



SKNFA 2013-2014

GENERAL RULES & REGULATIONS

St. Kitts-Nevis Football Association

Founded 1932

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SKNFA 2013-2014 RULES & REGULATIONS

PREAMBLE

The SKNFA Leagues are offering a playing environment focused on the highest level of competition to inspire the development of national and international level football players. The Leagues are committed to maintaining excellence in football while instilling the values of sportsmanship and fair play.

The highest level of competition and excellence is maintained by limiting admission to the top echelon of the league. Limited admission provides incentive for players and teams to develop to their highest potential. In addition, maintaining excellence at the top level of the league brings success and notoriety at the national and international level to our teams and players. Enhanced recognition of our teams results in higher-level tournament acceptance and increased number of college opportunities for our players.

The Rules of the SKNFA Leagues were written for the benefit of the league and its players. While this document is intended to be comprehensive and thorough, it should be understood that not all situations, circumstances, and events can be anticipated and, therefore covered precisely. Further, it is recognized that on occasion conflicting rules or statements may inadvertently occur. Therefore, it shall be the firm policy of the SKNFA in resolving such conflicts to exercise its authority to override and/or amend these rules in keeping with their intent and purpose.

Each person having any responsibility whatsoever for a team either participating in the Leagues or desiring to participate in the Leagues is responsible for reading and knowing these rules.

In the event charges of infraction of these rules are made against a player, parent, team, coach, team manager, and/or team representative, claims by said accused person of ignorance of these rules will not be considered a viable defense to said charges. It is each team's responsibility to see to it that each person having any responsibility for the team receives a copy of these rules and that copies are made available and read by all of the team's officials and players.

The SKNFA Leagues operate as active playing leagues within the Federation of St. Kitts-Nevis, and as such, all participants in the Leagues are responsible for knowing and following all the rules of the SKNFA.

Rule 1**A. COMPETITIONS**

- a) The Association shall organize separate leagues, competition, matches, and events amongst the registered clubs in the different divisions:
- Competition I – Premier Division regular season and Final Four
Division I regular season – Finals (where applicable)
 - Competition II – FA Cup “Knock-out” competition
 - Competition IV-Youth Leagues (Boys and Girls)-Finals (where applicable)
 - Competition V-Senior Female League-Finals (where applicable)
 - Competition VI-5-A-Side, 7-A-Side Tournament
 - Competition VIII-Beach Soccer
 - Competition IX-Futsal Tournament
 - Competition X-President’s Cup
 - Skills Competition and League All Stars Weekend
 - Any other competitions sanctioned by the SKNFA
- b) Three points shall be awarded for a win, one point for a draw and no points for a loss.
- c) (I) If a team does not report for a match except in cases of **force majeure** recognized by the Organizing Committee of the SKNFA League the team shall be considered as having lost the match, and three points shall be awarded to their opponent, as if it were a match won with three goals to none.
- (II) If the team refuses to continue to play or leaves the ground before the end of a match, the team shall be considered as having lost the match, and three points shall be awarded to their opponent, as if it were a match won with three goals to none.
- (III) The guilty team in (II) above shall as a general rule be excluded from further participation in the competitions/league so that none of its matches are deemed valid unless the incidents mentioned occurred at its last match. In addition, the guilty team/club shall pay compensation for any damages or losses incurred by the other team/club and the SKNFA. Furthermore, the guilty team/club may be disqualified from taking part in the next SKNFA league/competition, or any activity organized under the auspices of the SKNFA.
- (IV) If a player or official of any team shall be deemed to have brought the game into disrepute, the player or official of that team shall be brought before the disciplinary committee of the SKNFA.
- d) The Competitions & Tournaments Committee for the SKNFA League shall take whatever action is deemed necessary in cases of **force majeure**.
- e) The General Secretary shall give a minimum of forty-eight (48) hours notice in writing of all fixtured **and refixtured matches**.

- f) To have a match refixed, clubs/teams shall submit a written request to the General Secretary seventy-two (72) hours before the original match date.
- g) All competitions shall be gender exclusive unless otherwise directed by the Competition Committee and sanctioned by the Management of the SKNFA.

B. SKNFA COMPETITION COMMITTEE and OTHER COMMITTEES

The Competition Committee for the SKNFA Leagues and Competitions is appointed by the SKNFA Executive Committee and is responsible for the organization of the league, tournaments, and competitions.

- I. The Competition Committee shall, amongst other matters, be responsible for:
 - 1. Imposing fines specifically provided for by these regulations;
 - 2. Dealing with protests;
 - 3. Appointing match commissioners and/or security officers;
 - 4. Deciding which laboratories will carry out the doping analyses;
 - 5. Dealing with breaches of the doping regulations;
 - 6. Settling cases of force majeure.
 - 7. Forming groups and/or sub-groups;
 - 8. Fixing the venues and dates of the matches whenever matches have to be rescheduled;
 - 9. Deciding which matches will be subject to doping tests.
 - 10. Supervising general preparations, deciding on the match system, the draws and forming groups;
 - 11. After consultation with the Executive Committee, fixing the dates, venues and fields for the matches;
 - 12. Determining kick-off times;
 - 13. Choosing the official football and the stipulated technical material.

II. The Competition Committee's decisions shall be final.

III. DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE

- A. The SKNFA Disciplinary Committee is empowered to:
 - I. Admonish, sanction, fine, suspend or disqualify players, referees, Team officials or coaches.
 - II. Take any disciplinary measure in accordance with the SKNFA and FIFA Disciplinary Code against any person or Club(s) which may violate the Competition Regulations, the Laws of the Game or the rules of Fair Play.
 - III. Report serious matters for further consideration by the Executive Committee.
 - IV. The decisions of the Disciplinary Committee must be based on written reports from referees and the Match Commissioner of the disputed match. All Clubs must be informed of the sanctions imposed.

- B. The Disciplinary Committee may convene a personal hearing and will decide the procedure to be followed. Decisions resulting from such hearing shall be invalid if less than three members are present.
- C. Any other offenses that may be committed during the course of the SKNFA League and Competitions by Team officers, technicians or other personnel shall be punished by the appropriate Club under the provisions of its own Regulations for Championships and Competitions. For this purpose, the Executive Committee shall refer to the Club the referee's report of the match in question. The Club will, in turn, report back to the Executive Committee on the resolution of the matter and any disciplinary action taken.
- D. If the referee must suspend a match due to intervention from spectators, sporting authorities or local police, or due to aggression against any game official or member of the any team, if found to be responsible by the Disciplinary Committee, the guilty team shall forfeit the match with a score of 5 goals to 0 or the score prevailing when the match is suspended, whichever provides the greater margin of victory.
- E. Furthermore, if found to be responsible by the Disciplinary Committee, the facilities in which the interrupted match is held shall be suspended for the remaining games of the League or Competition.
- F. If a game is suspended due to withdrawal, the team(s) refusing to complete the match shall be ineligible to continue the match and will be fined a sum not exceeding EC\$5000 and all players on the field of play will be suspended for a maximum of 5 games.
- G. Any other infringement of these Regulations, by players, referees, officials, coaches or officers, subject to economic sanctions, shall be reported to the General Secretariat for consideration by the Executive Committee.
- H. All economic penalties assessed must be paid no later than sixty (60) days after notification thereof by the corresponding Club. Unless otherwise specified, the total amount of all fines will accrue to SKNFA.

IV. APPEAL COMMITTEE

- A. The Appeal Committee shall hear appeals lodged against decisions passed by the Disciplinary Committee, which are not final according to these regulations.
- B. The procedure to be applied by the Appeal Committee is defined in the Regulations governing the SKNFA Appeal Committee's function.
- C. The Appeal Committee shall reach its decisions on the basis of the documents and other means of evidence contained in the Disciplinary Committee's file. However, the Appeal Committee may, if necessary, also resort to any further evidence (including television and video recordings, etc.), which considers relevant.
- D. Decisions pronounced by the Appeal Committee are final.

Rule 2**SUBSCRIPTIONS**

Each club shall be required to pay an annual subscription fee of \$100.00 on or before the 31st May, of each year.

Rule 3**REGISTRATION/PARTICIPATION FEES & PROCESS**

Each club may enter one or more teams into the League Competitions organized by the Association provided that the Clubs pay the subscription fee, participation fee for each team entering into the competition. Teams representing or subordinate to the same club are not allowed to participate in the same division.

a. Registration Process

- I. Each team must submit to the FA Secretariat or Competition Committee a **FULLY** completed Club Registration Form. Form to be e-mailed to all Clubs from Secretariat
- II. Each player must FULLY complete a Player Registration Form
- III. Clubs are to register all teams to participate in various leagues at the beginning of the season.
- IV. Each Club must submit digital passport size photos of registered players with the Player Registration Form

b. Registration Fees

- I. Each participating team will have to pay a participation fee as per division:
 1. Premier Division – EC \$900.00
 2. Division 1 - EC \$500.00
 3. Junior League – EC \$400.00
 4. Youth and Female Division – EC \$100.00
- II. All clubs participating in the SKNFA Football Leagues are required to have insurance for their players.

c. Players/Team Officials Administration (Transfer Fee)

- I. Players seeking transfer from one Club/Team to another Club/Team must pay an EC \$75.00 administration fee to the FA Secretariat in the first transfer window EC \$150.00 in the second transfer window, and submit a fully completed Transfer Form to be provided by the FA.
- II. Coaches and Team Officials moving from one club/team must make an application on a form provided and designated by the Association and pay an

administration fee of EC \$75.00 to FA Secretariat FA.

Rule 4.

TROPHIES AND AWARDS

- a) The Association shall be responsible for providing cups/trophies to be competed for annually. Cups/Trophies and Awards to be competed for are as follows: -

All Leagues	-	Winner	-	Trophy and 25 Medals
	-	2 nd Place	-	25 Medals
	-	3 rd Place	-	25 Medals

- b) Special & Individual Awards
The Special and Individual Awards will be decided from the following lists:

- a. League MVP
- b. Player with most goals
- c. Best Defender
- d. Best Midfielder
- e. Best Goalkeeper
- f. Youngest Player
- g. Player of the month
- h. Player of the game Certificate
- i. Coach of the Year
- j. Referee of the Year
- k. Club Community Service Award
- l. Most Successful Club Youth Academy

Rule 5.

CLUBS

- a. A club may register one or more teams for participation in the league competitions organized by the Association. No club is allowed to have more than one (1) team in the same division.
- b. All Premier Clubs must have the following teams:
 - a) Youth Boys and Girls Team
 - b) Grassroots Programs
- c. All Division 1 Clubs must have a Grassroots Program.

Rule 6.

TEAMS

- a) Only teams whose clubs are affiliated to the Association shall participate in the League competitions.

- b) All Clubs' teams gaining admittance to the league competition shall be registered in the Division 1 League except otherwise decided by the FA at a meeting of the SKNFA.
- c) All teams MUST submit a COMPLETED Registration Form inclusive of all players, officials and contacts of the club.
- d) Every playing member of a team must be registered with the Association. No player will be allowed to play for a team unless he is registered.
- e) A team is allowed three changes during a match. Additionally the names of players, reserves and team officials must be submitted to the referee before the start of play.

Only seven (7) reserves and five (5) officials shall be allowed on the bench whilst the game is in progress. The referee may at any time for due reason, request any player or team official to leave the vicinity of the field of play and the technical area.

- f) Teams must play in their registered colours unless otherwise directed by the Association.
- g) The team listed first on the fixture is considered to be the Home Team while the other listed second is considered to be the Away Team.
- h) The Home Team is the team that has the right to play in its first choice kit (home kit). However, if both team officials and the game officials rule otherwise then teams will be allowed to change colors to ensure the match is played
- i) All teams are to register a first choice kit and an alternative kit(s)
- j) Any team playing an unregistered player or one who is not properly transferred will forfeit the match or matches concerned and 3 points awarded to the opponents as if it were a match won with 3 goals to none.
- k) Any team playing a player who is under suspension will forfeit that match or matches concerned and the 3 points awarded to the opponents, as if it were a match won with 3 goals to none.
- l) A team who has more than three players representing St. Kitts-Nevis National Teams on international duties may request to have its matches rescheduled. Teams that have three or less players representing the National Team are expected to play its scheduled matches as per fixture.
- m) All teams must register a head coach and assistant coach. The coaches must have the SKNFA D License or higher. A copy of the coach's qualification must be presented with the registration form.
- n) Where dressing rooms are provided, all teams shall return to their respective dressing rooms twenty (20) minutes before the scheduled kick-off time for inspection. The team manager is responsible for ensuring that this deadline is observed. Failure of the

team to observe this deadline would lead to the matter being referred to the Disciplinary Committee.

- o) The SKNFA will enter National Youth Teams in the Junior Leagues. Players who are representing the National Youth Teams will be allowed to play in the premier division or division one once the player is eligible (meet the age criteria). However, such must be given written permission to participate.

Rule 7.

PLAYERS/COACHES/OFFICIALS

1. PLAYERS

- a) All players must be registered members of teams and shall be given a registration number by the Association.
- b) For a player to move from one club to another he must make application on a Transfer Certificate provided and designated by the National Association and such form must be signed by the General Secretaries of both Clubs and the player seeking the transfer.
- c) A player may transfer from one club to another only during the periods as designated by the SKNFA.
- d) Transfers and Registrations of new players who were not registered with the Association at the beginning of the season must be lodged with the Secretary at least 48 hours before participating in a match.
- e) Any player seeking transfer is not allowed to play in any match until the transfer process has been completed i.e. approved or denied transfer certificate
- f) All players participating in the SKNFA Leagues are eligible for National Team Representation. Once players are selected to represent the country, players must attend National Team training.
- g) Players are not allowed to participate in any other league that is NOT approved or sanctioned by the SKNFA. Players must receive a written approval from the SKNFA to participate in Leagues not approved or sanctioned by the SKNFA. Players who do not receive the approval to play in Leagues and/or Tournaments not approved or sanctioned by the SKNFA will be suspended from the SKNFA Leagues participation and will be reported to the Disciplinary Committee for further disciplinary actions.
- h) Any player who has been refused a transfer by any club may appeal to the Players Status Committee to have the matter resolved.
- i) A registered club player can only play for one team and in one division (except National Teams selected players). Club registered players will not be allowed to play in different divisions. Club Teams that play players who are already playing in another division will be fined and reported to the Disciplinary Committee for further

disciplinary actions.

2. COACHES

- a) All coaches must be registered members of teams and shall be given a registration number by the Association
- b) For a coach to move from club to another he must make an application on a form provided and designated by the Association
- c) A coach may move from one club to another at any time
- d) Registration of new coaches who were not registered with the Association at the beginning of the season must be lodged with the Secretariat at least 48 hours before participating in the match.
- e) Any coach moving from one club to another is not allowed to coach in match until the process has been completed.
- f) All Premier Division Coaches shall dress in proper coaching attire for all matches
- g) All coaches must have the SKNFA D License and must attend the SKNFA annual Coaching Refreshers Course to be scheduled by the Association.

3. TEAM OFFICIALS

- a. All Team Officials must be registered members of teams and shall be given a registration number by the Association.
- b. All teams must register the following Team officials:
 - Team Manager
 - Trainer and/or physiotherapist
- c. For a Team Official to move from club to another he must make an application on a form provided and designated by the Association.
- d. A Team Official may move from one club to another at any time once the process is completed
- e. Registration of new Team Officials who were not registered with the Association at the beginning of the season must be lodged with the Secretariat at least 48 hours before participating in the match.
- f. Any Team Official seeking to move from one team to another is not allowed to administer in matches until the process has been completed
- g. All Team Officials must attend the SKNFA annual Club Development Seminar to be scheduled by the Association.

Rule 8.**REFEREES AND ASSISTANT REFEREES AND OTHER MATCH OFFICIALS**

- a) After each match the referees shall complete a Report on the match, and forward it to the Secretary of the Association, within twenty-four (24) hours after the conclusion of the match. The Report shall contain as much detail as possible about all occurrences before during and after the match, such as:-
 - (i) Detailed result.
 - (ii) Misconduct of players leading to caution or expulsion.
 - (iii) Unsporting behavior of players, officials and supporters.
 - (iv) Any other incidents.
- b) The SKNFA reserve the right to appoint a Match Commissioner for each Premier Division match. The Match Commissioner shall complete a report and forward it to the Secretary of the Association, within twenty-four (24) hours after the conclusion of the match. A Match Commissioner may be assigned to selected Division I matches by the Competitions Committee.
- c) Each Premier match will have a Referee Assessor. The Referee Assessor shall complete a report and forward it to the Secretary of the Association, within twenty-four (24) hours after the conclusion of the match. Referee Assessor will be assigned to selected Division I Matches by Competition Committee
- d) The referees, assistant referees, fourth officials, match commissioner, and referee assessor if required to do so, shall attend any meeting held by the Disciplinary Committee, only to assist the Committee with any point of his report that is not understood.
- e) The referees, assistant referees, fourth officials, Referee Assessor, and Match Commissioner will be evaluated on a continual basis by the Referees Committee and/or Referee Department.

Rule 9.**LAWS OF THE GAME**

The matches shall be played in conformity with the laws of the game promulgated by Federation International de Football Association, (F.I.F.A.).

Rule 10.**GENERAL**

- a) Players and Officials may be required for media interviews before or after games. Failure to co-operate may be deemed to be a breach of these rules and regulations.

- b) A player who receives a red card or two yellow cards in a match shall be automatically suspended for the next match of the same competition in which his team is fixtured to play. A player who receives a second red card of the same competition will automatically miss one match. A player who receives a third red card of the same competition will automatically miss three matches and be reported to the Disciplinary Committee. A player who receives a fourth red card of the same competition will be suspended and reported to Disciplinary Committee who shall decided on the number of matches to be missed and any other disciplinary actions.
- c) A player who accumulates four (4) yellow cards in the same competition will automatically be suspended for his/her team's next match in the same competition.
- d) A player who receives a yellow card in two consecutive matches shall be automatically suspended for the next match of the same competition in which his team is fixtured to play. He may also be summoned by the disciplinary committee, which can impose further sanctions.
- e) Upon receiving a report from a referee that he or she has cautioned a player (i.e., a yellow card) for violation of the laws of the game, the General Secretary shall send an acknowledgement to the referee and send to the secretary of the club for which the player was playing at the time written notification that the caution has been administered and recorded.
- f) Upon receiving a report from a referee that he or she has dismissed a player from the field of play for misconduct the General Secretary shall send an acknowledgement to the referee and send to the secretary of the player's club a letter informing of the player's automatic one game suspension and any further disciplinary action.
- g) Upon receiving the said documentation (of rule 10.d), the club secretary must convey the documents to the player concerned. It is the duty of the club secretary and the player to acknowledge receipt of the notification within seven (7) days of the date stated on it.
- h) Any team official expelled from the bench during a match, the said official shall be escorted from the stadium in order for the game to resume. If the guilty official refuses to leave the stadium, the said official will be suspended from taking part in any other match and reported to the Disciplinary Committee.
- i) An expelled official shall be automatically suspended for that team's next match of the said competition. The said official may be summoned by the Disciplinary Committee for further sanctioning.
- j) Any official expelled from the bench for the second time (must leave the stadium) in the same competition, shall be automatically suspended for that team's next three consecutive matches of the said competition. The said official shall be summoned to the Disciplinary Committee for further sanctioning.
- k) Team official serving suspension must not take any part (coaching, advising) in the team's matches. Team officials guilty of this act will be referred to the Competitions

Committee for further suspension.

- l) Any player or team/club official who physically assaults a match official will be fined a minimum of EC\$1000.00 and be suspended for a minimum of 5 matches. Please see Rule 19 for guidance. Also, the said individual will be summoned by the disciplinary committee, which can impose further sanctions.
- m) Any player or team/club official who verbally abuses a match official will be fined a minimum of EC\$500.00 and be suspended for a minimum of 3 matches. Please see Rule 19 for guidance. Also, the said individual will be summoned by the disciplinary committee, which can impose further sanctions.
- n) Players warming up in the area of their benches must wear a colour which is different to that of their team participating on the field. Players must be properly dressed when on the pitch during game time.
- o) All clubs and affiliated Associations shall play or administer football in conformity with these rules. Infringement of these rules shall be subject to Disciplinary Committee sanctions.
- p) All participants shall act at all times in the best interest of the game and shall not act in any manner which is improper or brings the game into disrepute.

Rule 11.

NO SHOW FOR FIXTURED MATCH

- a) Any team that fails to show up for a fixtured match without prior notice and reasonable cause as determined by the Competitions Committee shall lose the match by default.
- b) In addition, the defaulting team shall incur a fine of EC \$150.00 such amount to be paid to the office of the Football Association forty-eight (48) hours after the match has been completed or before the team plays its next fixtured match. Failure to comply with this requirement will result in an automatic forfeiture of the up-coming match or matches and further sanctioning.
- c) "Reasonable cause" shall be defined to mean acts of God, accidents, or failure of requisite equipment which makes its impractical or impossible for the team to show up for the match.
- d) In such an event, the team should file a "Request for Re-fixturing" stating clearly the basis for its request. The request shall be examined by the Leagues Competition Committee, which shall render a final judgment on the matter.

Rule 12.

FIXTURES

At the start of each football season, The Association will issue a set of fixtures for each division. Accordingly, member clubs should design their foreign and local engagements around the said fixtures.

Rule 13.**START TIME FOR EACH MATCH**

The Fixtures issued by The Association will indicate the start time for each match. Each Referee assigned to a match shall take every reasonable step to start a match on time, but if unable to do so, shall advise each team manager of the new start time before the expiry of the original start time but no later than ten (10) minutes thereafter. A Referee can allow up to fifteen (15) minutes past the greater of the assigned start time or the revised start time to commence a match. Therefore, he should take the required steps to call the match.

Notwithstanding the above time period, in the case of unforeseen circumstances, the referee in his or her own deliberative discretion shall set the start time of the match.

Participating teams must be assembled and ready for inspection in their respective dressing rooms twenty (20) minutes before game time.

Any team, which fails to have the requisite numbers (seven (7) players) required to play a match, will lose the said match by default.

Rule 14.**MATCH LOST BY DEFAULT or ABANDONMENT**

- a) A team that loses a match by default will not be awarded points or goals while the opposing team shall be awarded three points as if it were a match won with three (3) goals. The losing team will incur a fine of minimum EC \$150.00 and reported to the Disciplinary Committee for further action.
- b) A team that loses a match by abandonment will not be awarded points or goals while the opposing team shall be awarded three points as if it were a match won with a minimum of three (3) goals. The losing team will incur a fine not exceeding EC \$5000.00 and reported to the Disciplinary Committee for further action.

Rule 15.**ACTS PREJUDICIAL TO THE INTEREST OF THE GAME**

A team/player that engages in any of the following acts will be, prima facie, deemed to have committed acts prejudicial to the interest of the game and shall be summoned to appear before the Disciplinary Committee where automatic, appropriate and or additional sanctions may be issued.

- appearing for a match and failing to take the field of play
- failing to complete a match when instructed to do so by the Referee
- using abusive language or causing physical injury to match officials

- failing to submit match cards to match officials
- Repeated acts of defiance or un-cooperation with respect to the conduct of matches.
- A player who impersonate or knowingly participates in a match under another person's name

Rule 16.

DISPUTES, PROTESTS and APPEALS

Where clubs intend to lodge a protest over incident(s)/circumstance(s) that occur before or during the game, the following procedure must be followed to lodge protests or appeals:

- a. ALL protests MUST be lodged in writing with the secretariat of the SKNFA within forty eight (48) hours of the end of the match.
- b. Any club can lodge any protest, appeal for any dispute, incident, circumstance that occur before and during the game.

Appeals of any decision of the SKNFA or its standing committees must be submitted within forty-eight hours and shall be accompanied by a cash payment of five hundred dollars (\$500.00). Lodging an appeal does not defer a decision taken.

PROTESTS

- A. Protests subject to the following provisions are objections of any kind connected with matches organized in the SKNFA Leagues and Competitions.
- B. Protests shall be submitted, except if the following provisions stipulate a different procedure, in writing to the Match Commissioner not later than two hours after the game and followed up immediately with a written report, including the original protest, to be sent to the SKNFA General Secretariat by fax or hand delivered. In the league or competition, the plaintiff Team will confirm the protest by letter to be sent to the SKNFA General Secretariat within forty eight hours.
- C. Protests against the eligibility of players taking part in any league matches shall be submitted in writing to the Match Commissioner/Referee not later than two hours after the match in question and confirmed by letter to be sent to the SKNFA General Secretariat within forty eight hours.
- D. Protests against the eligibility of players chosen to take part in the Final Four shall be submitted in writing to the Match Commissioner no later than two hours after the game, and followed-up immediately with a written report, including the original protest to be sent to SKNFA General Secretariat by fax or hand delivered within forty eight hours.
- E. Protests against any incidents that occur during a match shall be directed to the referee by the team captain immediately after the disputed incident and before play has been resumed. The protest shall be confirmed in writing to the Match Commissioner or the SKNFA representative at the match by the head of the team delegation not later than two hours

after the match in question.

- F. Protest against the state of the pitch, the markings, the accessory equipment (goals, etc.) or the football shall be made to the referee before the start of the match.
- G. No protests may be made against the referee's decisions on points of fact connected with play, such decisions being final.
- H. Once the winning teams of the SKNFA Leagues and Competition Championships have been proclaimed, any protest or complaint about the sports procedure followed during the competition shall be disregarded.
- I. If an unfounded or irresponsible protest is lodged, a fine may be imposed.

No team/club shall take the Management Committee of the FA to a Court of Law. Should any team/club do so said team/club shall be subjected to suspension and fine up to \$5000.00. Further the FA shall report the matter to the FIFA General Secretary and Legal Department.

Rule 17.

DOPING CONTROL

- (a) Doping is forbidden
- (b) The SKNFA will establish its own Doping Commission to deal with all Football Doping Issues in St. Kitts-Nevis
- (c) ***The SKNFA will carry out drug testing for the 2013-2014 Football Leagues.***
- (d) Doping is the use of and/or distribution of a substance or a composition of substances as promulgated by FIFA in The Doping Control Regulations Schedule I.
- (e) The SKNFA reserves the right to carry out random doping tests before and during any competition as deemed necessary.
- (f) If the SKNFA suspects a coach, referee, and team official of Doping the SKNFA reserves the right to carry out doping tests on suspected person.
- (g) Tests may be carried out at any or all of the matches in any competition.
- (h) All players in clubs/teams, including reserves shall be subject to doping control.
- (i) Any player, referee, coach, team officials of club/team which:
 - (1) Refuses to submit to a drug test;
 - (2) Falsifies the result of a test or attempts to do so;
 - (3) Is found guilty of intentionally or unintentionally taking drugs;

will be fined EC \$1000.00 and suspended for one year from all football activities sanctioned by the SKNFA and also referred to the disciplinary committee for further

actions. If any player, referee, coach, team official who has served a one year suspension and paid the fine of EC \$1000.00 is found guilty on a second account will be fined EC \$3000.00 and suspended for two years from all football activities sanctioned by the SKNFA and also referred to the disciplinary committee for further actions. A third offense of any player, referee, coach, team official, that person will be suspended and referred to the Disciplinary Committee for further sanction.

- (j) Any official who intentionally or unintentionally abets or incites such an infringement to be committed will be referred to the disciplinary committee.
- (k) For infringements of the doping control regulations as stipulated by FIFA in Schedule I of The Doping Control Regulations, the SKNFA is empowered to apply all sanctions contained in the FIFA list of disciplinary measures.

Rule 18

OTHER REGISTRATION, TRANSFERS AND LOANS

- a. The leagues will be played under the FIFA Regulations for the status and transfer of players.
- b. Players may only be registered to play with a National Association during one registration period as laid down by the National Association, with a LIMIT of one transfer of registration per player in the same season in a period of twelve (12) months.
- c. The registration period for the season will be:

- | | |
|----|---|
| a. | Period 1: 1 September – 1 st November 2013 |
| b. | Period 2: 1 st – 15 th January 2014 |

- d. National Associations can only register players coming from another Association subsequent to the receipt of a certificate of transfer of registration from that of the other Association, referred to as The International Registration Transfer Certificate (ITC).
- e. An International Transfer Certificate (ITC) must be received before the close of the transfer window.
- f. Clubs can enter into Loan Agreements with other Clubs. Each Club is allowed to loan a maximum of three players from other clubs and also can accept three loaned players from other clubs.
- g. A player will be considered loaned when the Agreement Form is signed by the General Secretaries of both Clubs and the loaned players. A Loan Agreement Fee of EC\$400.00 must accompany the Loan Agreement Form.
- h. All Loan Agreement Period terminates at the end of the season. A loaned player is still considered a member of his original Club. The loan agreement is for playing purposes and said players must comply with rules and regulation of the other Club.

- i. All Loan Agreements are to be completed by the end of 2nd transfer window i.e 15th January, 2014.

Rule 19

Communication

- a. The following are the methods of communication the Competitions Committee will use to inform clubs and players, coaches, referees and teams' officials:
 - i. Emails and/or website
 - ii. Faxes
 - iii. Letters
 - iv. Telephones
- b. Emails and/or website will be the primary source of communication to Clubs
- c. Each club must submit three active email addresses and /or a website address, a fax number, and physical address when completing registration forms.
- d. The primary means of communication will be through emails and/or website address
- e. All players, coaches, referees, and team officials are to register his/her email address with the SKNFA
- f. Clubs and other persons who need a hard copy of any document can call the Secretariat to get a copy

Rule 20

All players, team officials, coaches, referees, match officials and spectators are to comply with the SKNFA and FIFA CODE OF CONDUCT/ETHICS, and FIFA Fair Play Code.

Rule 21

ANY AFFILIATED PLAYER, CLUB, LEAGUE OR OFFICIAL WHO FAILS TO COMPLY WITH ANY OF THE ABOVE RULES, SHALL BE LIABLE TO DISCIPLINARY ACTION BY THE SKNFA.

Rule 22

The SKNFA's Executive Committee, whose decisions shall be final, will resolve matters not provided for in these Rules and Regulations.

Rule 23


THE CONDITIONS FOR THE USE OF WARNER PARK FOOTBALL STADIUM FACILITY WILL BE SUBJECT TO THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS ESTABLISHED BY THE MINISTRY OF SPORTS. AS SUCH MEMBER CLUBS WILL BE REQUIRED TO ADHERE TO THE SAID TERMS AND CONDITIONS.

POWERS OF MANAGEMENT

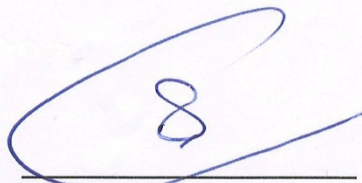
The Management Committee shall be the sole authority for the interpretation of the league format and the rules and regulations.

THESE RULES WERE RATIFIED BY THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE OF THE ST. KITTS AND NEVIS FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION ON Saturday 5th October, 2013 AND SHALL BECOME EFFECTIVE ON Monday 7th October, 2013.

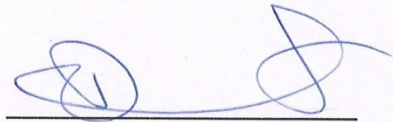
For and on behalf of the Management Committee of the SKNFA:



**Anthony L. Johnson
PRESIDENT**



**Stanley Jacobs
GENERAL SECRETARY**



**Don Grant – Chairman
Competitions Committee**