field of play at the start and finish of each playing period.
2. Neither the coach nor manager of a team involved in a match may act as ground marshal for that match.
3. It is the responsibility of each club to ensure that the ground marshals are fully briefed on their responsibilities.
4. All ground marshals must have access to all areas of the ground at all times. Ground marshals may not be limited to a specific location (for example, the person working in a canteen may not be a ground marshal).
5. All ground marshals must wear the ground marshal vests which have been supplied by Football West for the duration of the match. Lost vests may be purchased from Football West.

6. Ground marshals must be visible at all times.
7. The ground marshals may not smoke or drink alcohol while on duty.
8. All ground marshals must identify themselves to the appointed match referee, if present, at least five minutes prior to the commencement of each match.

Article 7 - Match Documentation

1. The team list for each match must clearly indicate the match result, the half-time score, goal scorers if any, times of any goals scored and misconduct offences. Each team list must be correctly signed by the authorised representative of each club and the match referee.
2. The appointed referee, if present, must provide the facts relating to the match to the home club within 15 minutes of the completion of the match.
3. The appointed referee must ensure that the team list arrives at Football West within 2 business days of the completion of the match.
4. The appointed referee must complete a match report according to the instructions dictated by the Referees Technical Committee. Such reports are to be lodged with Football West within 2 business days of the completion of the match.
5. If no referee is appointed by Football West, it is the responsibility of the referee appointed by the home club, under the conditions of Article 11 paragraph 4, to ensure that all match documentation is received by Football West within 2 business days of the completion of the match, including any reports of expulsions (red cards).

Penalty for Breach **\$100**

6. Any match played without an officially appointed referee whose team lists are not received by Football West within 10 business days of the completion of the match will be deemed to have been forfeited by the home club.

Article 8 - Players

1. To be eligible to play in the Metropolitan League competition, a player must have been born in 2003 or earlier unless otherwise deemed eligible at the discretion of Football West.
2. Once a player has been recorded on the team sheet of a National Premier Leagues or State League first or reserves team, he may not participate in the Metropolitan League in the same season.

Penalty for Breach **Forfeit**

3. A player who registered with a Hyundai A-League club may not participate in the Metropolitan League in the same calendar year.

Penalty for Breach **Forfeit**

Article 9 - Playing Strips

1. All clubs must nominate a "home" and "alternative" playing strip.
2. In any match, if the shirts or socks of the participating teams are alike or similar, or are in the opinion of the referee likely to cause confusion, then players of the away team will be required to change its shirts or socks or both. In the event of any dispute with regard to the strip to be worn by either team, the referee's decision is final.
3. If the shirts or socks of the participating teams are alike or similar, or are in the opinion of the referee likely to cause confusion, and the away team is unable to change that part of its attire which is causing that confusion, then the match may not proceed. For the avoidance of doubt, bibs may NOT be used.

Article 10 - Match Balls

1. The home club must provide the referee with 3 match balls no later than 5 minutes prior to the commencement of the match.

Article 11 - Match Officials

1. Each club is responsible for 50% of match official fees. Football West will determine the fees payable and publish the rates prior to the commencement of each season.
2. Match official fees are payable in cash to the match official(s) on the day of each match.
3. The allocation of match officials will be determined by Football West. No club may request the attendance or non-attendance of any particular match official.
4. In the event that a referee is not allocated to the match by Football West, or that none of the match officials allocated to a match is ready and able to commence the match within 15 minutes of the scheduled kick-off time, then the home club will allocate a referee.
5. In the absence of one or both assistant referees, each team will provide a club assistant referee to assist the match referee. If either club does not comply, then the match may not proceed.
6. If the appointed referee postpones or delays any match, he must submit a report in writing to Football West within 72 hours of the scheduled conclusion of the match outlining the reasons for his actions. The appointed referee is entitled to 50% of the prescribed match fee for a postponed match and 100% of the match fee for a delayed match which is subsequently completed or abandoned.
7. When a match is forfeited by a club, the referee is entitled to receive 100% of the prescribed match fee to be paid by the club which forfeited the match, unless the forfeiting club informed Football West in writing at least 72 hours prior to the scheduled kick-off.
8. When a match is abandoned, the match officials are entitled to receive the full amount of their prescribed match fees.

Article 12 - Representative Teams

1. If a club has 4 or more players from one team participating in a representative match, it may seek the postponement of any club match which clashes with the representative match.
2. To be considered as a qualifying player under paragraph 1, and subject to the conditions of paragraph 3, the player must have been recorded on that team's team lists for a minimum of 80% of all matches up to and including the date of the request to postpone.
3. If the player is required to participate in a representative match prior to round six of the season, Football West will determine the team of a player from the team sheets available. Football West's decision in determining the team of a player is final.