



NEDBANK CUP REGULATIONS – SAFA LEVEL

1. Definitions

- 1.1 All words, terms and phrases used in these Regulations will bear the same meaning as defined in the SAFA Constitution and the SAFA Competitions Uniform Rules unless indicated otherwise by the context.
- 1.2 “*Competition*” means the Nedbank Cup – SAFA level.
- 1.3 “*Competition sponsor*” means Nedbank Ltd.
- 1.4 “*Competitions Director*” is the person appointed by the SAFA Competitions Committee either at provincial or national level charged with convening the competition.
- 1.5 “*Foreign player*” is a footballer who is neither a South African citizen nor a foreign-born national who acquired permanent residence status in terms of section 25 of the Immigration Act, 2002 (Act 13 of 2002).

2. Organisation

- 2.1 The competition will be organised by the SAFA Competitions Committee on behalf of the National Executive Committee.
- 2.2 The Competitions Committee may delegate powers, functions and duties for the organisation and management of the competition to any

SAFA official, office-bearer or employee, as it may deem fit, and it may also withdraw such delegation summarily, and without notice.

- 2.3 SAFA Regions and Clubs affiliated to Local Football Associations are obliged to abide by these Rules, the SAFA Constitution, and the SAFA Competitions Uniform Rules.

3. **Trophies and awards**

Trophies and medals will only be awarded at National level, and no trophies and medals will be awarded to any winning club/s at Regional and/or Provincial level.

4. **Qualification and format**

4.1 All SAFA Regional Teams, i.e. SAB League Teams, who are affiliated to a SAFA Region will gain automatic qualification to participate in the competition.

4.2 All Promotional League Teams, i.e. Vodacom League Teams who are affiliated to the South African Football Association will gain automatic qualification to participate in the competition.

4.3 The competition is a knock-out competition which will be played at Regional level, Promotional level, and thereafter a National mini play-off.

4.3.1 **Regional level**

4.3.1.1 The format to determine a winner at a Regional level shall be in the form of a knock-out competition determined by the Competitions Committee.

4.3.1.2 After determining the inter-regional winners for the respective Provinces, the Competitions Committee in consultation with the Provincial Executive Committee in a particular Province, shall determine a format to determine the overall Regional winner in a particular Province.

4.3.2 **Promotional level**

The format to determine a winner at a promotional level shall be in the form of a knock-out competition determined by the Competitions Committee.

4.3.2.1 At the promotional level, the playing of matches might necessitate that each team plays 2 (two) matches in 1 (one) day;

4.3.2.2 In a situation where a team has to play 2 (two) matches in 1 (one) day, there shall be no extra time after 2 (two) equal periods of 45 (forty-five) minutes as per Rule 7 of the FIFA Laws of the Game;

4.3.2.3 If the score is level after the duration of a match, penalty kicks will be taken to determine the winner in

accordance with the procedure described in the FIFA Laws of the Game;

4.3.2.4 In a situation where a team has to play 2 (two) matches in 1 (one) day, each team shall be permitted to make 5 (five) substitutions in a single match;

4.3.2.5 In all other cases where the scores are level after 90 (ninety) minutes, extra time of two (2) equal periods of 15 (fifteen) minutes each will be played. If the score is level after extra time, penalty kicks will be taken to determine the winner in accordance with the procedure described in the FIFA Laws of the Game.

4.3.3 **National mini play-off**

When all 9 (nine) Provincial winners have been declared by the Competitions Committee, i.e. after levels 4.3.1 and 4.3.2 have been completed:

4.3.3.1 a draw shall be conducted to pick 2 (two) teams that shall play in the mini play-off aimed at reducing the teams to 8 (eight);

4.3.3.2 the 2 (two) teams drawn above shall play the mini play-off at a neutral venue as determined by the Competitions Committee on a knock-out basis.

5. **Venues, dates and kick-off times**

- 5.1 A public draw shall be conducted to determine the fixtures at both Regional and Promotional level.
- 5.2 The team drawn first shall be regarded as the home team.
- 5.3 The venue, date and kick-off time shall be determined by the Competitions' Director.

6. **Eligibility of players**

- 6.1 The eligibility of players shall be determined in accordance with the SAFA Competitions Uniform Rules, and in the case of foreign players, subject to clause 6.2 below.
- 6.2 For the avoidance of any doubt, each participating team shall be limited to the use of 3 (three) foreign players whether on the field of play, or on the bench. Such foreign players shall be eligible to participate in the competition provided they comply with the eligibility requirements prescribed in the SAFA Competitions Uniform Rules, and in addition will be required to produce a valid passport document, a valid temporary residence permit as contemplated in sections 11 – 23 of the Immigration Act, 2002 (Act No 13 of 2002), i.e. a visitor's permit, a study permit, business permit, a relative's permit, a work permit, a corporate permit, an exchange permit, an asylum seeker's permit, or a permanent residence permit. No registration or participation of foreign players shall be permitted without compliance with these requirements.
- 6.3 The competition shall be open for all players provided teams field a minimum of 5 (five) players under the age of 23 (twenty-three) for

Promotion League Teams, and 5 (five) players under the age of 21 (twenty-one) for Regional League Teams, during matches. Failure to comply with this provision shall be deemed to constitute a breach of these Regulations, and if found guilty by a duly constituted Disciplinary Committee, it will result in the forfeiture of points gained.(it will result in the loss of the match won.

7. **Financial and related provisions**

- 7.1 Regional and Promotional Teams shall be informed of the prize money schedule before kick-off of the competition.
- 7.2 All other costs, inclusive of transportation, payment of referees, hiring of match venues, and any other costs shall be the responsibility of the participating team.
- 7.3 The host team bears the costs of match organisation, which shall include the referee's travel fee to which both teams must contribute equally.
- 7.4 Where a host team charges entry fee at the gate, the host team shall be entitled to keep all the gate takings.
- 7.5 Where more than 1 (one) team uses a match venue and are the hosts, they must share the costs of match organisation and the gate takings in cases where an entry fee is charged at the gate

8. **Discipline: special provisions**

8.1 In terms of the SAFA Rules, the following special provisions will apply to the competition:

8.1.1 All disciplinary procedures relating to a match shall be completed before the fixture date for the next round of the competition.

8.1.2 The Competitions' Director will have the power to order that a Disciplinary matter, whether it be a protest, a complaint or an appeal, be referred directly to arbitration in terms of the SAFA Constitution read with Rule 8 of the SAFA Rules on Misconduct, if he/she is of the opinion that the application of the normal procedures will result in a delay of such a nature that SAFA and/or the sponsor may be brought into disrepute. In such event, the decision of the arbitrator shall be final and binding.

8.2 **Discipline at inter-Regional/Provincial play-offs**

8.2.1 All disciplinary matters at the Tournament shall be dealt with the Provincial Disciplinary Committee of the relevant host Province.

8.2.2 A player ordered off the field of play shall serve an automatic 2 (two) match suspension. A player accumulating 3 (three) cautions (yellow cards) shall serve an automatic 1 (one) match suspension.

8.2.3 Any protest or complaints must be lodged with the Competitions' Director within 2 (two) hours of the completion of the match accompanied by the relevant protest/complaint fee. Any

protests or complaints received after the 2 (two) hour deadline shall not be entertained. The Disciplinary Committee shall convene a hearing before the end of the day to adjudicate the protest or the complaint.

8.2.4 In the event that a team is dissatisfied with the outcome of a disciplinary hearing, it may appeal such a decision to the SAFA Appeals Board subject to the SAFA Constitution and the SAFA Rules relating to misconduct. The Competitions' Director may direct that an appeal be referred directly to expedited arbitration, and such arbitration shall be subject to the payment of a relevant arbitration fee, and to Rule 8 of the SAFA Rules on Misconduct. The ruling of the arbitrator shall be final and binding.

8.3 **Discipline and disputes at National level**

8.3.1 All disciplinary matters shall be dealt with by the National Disciplinary Committee sitting in the relevant host Province.

8.3.2 A player ordered off the field of play shall serve an automatic 2 (two) match suspension. A player accumulating 3 (three) yellow cards shall serve an automatic 1 (one) match suspension.

8.3.3 All protests and/or complaints must be lodged with the Competitions Director within 2 (two) hours of the completion of a match accompanied by the relevant protest/complaint fee. Protests or complaints received after the 2 (two) hour deadline

shall not be entertained. The Disciplinary Committee shall convene a hearing before the end of the day's play to adjudicate any protest or complaint.

8.3.4 Any team who wishes to appeal the outcome of a disciplinary hearing may have its case referred directly to arbitration subject to payment of the relevant arbitration fee, and subject to the direction of the Competitions' Director. An appeal shall otherwise be heard by the SAFA Appeals Board in accordance with its Rules and Regulations.

9. **Matters not provided for and changes to these Regulations**

9.1 Matters not provided for in these Rules shall be dealt with in terms of the SAFA Constitution, and where silent, the Rules and Regulations of CAF, and thereafter the Rules and Regulations of FIFA, as the case may be, shall apply. These also relate to any doping matters.

9.2 The Competitions Committee shall be authorised to institute a commission of enquiry into any matter which in their sole and absolute discretion they may decide.

9.3 Any documentation of whatsoever nature which is required to be served on a team, team official or player of the SAFA League competitions, shall be served on such party by fax or by e-mail as supplied to SAFA by the team at the time of its annual registration with the League.

- 9.4 Officials who are not registered on the team renewal registration form shall not be allowed to represent a team at any hearing, or any activities of SAFA.
-