

WOMEN'S NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION FUTSAL TOURNAMENT



COMPETITION RULES AND REGULATIONS

Futsal

1. Unless otherwise revised in these Regulations, the latest version of the Futsal Laws of the Game as promulgated by the Fédération Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) will be adopted for this Competition. In settling any dispute on the interpretation of the rules, the English text shall be used.
2. Cases of general nature shall be resolved according to the Constitution and By-Laws of the WNCAA.
3. The WNCAA Executive Council and/or the Tournament Commissioner shall resolve cases of technical nature according to the latest version of the FIFA Futsal Laws of the Game, these Regulations, relevant FIFA and/or AFC regulations, directives, guidelines and circulars, and applicable national and supra-national laws.

Section I: ENTRY, WITHDRAWAL, MATCH SCHEDULE, COMPETITION SYSTEM

1. ENTRY

- 1.1. Only member schools of the Women's National Collegiate Athletic Association (WNCAA) may participate in the Competition.
- 1.2. The member school must:
 - 1.2.1. Be in good standing;
 - 1.2.2. Not be serving a suspension
 - 1.2.3. Not be on a Leave of Absence.

2. WITHDRAWAL FROM THE COMPETITION

- 2.1. Any team that enters the Competition shall undertake to play all of its matches as set out in the Official Match Schedule.
- 2.2. In the case of a team withdrawing or being excluded from the Competition before it has commenced, the WNCAA Executive Council, in consultation with the Tournament Commissioner, shall be responsible for making any necessary decisions, including without limitation whether to:
 - 2.2.1. Replace the team;
 - 2.2.2. Change the Competition System (cf Article 4); and/or
 - 2.2.3. Change the Technical Rules (cf Section II).
- 2.3. A team that withdraws from the Competition after it has commenced shall have all its matches cancelled and considered null and void. For the avoidance of doubt, all points and goals in those matches shall not be taken into consideration when determining the final rankings.

- 2.4. Any team that either withdraws from the Competition before or after it has commenced may be subject to the payment of fines.
- 2.5. The WNCAA Executive Council may impose further sanctions at its discretion.
- 2.6. All decisions of the WNCAA Executive Council in this regard are final, binding, and not appealable.

3. OFFICIAL MATCH SCHEDULE

- 3.1. All matches shall be played in accordance with the Official Match Schedule as determined by the WNCAA Executive Council.
- 3.2. The WNCAA Executive Council retains final discretion to revise and/or amend the Official Match Schedule as necessary.

4. COMPETITION SYSTEM / TOURNAMENT FORMAT (JUNIORS / SENIORS DIVISIONS)

- 4.1. Group Stage (Eliminations)
 - 4.1.1. Teams may be divided into groups depending on the number of participating teams.
 - 4.1.2. Teams will play a Single Round Robin format.
 - 4.1.3. Matches in the Group Stage may end in a draw.
 - 4.1.4. Three (3) points will be awarded for a Win, one (1) point for a Draw and zero (0) points for a Loss
- 4.2. Knockout Stage (Semi-finals and Finals)
 - 4.2.1. Matches in the Knockout Stage must have a winner. If a match ends in a draw at the end of the regulation period, there shall be no extra periods. Instead, the match will immediately be decided by kicks from the penalty mark in accordance with the procedures as laid out in the latest FIFA Futsal Laws of the Game.
 - 4.2.2. Semi-finals
 - 4.2.2.1. The top four (4) teams based on the rankings in the Group Stage will qualify to the Semi-finals.
 - 4.2.2.2. The cross-over Semi-finals will be played as follows:
 - Semi-final #1: No. 1 team vs. No. 4 team
 - Semi-final #2: No. 2 team vs. No. 3 team
 - 4.2.3. Finals
 - 4.2.3.1. The losers of the Semi-finals matches will play for 3rd Place.
 - 4.2.3.2. The winners of the Semi-finals matches will play for the Championship.

5. RESOLUTION OF TIES

- 5.1. At the end of the Group Stage, the following order shall be adopted to determine the ranking for the Knockout Stage and in the resolution of all ties:
 - 5.1.1. Higher number of points obtained in the Group Stage;
 - 5.1.2. If two (2) or more teams are equal on points, the following criteria are applied to determine the ranking (in descending order):
 - Head-to-Head Criteria

- 5.1.2.1. Higher number of points obtained in the Group Stage between the teams in question;
- 5.1.2.2. Superior goal-difference from the Group Stage between the teams in question;
- 5.1.2.3. Higher number of goals scored in the Group Stage between the teams in question;

Tiebreaker

- 5.1.2.4. If, after having applied the Head-to-Head Criteria, only two (2) teams still have an equal ranking, the Head-to-Head Criteria shall be reapplied exclusively to the matches between the teams in question to determine their final rankings. If this is unsuccessful, the team that scored first in their first head-to-head match shall garner the higher rank.
- 5.1.2.5. If, after having applied the Head-to-Head Criteria, three (3) or more teams still have an equal ranking, the Head-to-Head Criteria shall be reapplied exclusively to the matches among the teams in question to determine their final rankings. If this is unsuccessful, the Group Results Criteria shall apply;

Group Results Criteria

- 5.1.2.6. Superior goal-difference from all Group Stage matches played;
- 5.1.2.7. Higher number of goals scored from all Group Stage matches played;
- 5.1.2.8. Kicks from the penalty mark only if the two (2) teams are involved and they are both on the field of play;
- 5.1.2.9. The lower score, calculated according to the number of yellow and red cards received in Group Stage matches (Appendix "A"); or
- 5.1.2.10. Drawing of lots.

Section II: TECHNICAL RULES

6. MATCHES PLAYED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE FUTSAL LAWS OF THE GAME

- 6.1. All matches shall be played in accordance with the latest FIFA Futsal Laws of the Game unless otherwise revised in these Regulations.
- 6.2. The ten (10) substitutes listed on a *Player Start List* may take part in the relevant match. There is no limit on the number of substitutions.
- 6.3. If a team at any stage of a match is only able to field fewer than three (3) players, the match shall be abandoned and Article 9.5 shall apply.
- 6.4. Should it be necessary to award a match to a team, the team shall receive three (3) points with a score of 5-0 or possibly more if the score at the time of stoppage shows a greater number of goals for the team declared the winner.

7. DURATION OF MATCHES

- 7.1. Normal Playing Time (Regulation)
 - 7.1.1. Each match shall last forty (40) minutes, comprising of two (2) periods of twenty (20) minutes each.

- 7.1.1.1. The first nineteen (19) minutes of each half will be running time.
- 7.1.1.2. The last minute of each half (19th minute and 39th minute) will be stop-time.

- 7.1.2. There shall be an interval of five (5) minutes between the periods, commencing from the whistle ending the first period and ending upon the whistle starting the second period.
- 7.1.3. The WNCAA Executive Council, upon the recommendation of the Tournament Commissioner, may sanction a team that causes a delay in the commencement of the first period of the match and/or the second period of the match.
- 7.1.4. Each team may call for one (1) time-out per half, consisting of one (1) minute.
 - 7.1.4.1. Team Officials are authorized to request the Third Referee and/or the Timekeeper (if there is no Third Referee) for a one (1) minute time-out using the Time Out card provided.
 - 7.1.4.2. The Timekeeper grants the time-out when the team that has requested it is in possession of the ball and the ball is out of play, using a different whistle or acoustic signal than that used by the Referees.

7.2. Extra Time

- 7.2.1. There shall be no extra time in either the Group Stage or the Knockout Stages.
- 7.2.2. In the event a match is drawn at the end of normal playing time in the Knockout Stage, the winner shall be determined by progressing straight to kicks from the penalty mark.

7.3. Determining the Winner by Kicks from the Penalty Mark

- 7.3.1. If a match is level at the end of normal playing time in the Knockout Stage, kicks from the penalty mark shall be taken to determine the winner, in accordance with the procedures described in the FIFA Futsal Laws of the Game.
- 7.3.2. The Referee shall decide which goal shall be used:
 - 7.3.2.1. He may choose the goal without tossing a coin for reasons, without limitation, including safety and security, state of the field of play, and lighting quality; and
 - 7.3.2.2. His decision is final, binding, and not appealable.
- 7.3.3. To ensure that this procedure is strictly observed, the Referee shall be assisted by the Second and Third Referees and the Timekeeper, who shall also note down the number of the players on each team who take kicks from the penalty mark.
- 7.3.4. If kicks from the penalty mark cannot be completed because of any force majeure reasons, the result shall be decided by the drawing of lots by the Referee in the presence of the Tournament Commissioner and the two (2) captains of the teams.
- 7.3.5. If, through the fault of a team, kicks from the penalty mark cannot be completed, Article 6.4 of these Regulations shall apply.

8. CANCELLATION OF MATCHES

- 8.1. If a match cannot commence for any reason, the following procedure shall be followed:

- 8.2. The match must be delayed for a minimum of thirty (30) minutes. During this delay, the Referee shall decide that the match can commence prior to the completion of the delay;
 - 8.2.1. Following the first delay, either:
 - 8.2.1.1. An additional delay of thirty (30) minutes shall occur if in the discretion of the Referee this second delay may allow the match to commence; or
 - 8.2.1.2. The match is declared cancelled by the Referee;
 - 8.2.2. Following two (2) delays of thirty (30) minutes, the Referee must declare whether the match can commence or the match shall be cancelled.
- 8.3. For any match that is cancelled because of force majeure, the Tournament Commissioner shall decide on the matter at his sole discretion and take whatever action is deemed necessary.
- 8.4. Any match which is cancelled, except in cases of force majeure as defined in these Regulations or otherwise recognized by the WNCAA Executive Council, may lead to the imposition of sanctions by the WNCAA Executive Council against the relevant party that has caused the cancellation in accordance with the recommendations of the Tournament Commissioner.
- 8.5. Matches in the Junior Division are automatically canceled during Typhoon Signal #2 while matches in the Senior Division are automatically canceled during Typhoon Signal #3. In both instances, matches shall be rescheduled to a later date.

9. ABANDONMENT OF MATCHES

- 9.1. If a match is stopped by the Referee for any reasons except for incidents of force majeure, the following procedure shall be followed:
 - 9.1.1. The match is stopped for thirty (30) minutes. During this stoppage, the Referee may decide that the match can commence prior to the completion of the stoppage;
 - 9.1.2. Subsequent to the first stoppage, either:
 - 9.1.2.1. An additional stoppage of thirty (30) minutes shall occur if in the discretion of the Referee this second stoppage may allow the match to be resumed; or
 - 9.1.2.2. The match is declared abandoned by the Referee;
 - 9.1.3. Following two (2) delays of thirty (30) minutes, the Referee must declare whether the match can commence or the match shall be cancelled.
- 9.2. For any match which is abandoned as a result of force majeure, the Tournament Commissioner shall decide on the matter at his sole discretion and take whatever action is deemed necessary.
- 9.3. Any match which is abandoned, except in cases of force majeure as defined in these Regulations or otherwise recognized by the WNCAA Executive Council, may lead to the imposition of sanctions by the WNCAA Executive Council against the relevant party that has caused the abandonment in accordance with the recommendations of the Tournament Commissioner.
- 9.4. Should the Tournament Commissioner determine that an abandoned match should be rescheduled and completed, the following principles shall apply:

- 9.4.1. The match shall recommence with the same score at the minute and seconds at which play was interrupted rather than being replayed in full;
 - 9.4.2. The match shall recommence with the same players on the field of play at the time it was initially abandoned;
 - 9.4.3. No additional substitutes may be added to the *Player Start List*;
 - 9.4.4. Any player sent off during the abandoned match may not be replaced;
 - 9.4.5. Any sanction imposed before the match was abandoned remains valid for the remainder of the rescheduled match; and
 - 9.4.6. The Tournament Commissioner in his sole discretion shall decide on any other matters not set out above.
- 9.5. If the Referee stops a match before the end of normal playing time because of a team being able to only field fewer than three (3) players, the match shall be declared abandoned. The team who is able to field more than three (3) players shall be declared the winner by the score 5-0, or the score at the time of abandonment, whichever is higher.

10. OFFICIAL MATCH VENUE

- 10.1. The venue to be utilized shall be nominated and determined by the WNCAA Executive Council.
- 10.2. The venue nominated to host the matches shall be in accordance with all safety and security standards issued by or contained within relevant FIFA and AFC guidelines, directives, or circulars.
- 10.3. If at any time during the Competition the Tournament Commissioner deems that, for whatever reason, a venue is not fit to stage a match, it shall consult with the WNCAA Executive Council and propose an alternate venue.
- 10.4. Smoking is strictly prohibited within any match venue, and in particular, in the technical area, the vicinity of the field of play, or within Competition areas which includes, without limitation, the team dressing rooms.

11. TEAM BENCH AND TECHNICAL AREA

- 11.1. A maximum of four (4) team officials and a maximum of ten (10) players are permitted to sit on the team bench during a match, provided they are in possession of the appropriate WNCAA Eligibility Card.
- 11.2. All individuals on the team bench must wear kit that contrasts with the kit of the players and Match Officials on the field of play. This kit must comply with the requirements as stipulated in these Regulations.
- 11.3. Team 'A' shall occupy the team bench on the left when facing the field of play when viewed from the position of the Match Official's table.
- 11.4. The use of any electronic communication equipment and/or systems between and/or amongst players and team officials is not permitted.
- 11.5. Individuals serving a match suspension, non-selected players, and team officials part of the *Official Team Gallery* but not listed in *Officials on the Team Bench* form are not permitted to enter the field of play and/or sit on the team bench. They may sit at the designated spectators' area.

12. WARMING UP

- 12.1. Each team shall be entitled to warm-up on the field of play before a match for a maximum of ten (10) minutes. However, the Tournament Commissioner may reduce the allotted time subject to his discretion.
- 12.2. During a match, a maximum of five (5) players from each team may warm-up, but without the ball, at the designated area behind their team bench, or alternatively in a space determined by the Tournament Commissioner.

13. TEAM UNIFORM

- 13.1. Players must wear the following compulsory equipment comprised of the following separate items:
 - Jersey / shirt with sleeves
 - Shorts (or tracksuit pants for goalkeepers)
 - Socks
 - Shin guards (made of a suitable material to provide reasonable protection and covered by the socks)
 - Futsal shoes (or rubber shoes)
- 13.2. There will be a maximum of five (5) logos / patches on the jersey, which include the Women's National Collegiate Athletic Association (WNCAA) logo (upper front portion), school logo and the apparel logo. Sponsorship logos / patches will only be displayed on the jersey.
- 13.3. Each team will have two (2) sets of uniforms – light and dark – with contrasting colors of jersey and shorts, both for the field players and the goalkeepers. The teams on the left column of the playing schedule will wear their light uniform (and stay on the left side of the Match Officials' table) while teams on the right column will be wear their dark uniform (and stay on the right side of the Match Officials' table). In any case, teams must always bring both sets of uniforms to each game.
- 13.4. In compliance with the WNCAA General Rules and Regulations governing all events, the surname of the athletes will be indicated at the back of the jersey with the height of the lettering being at least two (2) inches.
- 13.5. Only jersey numbers from "1" to "24" shall be allowed for the Competition.
- 13.6. Players will wear the same jersey number for the duration of the Competition. The jersey number must appear at the front and back of the jersey and on the shorts.
- 13.7. No two players in the same team can have the same number.
- 13.8. Under no circumstances shall players be allowed to play in playing equipment with numbers, names or logos not properly sewn or printed.
- 13.9. Undershorts (i.e., cycling shorts, compression shorts, compression pants, etc.) must be the same color (or shade) as the main color of the shorts or its piping / hemline. All players wearing undershorts must wear the same color undershorts.
- 13.10. Undershirts (i.e., compression sleeves, etc.) must be of the same color (or shade) as the main color of the sleeves.
- 13.11. Taping of the socks is allowed if the tape or any material applied or worn externally is the same color as that part of the socks it is applied to or covers.
- 13.12. Goalkeepers who are converted to a field player during a match must wear a field player's jersey with the same number and surname as his goalkeeper's jersey. The goalkeeper need not change his goalkeeper's shorts in such instances.

- 13.13. Teams shall be responsible for providing their own vests / bibs should there be a need to use such in the event of uniform conflicts.
- 13.14. The coaching staff should wear jog pants or coaching shorts (tokong), rubber shoes and collared shirts. (T-shirts are allowed provided that they clearly identify the team and are not the branded t-shirts.) The coaches' outfit should contrast with the playing colors of both teams. Athletic shorts, sandals, slippers, and sleeveless shirts are not allowed.

14. OFFICIAL MATCH BALLS

- 14.1. The WNCAA Executive Council shall select and supply the Official Match Balls for the Competition.
- 14.2. Either team may not use the Official Match Balls for their warm-up. Teams must be responsible for bringing their own balls to the Competition.

Section III: OFFICIAL TEAM DELEGATION

15. TEAM COMPOSITION

- 15.1. Each team may register a maximum of fifteen (15) players and five (5) team officials, subject to compliance with the WNCAA Eligibility Regulations.

16. ELIGIBILITY

- 16.1. Only players and team officials appearing in the *Official Team Gallery*, as approved by the WNCAA Eligibility Committee, shall be allowed to participate in the Competition.

17. SIZE OF DELEGATION AT MATCHES

- 17.1. All players and team officials shall be allowed to stay at the team bench and/or play in a match subject to the guidelines as laid out in these Regulations.
- 17.1.1. A maximum of ten (10) players nominated as substitutes and in complete uniform
- 17.1.2. A maximum of four (4) team officials
- 17.2. In the absence of all team officials appearing in the *Official Team Gallery*, an authorization letter from the School Representative stating the name of the substitute must be presented to the Tournament Commissioner prior to the game.
- 17.3. No team will be allowed to play without the presence of an authorized team official.

18. PLAYER START LIST AND TEAM OFFICIALS ON THE TEAM BENCH FORM

- 18.1. On match day, the team must register an Official Team Delegation comprising of a maximum of fifteen (15) players and maximum of four (4) team officials by submitting the following to the Tournament Commissioner no less than thirty (30) minutes prior to the scheduled kickoff:
- 18.1.1. A *Player Start List* signed by the Head Coach indicating:
- 18.1.1.1. The five (5) players who will start the match;
- 18.1.1.2. A maximum of ten (10) substitutes;
- 18.1.1.3. The Team Captain; and
- 18.1.1.4. The starting goalkeeper.
- 18.1.2. An *Officials on the Team Bench* form signed by the Head Coach.

- 18.2. If the *Player Start List* is not completed or submitted to the Tournament Commissioner on time, the team may be subjected to sanctions.
- 18.3. The Tournament Commissioner will inspect both teams before kick-off and ask to see the playing uniform and official WNCAA Eligibility Cards of the players whose names appear in the *Player Start List*. Only those players who are physically present during the inspection and in possession of their respective playing uniform and an official WNCAA Eligibility Card are entitled to play in the match.
- 18.4. The Tournament Commissioner signs the *Player Start List* after the inspection to make it an official document
- 18.5. After the *Player Start List* has been completed and signed, and if the match has not yet kicked off, the following instructions apply:
 - 18.5.1. If any of the five (5) players listed on the *Player Start List* selected to start the match are not able to start the match for any reason, they may be replaced by any of the substitutes.
 - 18.5.2. A starting player so replaced may not be converted to a substitute and will be deemed ineligible to play for the match.
- 18.6. Teams must provide a duly completed *Officials on the Team Bench* form together with the *Player Start List* to the Tournament Commissioner no less than thirty (30) minutes prior to the scheduled kickoff. Team officials so listed in the form must likewise be in possession of an official WNCAA Eligibility Card to be allowed to stay in the team bench.
- 18.7. Any changes to the starting five (5), after the *Player Start List* has been signed by the Tournament Commissioner, must be brought to the immediate attention of the Referee and opposing team and must be approved by the Tournament Commissioner prior to any changes being made.
- 18.8. The Tournament Commissioner will not approve any changes being made to the *Player Start List* after the match has commenced.
- 18.9. Only registered players whose names appear on the *Player Start List* supplied to the Tournament Commissioner prior to kickoff are eligible to take the field in any match.
- 18.10. Any team who fields an ineligible player will be subject to loss of points and a fine, to be determined by the WNCAA Executive Council. In the case of loss of points, the opposing team will be awarded the full points and be deemed to have won the match by a score of five (5) goals to nil (0), or the actual goal difference, whichever is greater.
- 18.11. Teams shall ensure that no unauthorized persons are permitted entry into the team dressing room (if available), field of play, or any controlled access area requiring an official WNCAA Eligibility Card.

Section IV: MEDIA MATTERS

19. MEDIA ACCESS AT THE OFFICIAL VENUE

- 19.1. Representatives of the written press and radio journalists are not permitted on the field of play or the area between the boundaries of the field of play and the spectators, with the exception of accredited Media who shall carry out their duties in the specific locations assigned to them.

- 19.2. Only photographers and the personnel required to operate the live streaming equipment are allowed in the area between the boundaries of the field of play and the spectators, where they will carry out their work in the specific locations assigned to them.
- 19.3. No Media representatives are permitted to enter any team dressing room at any stage of any match.
- 19.4. No unofficial or unauthorized broadcaster and/or video or ENG camera crews are permitted access to the official match venue without the prior written permission of the WNCAA.
- 19.5. All photographers must adhere to the Photographer Regulations (Appendix “B”).
- 19.6. The Tournament Commissioner has the authority to order the removal of any member of the media from the venue if so warranted.

Section V: MEDICAL MATTERS

20. FACILITIES AND PERSONNEL

- 20.1. Teams should be aware of the possible risks that are inherent in the sport. These risks include, but are not limited to, the potential for accidents during the course of play. Every attempt shall be made to minimize the potential risks through proper sports equipment, safe facilities and sound safety practices. However, teams should realize that these risks couldn't be eliminated entirely.
- 20.2. WNCAA shall ensure that at least one (1) trained medical officer with a basic first aid kit is on duty at least one (1) hour before the start of the match.
- 20.3. Said medical officer shall only provide initial assessment and treatment of any injury sustained during any match.
- 20.4. Should it be necessary, teams shall be responsible for the transport of their injured player to the nearest medical facility including, but not limited to, all costs related thereto.
- 20.5. Each team shall indemnify, defend, and hold the WNCAA and all of its officers, directors, employees, representatives, agents, and all other auxiliary persons free and harmless against any and all liabilities, obligations, losses, damages, penalties, claims, actions, fines, and expenses (including reasonable legal expenses) of whatsoever kind or nature in connection with the Competition.
- 20.6. Each team also understands that the WNCAA does not carry any medical or accident insurance that can benefit the team should any player from its team be injured during the course of the Competition.

21. CONCERNS DURING THE COURSE OF PLAY

- 21.1. Liquid Intake
 - 21.1.1. Liquid may be drunk during play and stoppages in play.
 - 21.1.2. Drinks must be contained in plastic bottles and handed to the players at the touchline.
- 21.2. Medical Treatment of Players on the Field of Play
 - 21.2.1. Only the goalkeeper can be treated inside the field.
 - 21.2.2. If a player requires medical treatment on the field of play during a match, at a signal from the Referee, the medical officer shall leave the technical area and attend to the injured player.

- 21.2.3. Non-medical support personnel cannot enter the field of play during stoppages due to injuries.
- 21.2.4. No treatment of field players will be allowed on the field of play except under the following circumstances:
 - 21.2.4.1. When a player is fouled and requires medical treatment and a caution is issued to the offending party. (The fouled player need not exit the field of play.)
 - 21.2.4.2. Head injury;
 - 21.2.4.3. Other cases of serious injuries;
- 21.2.5. In instances of non-contact collapse, the medical officer may enter the field of play even without the express consent of the Referee.

Section VI: DISCIPLINARY MATTERS

22. DISCIPLINARY MEASURES

- 22.1. All disciplinary measures in relation to the Competition shall be undertaken in accordance with the current PFF Statutes, PFF Disciplinary Code, and any relevant circular.
- 22.2. Any changes or updates made to the PFF Disciplinary Code shall automatically be incorporated into these Regulations unless and until the PFF issues a written circular stating specifically that any such amendment shall not be incorporated and also stating the period for which such non-incorporation shall apply.
- 22.3. All players and team official agree to:
 - 22.3.1. Respect the spirit of Fair Play, non-violence, and the authority of the Match Officials; and
 - 22.3.2. Behave accordingly.

23. GOOD CONDUCT

- 23.1. Each team is liable for the improper conduct of:
 - 23.1.1. Any member of its Team Official Delegation; and/or
 - 23.1.2. Any person affiliated to it and/or carrying out duties on its behalf.
- 23.2. A team official or any Official Team Delegation that deliberately allows their team to lose as reported by the Match Officials and/or the Tournament Commissioner may be fined and/or suspended or banned from the Competition by the WNCAA Executive Council.
- 23.3. For any violation of Article 23.1, the WNCAA Executive Council may issue any sanction listed in the PFF Disciplinary Code.

24. ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE

- 24.1. The Tournament Commissioner shall inform each team in writing of any caution or expulsion issued to a player or team official from their respective teams.
- 24.2. Each team shall bear the responsibility of monitoring the cautions and/or suspensions of their respective players and/or team officials, whether or not a written confirmation has been received from the Tournament Commissioner, and ensure that all players and team officials registered for a match and/or fielded during a match are eligible to play.

25. CAUTIONS AND EXPULSIONS

- 25.1. All matters relating to cautions and/or expulsions, including the carrying forward of cautions between stages of the Competition, shall be undertaken in accordance with the FIFA Futsal Laws of the Game and the PFF Disciplinary Code except where expressly set out below.
- 25.2. A player who receives two (2) cumulative cautions (yellow card) in separate matches shall automatically be suspended for the match following the match in which she received the second caution.
 - 25.2.1. If a player received one (1) caution during the Group Stage but before their last Group Stage match, her slate is wiped clean before the start of the Knockout Stages.
 - 25.2.2. If a player without any previous caution receives one (1) caution during their last Group Stage match, the caution is carried forward to the Knockout Stages.
 - 25.2.3. If the player receives the second caution during the last match in the Group Stage, the suspension will be carried forward to her team's next scheduled match.
- 25.3. A player who receives two (2) cautions (yellow cards) in the same match shall automatically be ejected from the match and suspended for one (1) match following the match in which she received the expulsion (indirect red card).
- 25.4. A player who receives an expulsion (direct red card) during a match shall automatically be ejected from the match and suspended for a minimum of one (1) match following the match in which she received the expulsion (direct red card). An automatic review shall be conducted by the Tournament Commissioner to determine the gravity of the offense and to extend the duration of the match suspension or impose additional sanctions as he deems fit.
- 25.5. A team official who is ejected from the field of play during a match shall automatically be suspended for a minimum of one (1) match following the match in which he received the ejection. An automatic review shall be conducted by the Tournament Commissioner to determine the gravity of the offense and to extend the duration of the match suspension or impose additional sanctions as he deems fit.
- 25.6. A player or team official ejected from the match has two (2) minutes to leave the technical area and immediately proceed to the locker room or spectator area. Otherwise, the match will not be restarted until the player or team official leaves the technical area. Furthermore, additional sanctions may be imposed on the player or team official.

26. PROTEST

- 26.1. 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 or the PFF Disciplinary Code.
- 26.2. Unless otherwise stipulated, to be considered valid, protests shall be:
 - 26.2.1. Submitted in writing to the Tournament Commissioner within two (2) hours of the end of the match in question;
 - 26.2.2. Followed up with a full written report, including a copy of the original protest, sent to the WNCAA Executive Council through the Executive Director within forty-eight (48) hours of the end of the match; and
 - 26.2.3. Accompanied by a non-refundable fee of Php5,000/- submitted within twenty-four (24) hours of the end of the match.

- 26.3. No protest shall be lodged relating to the Referee's decisions regarding facts connected with play. Such decisions are final and binding and not appealable, unless expressly otherwise stipulated in the PFF Disciplinary Code.
- 26.4. Should the WNCAA Executive Council determine that a protest is unfounded or irresponsible, it may impose a fine against the protesting party.
- 26.5. If any of the formal conditions of a protest as set out in these Regulations are not met, such protest shall be disregarded. Following the completion of the final match of the Competition, all protests shall be disregarded.
- 26.6. The WNCAA Executive Council shall make decisions on protests. The WNCAA Executive Council may transfer a protest to the Tournament Commissioner for his decision if it is deemed purely operational in nature.

Section VII: ADMINISTRATION

27. AWARDS

- 27.1. The following awards of the Competition shall be presented for each Division:
 - 27.1.1. Team Awards
 - 27.1.1.1. Champion;
 - 27.1.1.2. 1st Runner-up; and
 - 27.1.1.3. 2nd Runner-up;
 - 27.1.2. Individual Awards
 - 27.1.2.1. Futsal Five; and
 - 27.1.2.2. Most Valuable Player
- 27.2. The Futsal Five of Competition is awarded to the best five (5) players from the Competition as determined by the Tournament Commissioner.
- 27.3. The Most Valuable Player of the Competition is awarded to the player who had a major influence on each of her matches and the Competition overall.
- 27.4. A team may be disqualified if it or any of its Official Team Delegation at any match is involved in severe misconduct throughout the Competition.
- 27.5. The WNCAA may decide to introduce further awards.

28. PRIZE PRESENTATION CEREMONY

- 28.1. A prize presentation ceremony shall be held immediately after the championship match of each Division to present the awards, trophies and medals.
- 28.2. The teams and players that qualify to receive the awards, trophies, and medals shall attend the relevant prize presentation ceremony.

29. SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

- 29.1. The WNCAA Executive Council or the Tournament Commissioner may issue any instructions necessitated by special circumstances that might arise in the organization of the matches.
- 29.2. These instructions shall form an integral part of these Regulations.

30. DECISIONS

30.1. Except where expressly identified otherwise, all decisions made in accordance with these Regulations are final, binding and not appealable.

31. AMENDMENTS

31.1. The WNCAA reserves the right to make amendments to any part of these Regulations for any reason whatsoever. Such amendments shall be duly communicated in due course.

32. FORCE MAJEURE

32.1. A Force Majeure event is any event affecting the performance or any provision of these Regulations arising from or attributable to acts, events, omissions or accidents, which are beyond the reasonable control of a party. These shall include, but are not be limited to, 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, riot, crowd disorder, strike, lockouts or other industrial action, or civil commotion.

32.2. The WNCAA Executive Council is the only body capable of declaring a Force Majeure event.

32.3. The WNCAA Executive Council may consult with the Tournament Commissioner with regard to this Article.

33. MATTERS NOT PROVIDED FOR

33.1. The WNCAA Executive Council in consultation with the Tournament Commissioner shall decide on matters not provided for in these Regulations. Such decisions are final, binding, and not appealable.

34. CLOSING PROVISIONS

34.1. The Tournament Commissioner is entrusted with the operational management of the Competition and is therefore entitled to make decisions and adopt the detailed provisions necessary for implementing these Regulations.

Submitted by:



RICHARD T. GANNABAN

Tournament Commissioner – Futsal
WNCAA Season 50

APPENDIX “A”: Determining the Ranking of a Team Using the Fair Play Criteria

1. This Appendix sets out the calculation provided for in Article 5.1.2.9 of these Regulations.
2. Each team shall be awarded points for receiving red and yellow cards as indicated below:
 - 2.1. Per yellow card: one (1) point;
 - 2.2. Per red card (as a consequence of two yellow cards): three (3) points;
 - 2.3. Per red card (direct): three (3) points; and
 - 2.4. Per yellow card followed by a red card (direct): four (4) points.
3. The team receiving the least number of points shall be ranked highest.
4. The remaining teams shall be ranked in descending order.

APPENDIX “B”: Photographer Regulations

1. All photographers requiring access to the Competition must be in possession of a valid Media identification card issued by the WNCAA, the school or legitimate media organization.
2. All photographers requiring pitch-side access must wear their Media IDs at all times.
3. The *Player Start List* for the match will be made available fifteen (15) minutes before kick-off.
4. Access on to the field of play is not permitted at any time, including before and after the Match unless expressly approved by the Tournament Commissioner.
5. Before the start of each match, photographers may shoot the line-ups of the teams from the touchline, but photographers must not enter the field of play.
6. Once the match starts, photographers must stay at least three (3) meters away from the goal lines but not directly behind the goal and will not be allowed to change sides until half-time or the end of normal playing time.
7. Photographers may not shoot from the spectator area.
8. Camera flash is not permitted at any time.
9. Persistent violation of these Regulations may cause the removal of the photographer from the venue.