

Summer League Rules



BANGLADESH FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION (UK)

Charity Registration Number: 1110461

www.bfauk.com

BANGLADESH FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION UK

SUMMER LEAGUE RULES

1. CONSTITUTION

- (a) The name of the League shall be "Summer League", and referred to as the "League" henceforth.
- (b) The League shall consist of Clubs that are duly affiliated to the Bangladesh Football Association (BFA).
- (c) The League shall be governed by the BFA, in accordance with the Rules, Regulations and Bylaws of the Football Association.

2. BANGLADESH FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION (BFA)

- (a) Members of the BFA Management Committee will be referred to as Officers of the League and shall collectively take responsibility for all matters relating to the League.
- (b) The Officers shall serve for a period of not more than 2 years, upon when they may seek re-election.
- (c) The BFA shall have the power to devise and alter the rules of the League. The BFA shall meet as often as is necessary, but no less than 4 times a year, to deal with business as it arises.
- (d) The BFA shall have the power to decide or adjust the composition of the League. When necessary this rule shall take precedence over any other rule in the constitution.
- (e) The BFA shall have the power to recommend that a vacancy occurring in the League be filled by any Club of comparable proven ability who have applied in writing.
- (f) The BFA shall have the power to refuse admission to any Club applying for membership without divulging the reason.
- (g) The BFA have powers to apply, act upon and enforce the rules of the League and shall also have jurisdiction over the matters affecting the League, including any not provided for by the rules. It shall have specific authority to override all rules of the League in cases in which doing so would be of benefit to the Clubs. Such decisions to override the rules shall be announced before implementation.

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3. MEETINGS

- (a) A General Meeting (GM) of all Clubs shall be held at least twice during the duration of the League. The venue will be given prior to each meeting.
- (b) **Each Club must send 1 official representative**, who must hold one of the following positions: Chairperson, Secretary, Manager or Assistant Manager. Although other club members may attend they will not be permitted to vote.
- (c) All voting shall be conducted by a show of hands, unless a ballot is demanded by at least one third of the delegates present or the Chairperson decides. No club will be allowed to vote on any matter appertaining to the club "he represents".
- (d) **Any Club failing to be represented at a GM will be fined £50.** An attendance register will be available at all GMs and must be signed by the club delegate at the end of the meeting.
- (e) Additional or Extraordinary General Meetings (A/EGM) will be called by the BFA where necessary, with a minimum of 14 days notice. Alternatively, an A/EGM will be arranged on application to the General Secretary by not less than 60% of the membership of the League.

4. ENTRANCE FEE AND MEMBERSHIP

- (a) Application by new clubs for admission to the League must be made in writing to the General Secretary, on the prescribed form, not later than 31 December in each year. The BFA shall consider all applications, and have the power to refuse admission to any club from entry into the League.
- (b) **The entry and membership fee must be payable on or before 28th February in each year. The fees shall be notified before the deadline.**
- (c) **Each new Club shall pay on application to the League a deposit of £100**, which shall be returnable to clubs on withdrawing from the League, provided they have fulfilled their fixtures and complied with all orders of the BFA and the League. All Clubs shall pay a fines deposit of £100 before the League commences. Any monies owed to clubs after the deduction of fines will be refunded at the end of the League.
- (d) Clubs already in membership of the League must give notice in writing of their intention to continue in membership for the coming season or their intention to withdraw from the League. Such notice must reach the General Secretary not later than 28th February. Any Club failing to give notice as above shall forfeit the deposit and shall not be given any priority and treated with equal par with new Clubs. Notice will take the form of a properly completed application form together with the relevant fee.

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- (e) No Clubs shall be allowed to compete in any League fixture unless all fees that are due have been paid.
- (f) Each Club shall be provided with a copy of the League Rules.

5. CONTRACTS TO BE SIGNED - BY CLUBS

- (a) Each Club shall sign the following contract before the League commences: -

"I (name) _____ being Chairperson/Secretary/Manager of the _____ F. C. do hereby agree, for and on behalf of the said Club, to conform to the rules and regulations of the Summer League and to accept and abide by the decisions of the League (subject to the right of appeal). Furthermore, I confirm that the League shall not be held liable for any injuries sustained by any of my players (signature) - _____.

Any alteration to the Chairperson/Secretary/Manager on the above agreement form must be notified to the General Secretary.

- (b) Any club not submitting the completed form will be suspended from play until it does so.

6. CLUB COLOURS & NAME

- (a) Before the commencement of the League, each club must register its colour with the BFA who shall decide as to their suitability. Any changes to club colours must be notified in writing to the General Secretary at the time the change occurs.
- (b) Goalkeepers must wear colour/s, which distinguish them from the other players and the referee.
- (c) No player, including the goalkeeper, shall be permitted to wear black shirts or jerseys.
- (d) The away team shall contact the home team before their match in order to ensure that there is no clash of kits. For administrative purposes the away team is listed on the right hand column of the fixture list. If there is a clash of kit it is the responsibility of the away team to make alternative arrangements i.e. provide another kit or bibs, before the scheduled kick off time. Failure to make alternative arrangements will result in the match being forfeited by the away team, and the forfeit rule [9(i)] being applied.
- (e) Any club wishing to change its name whilst members of this League, must seek permission from the BFA. Each case will be treated on its own merits.
- (f) All Club strips must be numbered so as to differentiate players of the same Club. The numbers must be of a contrasting colour so as to aid easy identification.
- (g) **Any player not wearing the same kit (jersey, shorts, and socks) as the rest of his team shall be fined £10 for each item of kit.** The referees and BFA members have been instructed to monitor this carefully. **Tracksuit bottoms and cycling shorts will be permitted under the shorts.**

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7. REGISTRATION OF PLAYERS

- (a) All players must be bona-fide members of their Club and must register with the League by the completion of the Registration Form. The registration form must be accompanied by a passport size photo.
- (b) **The number of players registered per Club must not be less than 16 but not exceed 30.** Registration of players is only valid for the one season. At least 16 players must be registered at least two weeks before the League commences.
- (c) No player shall be eligible to play in any of the League's competitions unless so registered under his own name.
- (d) Player registration forms shall be obtained from the Player Registration Secretary.
- (e) Any Club wishing to register a player must submit the registration forms to the player registration secretary not later than the postal delivery on the Wednesday prior to the match for which the player is required. Proof of post will not be accepted as proof of delivery. The said player may only play once registration has been confirmed by the player registration secretary.
- (f) **Any Club playing an unregistered or otherwise ineligible player in a match will have the game awarded to their opponents, provided that the indiscretion is discovered within 14 days of the match. If the indiscretion is discovered after 14 days of the match the defaulting Club will have three points deducted but the opposition will not have the points awarded. In any case the defaulting Club will be fined a minimum of £300. Future disciplinary action may be taken.**
- (g) In the event of a dispute of the player's identity the club must produce a passport and a driving licence of the player concerned as requested by BFA.
- (h) All players must be 16 years of age at the date of registration. Any teams playing players under 16 years of age will be deemed to be playing an ineligible player and rule 7 (f) will be implemented.
- (i) **Deadline for registration of new players for the League and Cup is the 6th week of the League. No players will be registered after that date.**

8. TRANSFER OF PLAYERS

- (a) **No player registered with a League club shall be eligible to play for any other club in the League unless a transfer form has been completed.**
- (b) **Transfer shall not be deemed complete until the player has been registered at least two weeks for his team and until Secretaries of both clubs have received notification of the transfer.**

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- (c) Provided the player is free from all financial obligation to the club he is leaving, a transfer to any Club within the League may be affected subjected to the sanction of the League Registration Secretary.
- (d) A Club Secretary/Manager cannot refuse to forward to the League a player's request for transfer, and in any dispute between the Club and player on this point, the player shall be entitled to request a hearing before the BFA.
- (e) A transferred player shall be eligible to play for his new club in the next game provided the deadline criteria for registration of new players, as set in 7 (e) & (g), has been met.

9. MATCHES, CONDITIONS OF PLAY, TIME OF KICK-OFF

- (a) All matches shall be played according to the laws of the game as settled by the Football Association. All matches shall be played on grass pitches deemed suitable by the BFA.
- (b) All matches shall be arranged by the BFA, who shall notify Clubs of their fixtures at least one week before the League commences.
- (c) **The duration of each match shall be 60 minutes (30 minutes each way).**
- (d) Clubs must report to the venue at least 30 minutes before the scheduled kick-off time.
- (e) **Any club failing to start the game between 5 to 10 minutes of the scheduled kick off time will be fined £50. If they arrive between 10 and 15 minutes of the scheduled time, they shall be fined £100. A delayed start will mean that the first half will be shortened to take into account the time lost. However, any club failing to commence after 15 minutes of the scheduled time, the game shall be forfeited to the opposition.**
- (f) Unless by special permission of the General Secretary all matches must be played on dates originally fixed.
- (g) Notice of postponement of any matches, together with explanation, must be sent, at least FOURTEEN CLEAR DAYS, to the General Secretary. He will then consider the application and give his decision at least three days before the date of the match and will notify all parties concerned of such decision. No fixture will be cancelled as a result of arrangements for, or, attendance at weddings, engagements or holidays. Unless BFA gives permission, this also applies to clubs going on tour or playing in tournaments.
- (h) Each Club shall play its full strength side in all matches, or be liable to be dealt with as deemed appropriate by the BFA Disciplinary Board. **No game shall commence with less than eight players on either side. Clubs will be fined £10 for each player that they are unable to field at the start of play.**
- (i) **A club failing to keep its appointment shall be fined £300 and also forfeit the points to their opponents.** Additionally, the club will be deducted three points from their points tally, and maybe subject to further sanctions

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- (j) In the event of a match not being played, being abandoned or postponed owing to causes over which neither Club has control it shall be replayed in its entirety on a date and ground arranged by the General Secretary.
- (k) **Both Clubs must provide an official match ball each, which the referee must deem to be suitable. Clubs providing unsuitable match balls will be fined £20.**
- (l) The number of teams to be promoted and relegated from each division will be decided by the BFA and informed to the Clubs before the League commences.
- (m) Each club shall be allowed four substitutions.
- (n) Each club shall be allowed four non-Bangladeshi players on the pitch at any one time. A player is deemed to be Bangladeshi if one of his parents is of Bangladeshi origin.

10. CUP RULES

- (a) The Cup Competition shall be governed by the ordinary Rules of the League in addition to the Rules laid down here under:
- (b) Ties shall be drawn at a League meeting and played on dates fixed by the General Secretary.
- (c) No Club is allowed to CANCEL any cup matches. In such a case the tie will be awarded to their opposition.
- (d) Players must have completed a League registration form and be deemed a registered player prior to all rounds up to the last date before you can register a player.
- (e) Apart from the semi-final and final, no extra time shall be played in the event of a drawn match.
- (f) Standard rules of the Football Association shall apply in the event of a penalty shoot out.
- (g) Clubs in Cup Finals must submit details of their Club and reserves 14 days prior to the date of the final to the League Registration Secretary.

11. REFEREES

- (a) Qualified referees for all matches shall be appointed in a manner approved by the BFA.
- (b) In the event of non-appearance or non-appointment of a qualified referee or assistant referee (linesmen), the League shall appoint a replacement official, whom it deems suitable to officiate in that particular game. Clubs must be prepared and willing to provide its own assistant referees if asked by the League.

12. RESULTS & RESULTS CARD

- (a) The League will produce a weekly league table, which can be accessed by Clubs by logging into the official website.

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- (b) Each Club must complete an official League match card on the day of the match. Match cards are provided free by the BFA. The card when complete can either be left in the match card box or posted to the Results Secretary by Wednesday first post.
- (c) **Clubs whose cards arrive after Wednesday first post shall be fined £10. Clubs sending incomplete cards shall be fined £10. In the event of repeated contravention the BFA shall increase the fine by a minimum of £50.**
- (d) Clubs not submitting match cards will forfeit the game subject to the discretion of the BFA.

13. ABANDONED MATCHES & SUSPENDED CLUBS

- (a) In all cases, where the BFA are satisfied that a game has been abandoned owing to the conduct of one Club, or its clubs members, they shall be empowered to award the points for the game to the opponents or take what other action they deem necessary. The Club in default shall be fined a minimum of £300.
- (b) Where a game is abandoned owing to the conduct of both Clubs and/or their members, both Clubs shall be fined a minimum of £300. The BFA will also take other action it considers appropriate.
- (c) The BFA shall have the right to expel one or both Clubs from the League or Cup Competition, or order a replay as they deem fit.
- (d) When a match is abandoned as a result of an assault on a BFA match official, the BFA shall suspend the Club involved, pending a hearing by the BFA Disciplinary Board. In the event that a case of assault is proven against a Club, the BFA shall have the right to expel the offending Club from the League and Cup Competition. Whilst suspended, a Club will forfeit the points to the opposition.

14. FINES, SUSPENDED PLAYERS AND DISCIPLINARY ISSUES

- (a) **All fines will be administered by BFA. Yellow and red card fines will be deducted from the fines deposit paid before the League commenced. Once this balance is exhausted any additional yellow and red card fines must be paid within seven days of notification from the Fines Secretary. Failure to pay fine/s within required times will result in the fine/s being doubled and the club given another seven days to pay the fine. If payment is still not received the Club in question will be suspended and summoned to a LEC Disciplinary Board.**
- (b) If a player receives a Red card in any league or cup game, he will be banned from playing in the next game regardless of whether it is a league or cup game. Depending on the severity of the misconduct, further action may be taken, at the discretion of the BFA.
- (c) Any Club forfeiting more than one match in a season will be fined for lack of professionalism and may be expelled from the League.
- (d) If any Club has been in breach of League Rules consistently, the BFA shall have the power to expel the Club.

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- (e) Any Club failing to be represented at a BFA Disciplinary Board Meeting, at the time called, shall be fined £50.00
- (f) All Clubs shall be responsible for maintaining discipline amongst their players, officials and supporters at all times during the duration of Summer League. Any person/s deemed attached to a Club, by way of being a player, official or supporter, and found guilty of abusing or threatening behaviour towards match officials, BFA officials or opposition team members/supporters/officials will be dealt with appropriately by the BFA. No form of ill discipline will be tolerated.
- (g) **Any club that fails to pay their fines in full before the deadline set or resigns from the BFA or has their membership terminated, whilst still owing money to the BFA, shall forfeit all deposits paid. In addition, all players and officials registered with the club shall have their membership withdrawn for an indefinite period or until the due payments are made in full**

15. APPEALS

- (a) A Club, within 7 days of posting to them of written notification of any decision of the BFA Disciplinary Board, may appeal against such decision by lodging particulars in writing accompanied by a fee of £30. Such an appeal must be addressed to the league secretary for the adjudication of the BFA Appeal Board whose decision shall be final and binding on all concerned. In the event of the appeal being successful the fee shall be returned to the club in whole.
- (b) There is no right of appeal against yellow or red cards, except in the case of mistaken identity.

16. POINTS TO DECIDE CHAMPIONSHIP

- (a) The League shall be decided by points. The Clubs gaining the highest number of points at the completion of the League shall be adjudged the winners. Three points to be given for a win and one for a draw. In the event of two or more Clubs being equal in points for the first or second place at the close of the League, goal difference shall decide the position. In the event of two or more Clubs still being equal, the Club scoring most goals shall be awarded the Championship.
- (b) In the event of any Club not completing 80 per cent of its fixtures for the season, all points obtained by or against such defaulting Club shall be deleted from the League table. In the case of Clubs which have completed 80 per cent of their fixtures the outstanding games shall be awarded to the clubs not in default.

17. TROPHIES

- (a) The Divisional trophies, being the property of the League, are perpetual and cannot be won outright.
- (b) No Club shall receive or hold any League Trophies if they are in any way in debt to the League.
- (c) All trophies must be returned to BFA by 28th February each year.

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- (d) A Club may only retain League perpetual trophies for 9 months provided they are still members of the League. The Club must obtain insurance cover for any League Trophy held, to a sum of not less than £300 or pay a deposit in this sum

18. RULES BINDING ON CLUBS

- (a) Each Club shall be deemed to have given its assent to the foregoing Rules and to abide by the decision of the League.
- (b) All member clubs are expected to achieve the BFA charter standard or working towards achieving it before the League commences.
- (c) All member clubs are expected to support all BFA projects. Teams not deemed to be supportive of the BFA (UK), or its projects, will be dealt with, as per the discretion of the BFA.
- (d) Each club is required to send at least two representatives, unless advised otherwise, to the senior League cup final and annual awards ceremony. Failure to do so will result in a fine of £15 for each representative.
- (e) Any clubs merging or being taken over by another club or organisation must seek advice from BFA as this may affect the clubs membership. BFA will look at each case on its own individual merit. Clubs deemed not abiding by this clause will be dealt appropriately by the BFA.