

EFA WOMEN FOOTBALL NATIONAL LEAGUE



RULES & REGULATIONS 2022/2023

Compiled and Presented by
THE WOMEN FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION



ESWATINI FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

Table of Contents

PREAMBLE.....	3
ARTICLE 1: DEFINITIONS.....	4
ARTICLE 2: AFFILIATION, REGISTRATION AND TRANSFER OF PLAYERS.....	6
ARTICLE 3: PARTICIPATION IN THE COMPETITION	7
ARTICLE 4: STARTING TIMES OF MATCHES.....	8
ARTICLE 5: MATCH OFFICIALS AND PLAY	9
ARTICLE 6: SERIOUS PLAYERS/ CLUBS MISCONDUCT	10
ARTICLE 7: OTHER UNSPORTING BEHAVOIR.....	10
ARTICLE 8: PROTEST, DISCIPLINARY CASES, APPEALS AND FEES	12
ARTICLE 10: PROMOTION AND RELEGATION.....	13
ARTICLE 11: PRIZES AND AWARDS.....	13
ARTICLE 12: PRESS STATEMENT AND REPORTS.....	13
ARTICLE 13: GENERAL.....	13
ARTICLE 14: MISCELLANEOUS.....	14
ARTICLE 15: MATTERS NOT PROVIDED FOR.....	15
ARTICLE 16: ADOPTION	15

PREAMBLE

In conformity with the requirements of the management of competitions within its realms as per the statutes and its regulatory frameworks, the Executive Committee has drawn these exceptional rules and regulations for the administration and management of the Women Football National League competition for the 2022/2023 football season.

The Women Football National League competition shall be managed and administered by the Women Football Association through its Competitions Committee. The Competitions Committee being a standing committee of the Women Football Association Executive Committee is entrusted with the implementation of the rules and regulations governing the competition and the organization of the competition.

The document lays out the Rules and Regulations for the administration and management of the Women Football National League (hereafter referred to as the Rules).

All Women Football Clubs/Teams participating in the Women Football National League (WFNL) competition shall undertake to observe and be bound by these Rules. The WFNL competition shall be competed for by the teams in the Women Football National League division, being the supreme league of the Women Football Association.

ARTICLE 1: DEFINITIONS

The following terms denote the following as may be consistently used in the document:

- 1) **FIFA:** Federation Internationale de Football Association
- 2) **CAF:** Confederation of African Football
- 3) **EFA:** Eswatini Football Association
- 4) **IFAB:** International Football Association Board
- 5) **DC:** The Protest and Disciplinary Committee.
- 6) **WFA:** Women Football Association
- 7) **WFEC:** Women Football Executive Committee
- 8) **WFNL:** Women Football National League
- 9) **WFCC:** Women Football Competition Committee
- 10) **Official:**
 - a) Any member of the Match Coordinators of the Women Football League OR
 - b) Any person designated by the Women Football Executive Committee (WFEC) to act in its capacity for match supervision e.g. a match commissioner, match coordinator, stadium representative, etc.
OR
 - c) Any member of the WFEC, the Women Football Association (WFA) Office and its Standing and/or Adhoc committees.
 - d) Any official appointed on duty for the game including Ball retrievers, Medical, Security and any other personnel etc.
 - e) Any member of the Match Coordinators of the Women Football League OR
- 11) **A Match Commissioner / Match Official:** The person appointed to have sole authority for ensuring that a match is officiated according to the rules laid down in the document and is responsible for preparing a report of the match and to forward same to the relevant authorities in terms of these rules.
- 12) **Defaulter:**
 - (a) A player who is not eligible to play in a particular game for any reason such as:
 - (b) suspension, expulsion, improper registration
 - (c) registered with more than one football club (double registration)
 - (d) unregistered
 - (e) Declared ineligible in accordance with the regulations in force, etc.
 - (f) Any player as defined, shall be considered a defaulter if her name appears on the team list presented to the match officials at checking point for that particular game.
- 13) **Free agent:** A player who is registering for the first time; or who has not been registered in the past 30 months; or who is deregistered, or whose football club/team has been expelled or is defunct.
- 14) **Player:** any football player licensed by an association.
- 15) **International player:** A player who is transferring from another association in the membership of FIFA into the territory of the EFA. International players shall be allowed to register with a WFNL club upon production of a valid Clearance, a valid International Transfer Certificate (ITC), a valid contract (where applicable) with the football club he intends to join, duly signed a registration form, Medical Certificate and a passport size photo. However, the player can only play on production of a valid work permit. In the case of students, a study permit shall be required instead of a work permit.

16) Unsporting Behavior and Misconduct:

- (a) An improper registration of player(s), double registration and fielding of a defaulter; OR
- (b) Invading the field of play, throwing of any object(s) into the field of play or its surrounding or unto persons thus assaulting or attempting to assault, use of threatening words, and physical manhandling with intent to assault or to cause bodily harm; OR
- (c) Uttering abusive or obscene or derogatory words, spitting or emission of saliva onto a person or directed towards a person, use of prerogative or insulting hand gestures/signals, and includes and incitement, conspiracy or attempt to engage in an act to bring football into disrepute; OR
- (d) Failure by football club(s) to control their official(s) or player(s) or supporter(s) or fans; OR
- (e) Disregard of the Statutes of the WFA and rules governing the competition. It also includes disobedience of instruction by; the WFA official; Match Commissioner or Referee and Match coordinator.

17) **“Head-to-head Rule”**: It is a rule of breaking ties in association football, when at least two (2) teams in a league competition or qualifying group or championship are level on points, where in order to separate them, the match or matches in which they played are considered. The team that has won the head-to-head encounter (match between the two tying teams) is placed higher than the other team. Where the competition is played on a home-and-away basis such as the league, the head-to-head rule, has an inherent rule the away-goal rule.

18) **“Away-Goal-Rule”**: It is a rule for breaking ties in association football, where the team that has scored more goals “away from home” wins, if the total number of goals scored by each team are otherwise equal. The away-goal-rule is also utilized in the determination of the log standings under the head-to-head rule at any point of the procession of the league matches, irrespective of whether the league has finished or not or the teams tying on points have played a single match or more.

ARTICLE 2: AFFILIATION, REGISTRATION AND TRANSFER OF PLAYERS

- 1) All registration of players shall be done electronically and exclusively by EFA. The WFA shall be entitled to keep copies and or access all registration documents for monitoring and record purposes.
 - a) All WFA clubs shall be affiliated to the WFA by paying an annual affiliation fee amounting to Five Hundred Emalangeni (E500.00) per club. Such affiliation fee shall be paid on or before 31st August and/or the first game of the season.
 - b) Before the beginning of the league, each club shall furnish the WFA office with a list of their officials for the Football season, with addresses, E-mail, telephone and phone numbers and the official email for the club's correspondence.
 - c) The registration fee shall be One Hundred Emalangeni (E100.00) per player, which shall be paid to the EFA. There also includes coaches of the Women League teams who shall also have coaching Licenses/ cards for the 2022/2023 season.
 - d) All participating players shall be registered with a WFA club for the current season.
 - e) A club shall submit a list of their officials for the current season 2022/2023 to the office of the WFA.
- 2) Any player who changes or intends transferring from her previous club to another club, shall submit the following documents for the purposes of registration:
 - a) A new Player's registration Form;
 - b) Certificate of Transfer from her previous club or an International Transfer Certificate in the case of a non-Eswatini citizen player where applicable;
 - c) Player's registration Form from the previous club,
 - d) Player's registration License or Card from the previous club,
 - e) A work permit or temporary work permit or study permits (in the case of a student) for non-Eswatini citizen player;
 - f) A medical report issued as per EFA Medical Committee guidelines;
 - g) If any of the above-mentioned documents is missing (except for e & f), an affidavit accompanied by a covering letter shall be produced by the club in question.
- 3) Each club shall submit to the WFA/EFA a recognized list of thirty (30) players inclusive of:
 - a) A maximum of Five (5) Non-Eswatini Citizen players for registration;
 - b) These Non-Eswatini Citizens must:
 - i) Be in possession of a study permit for an institution in Eswatini
 - ii) Have at least 3 international caps from their country of origin.
- 4) The deadline for the final registration of players shall be in accordance with the instructions or circulars issued by the EFA from time to time.
- 5) Transfers and registration of players shall be in accordance with the Rules and Regulations of EFA Constitution and any other regulations as may be directed by the EFA, CAF or FIFA from time to time.
- 6) Transfers of non-Eswatini citizen players from Associations in membership with FIFA shall comply with the FIFA Regulations for Status and Transfer of players, and shall be done through the EFA.
- 7) A player not registered with any club in the membership of EFA or Associations in FIFA membership, at any level in the past 30 months shall be permitted to register for a new club without a Clearance Certificate. Such a player shall be required to complete the Free Agency Form, in addition to the Registration Form. In addition, attach an affidavit indicating that she has never played and/or registered with any club in the past 30 months.
- 8) Any player not fulfilling the requirements of registration outlined in these Rules and Regulations of the EFA Constitution shall not be considered as a properly registered player and therefore a defaulter.
- 9) Any club fielding a defaulter shall be hauled before the EFA DC for misconduct, if found guilty shall lose the game; forfeit three points and three goals, to the opposing club. However, if the goal difference in the field of play is greater than three (3), the result in the field shall be maintained. The offending player may be suspended for a period of not more than three (3) months or not more than twelve official games whichever comes first.

- 10) Any club wishing to secure registration with the League using fraudulent Documents shall be guilty of misconduct. The League having information availed to it may institute investigations and if the club is found guilty it shall be liable to a fine of not less than E5,000.00.

ARTICLE 3: PARTICIPATION IN THE COMPETITION

- 1) The Competition shall be played on a two-legged league with clubs playing each other on home and away basis on all rounds.
- 2) The Club shown first on each fixture on the left shall be home or host club.
- 3) Each Match shall last ninety (90) minutes, as stated down in the FIFA Laws of the Game.
- 4) Points for the competition shall be awarded as follows:
 - a) Three (3) points for a win
 - b) One (1) for a draw
 - c) Zero (0) points for a loss
- 5) It shall be the sole prerogative of the office to prepare, approve and amend fixtures of matches.
- 6) The office shall prepare a schedule of fixtures which shall be posted on the FIFA CMS, which shall contain: dates of matches, venues where matches are to be played and starting times of matches.
- 7) The office shall prepare and make available the schedule of fixtures to club officials on FIFA CMS, not less than 3 days before the date of such schedules matches.
- 8) It shall be duty and sole responsibility of all teams to comply with the fixture on the FIFA CMS. Failure to comply with the fixture shall not exonerate a club or team from sanction in the case it arrives late or fails to honor a match.
- 9) The office may, due to unforeseen circumstances, change or reschedule the fixture not later than 48 hours before the date at which matches are to be played. Clubs affected by these changes shall be informed of a revised or amended fixture in writing, electronically or telephonically through the general secretary or any designated official.
- 10) The referee/ Match Commissioner/ Official(s) shall conduct a pre-match inspection of the facilities including the pitch, dressing rooms if any (where applicable) at least ninety (90) minutes before the schedule commencement of a match with the hosting club.
- 11) It shall be the duty of the hosting club to make sure that its home ground is lined or marked properly, has football nets and is in good playable condition.
- 12) A properly marked ground shall be marked with clearly visible lines.
- 13) The host club shall ensure that its home/ host ground is marked/ lined properly, in a good playable condition with football nets at least one hundred and twenty minutes before the scheduled kickoff time of the match.
- 14) In the case of failure to comply with the provisions above:
 - a) The hosting team/club shall be subjected to a summary fine of Three thousand Emalangeni (3000.00) if the match, in the discretion of the match officials, is playable with the failure.
 - b) The hosting team or club shall be subjected to a disciplinary hearing, if found guilty it shall forfeit the match with three (3) points and three (3) goals, awarded to the visiting team and further fined a sum of not less than three thousand Emalangeni (E3000.00) by the EFA DC, in the match, in discretion of the match officials cannot be playable with the failure.

ARTICLE 4: STARTING TIMES OF MATCHES

- 1) Each club shall report to the designated official at the venue of the match at least ninety (90) minutes before the schedule start of the match.
- 2) Each club shall be at a playing at a playing license checking point at least 60 minutes before the schedule start of the match. The official shall inform clubs of any delay and inform them of the new playing license checking time.
- 3) Failure of a club to comply with 4.1 and 4.2 above shall result in the fine of not less than E500.00.
- 4) The playing license checking point shall normally be the dressing rooms of the stadiums in the absence of dressing rooms, the match official shall determine the checking point. It shall be deemed an offence for the club to ignore or not follow instructions of the match official on the matter. Any club found guilty of contravening this rule shall be summarily fined not less than E500.00.
- 5) Each registered club shall have two sets of contrasting uniforms registered, detailing their home and away colours.
 - a) Both clubs shall carry their two sets for contrasting uniforms for their fixtures
 - b) In the case of a clash of colours, the visiting / away team shall change their kit.
- 6) There will be a telephonic pre-match meeting at least 24hrs before kickoff where teams will declare their colours they will use or preferably a WhatsApp pre-match.
- 7) A club failing to produce a contrasting set of uniform shall be summarily fined E1000.00 if the match continues to play. This summary fine shall be raised to E3000.00 if the match is not played.
- 8) The WFL shall provide Match balls for the national league.
 - a) A team that losses the match ball shall be summarily fined E2000.00 to replace the, match ball.
- 9) Any club reporting between one (1) minute and fifteen minutes (15) after the scheduled starting time of the match shall be summarily fined a sum of seven hundred and fifty Emalangeneni (E750.00) by the WFA.
- 10) Any club reporting more than Fifteen minutes (15) after the scheduled starting time of the match or not at all, shall result in a match being called off and the offending club be liable to disciplinary hearing, if found guilty shall forfeit the match to the opposing club, as well as three (3) points and three (3) goals. The club shall be be fined an amount of not less than E3000.00.
- 11) Any club entering a field of play other than through the official entrance shall be liable to a fine of one thousand Emalangeneni (E1000.00).
- 12) Any club “walking out” or refusing to play a match, or causing an abandonment of the match shall if found guilty lose the match, with three (3) points and three (3) goals awarded to their opponents if the score was more than 3 and if it was more the score shall be upheld, and a fine of not less than E5000, 00 (five thousand Emalangeneni) imposed on them.
- 13) The referee’s report shall provide conclusive proof on which team caused the abandonment of the match if the game had started. The match official’s report shall be conclusive proof as to which club abandoned or caused the abandonment of the match if the match had not started.
- 14) Any club failing to honor three (3) matches shall be summoned to appear before the Executive Committee to explain why it should not be suspended and will be automatically suspended from participating in all activities until it appears before the executive.

ARTICLE 5: MATCH OFFICIALS AND PLAY

- 1) The referees committee shall appoint referees for all matches.
- 2) The referees shall report to the venue of the match at which they are officiating at least ninety minutes before the scheduled start of the match. In the event that one or two referees failing to show up, the present match official shall appoint substitute referees. The report of the match official shall be conclusive proof to the time of referees' arrival. The referees scheduled for this match shall be subject to the time of referee's arrival. The referees scheduled for this match shall be subject to disciplinary conduct in terms of the referees' code of conduct.
- 3) If 30 (thirty) minutes after the schedule start of the match, all referees fail to arrive and the match commissioner or coordinator cannot provide substitute referees, he/she shall call off the match. The referees scheduled for this match shall be subjected to disciplinary conduct in terms of the referee's code of conduct.
- 4) No club shall refuse a referee that has been assigned to officiate a match. A club that refuses shall be subjected to disciplinary action and if found guilty shall forfeit the match, and be liable to a fine of not less than three thousand Emalangeni (E3000.00).
- 5) The match officials and the club captains, shall before the match inspect the teams and check playing licenses of participating players. The match commissioner and the referees shall lead the clubs into the field of play.
- 6) Under no circumstances shall the match officials allows a player or any other person from them participating clubs who according to the laws of the game and these rules, are not allowed the field of play. The offending parties shall be charged and hauled before the DC.
- 7) The referee may allow the team a period of warm up, if time and circumstances permit.
- 8) The referee and match commissioner/match coordinator shall at the end of the match each compile a match report for the office.
- 9) The following details should be included in the report:
 - (a) Name of the Competition.
 - (b) Date, and venue of matches.
 - (c) Name of the referee and assistants.
 - (d) Names of the clubs
 - (e) Names of the captains
 - (f) Times of the start, half time and full time.
 - (g) Half time and fulltime scores.
 - (h) Substitutes used.
 - (i) Any event, which the referee and/or the match commissioner considers to be disciplinary conduct in terms of these rules and / or the constitution of WFA, other than one warranting only a yellow card and a reprimand / caution.
 - (j) Name and signature of the referee
 - (k) Misconduct of players leading to caution or expulsion of such players.
 - (l) Unsporting behaviour of officials, supporters and/or fans and actual utterances used in case of insults.
 - (m) Number of goals scored by each club as well as the names of players and/or their jersey numbers.
 - (n) Cards, both yellow and red issued to any player.
 - (o) Any protest, objections and complaints lodged by the clubs
 - (p) Number of substitutes introduced by each club.
- 10) Without restricting the generality of the afore going paragraph, the event noted shall include the following particulars:
 - (a) the name (s) / officials (s) / fan (s) member (s)
 - (b) the jersey and playing license numbers

- (c) actual utterances constituting the offence
 - (d) Any object used during the commission of such disciplinable conduct.
 - (e) Any act constituting the reprehensible conduct.
 - (f) The time in which the conduct occurred.
- 11) The referee's report and /or that of the match commissioner shall reach the office within 24hrs and it shall provide conclusive proof pertaining to any circumstance(s) regarding the match.
 - 12) Any referee that fails to submit his/her report within the period as stated in Article 5.11 above shall have his/her allowance reduced by half.
 - 13) The laws of the game shall be those currently in force and as published by IFAB.
 - 14) The referee's fee shall be adjusted as per EFA circular.

ARTICLE 6: SERIOUS PLAYERS/ CLUBS MISCONDUCT

- 1) Any player who is sent off the field of play after being issued with a red card before the start of the match, during the course of the match and after the match shall automatically be suspended from participating in the next succeeding official match, and may further be subjected to disciplinary action.
- 2) A player who received a red card will automatically have her playing license withdrawn and forwarded to the office. The officiating referee shall be responsible to collect player's license and submit to the office with his/her match report. The playing license will only be returned after completion of the period of suspension to her club payment of the retrieval of E50.00 to the bank account and an authentic bank deposit slip is produced to the office.
- 3) Once a player has accumulated three (3) straight red cards in the same season, she shall be suspended for six (6) games of the season.
- 4) Notwithstanding any provision in these rules, the office reserves the right to charge any player and /or team that contravenes the rule regarding the playing of defaulting players, with the appropriate penalties/ fines being invoked if the player and/ or team is found guilty of the offence.
- 5) Any club fielding a suspended player shall be charged and appear to the DC. If found guilty the offending team shall lose 3 points and 3 goals to the opposing team and subjected to a summary fine of E2000.00.

ARTICLE 7: OTHER UNSPORTING BEHAVIOIR

- 1) Any club whose member(s), player(s), or fan(s), or official(s) engage in unsporting or violent behavior either before, during or after a match shall be guilty of misconduct and be liable to punishment.
- 2) Members, players, officials or fans include the following:
- 3) Any person (s) wearing articles of a colour of the offending club, e.g scarf, badge, etc.
- 4) Any person who is seated at a stand or section of a stadium or ground, which is occupied by the followers of the offending club when the offence is committed.
- 5) Any person known by the match officials to be a supported, official or fan of one of the clubs.
- 6) Any person who commits the offence in furtherance or support of the offending club's interest or favour.
- 7) Clubs should post security stewards to control their crowds. The security stewards should police the proceedings and submit any offender to the police for criminal prosecution if they misbehave. Such incidents must be brought to the attention of the match official to be included in the match official report as evidence of what happened in the event the said team is charged for the misbehaviors of its supporters.
- 8) A team is allowed to post properly accredited team security officers at their dressing rooms.

9) It shall be the duty of match officials to report to the office cases of misconduct likely to bring the game or administration thereof into disrepute.

10) The following shall be a punishment for those found to be guilty:

TYPES OF MISCONDUCT		FIRST OFFENDER	SECOND OFFENDER	THIRD OFFENDER
a)	Invading the field of play	Summary fine E500.00 or a suspended sentence	Summary fine E1,000.00	Summary fine E2,000.00
b)	Unbecoming behaviour, attempting to act or acting to bring football into dispute and/or disrepute	Minimum of E1,000	Minimum of E2,000	Minimum of E3,000 plus suspension
c)	Throwing missiles of any kind onto the field of play	Summary fine E 500.00	Summary Fine E1000	Summary Fine E2000
d)	Insulting the referee, WFA official, opposing player(s), fan(s)/team-mates/supporters	Open DC Case Minimum fine of E 1,000.00	Open DC Case Summary Fine E1,500	Open DC Case Summary Fine E3,000
e)	Threatening and/or attempting to assault the referee, the WFA official, opposing player(s), fans/team-mates/supporters.	Open DC Case Minimum fine of E 2,000.00	Open DC Case Minimum fine of E3,000.00	Open DC Case Minimum fine of E5,000.00
f)	Assaulting the match official, opposing team's player(s), teammates/officials, fan(s)/supporter(s)/member(s)/referee/match commissioner	Open DC Case i) Minimum of E5,000.00 and in addition the club may be ordered to compensate the victim for any loss incurred as a result of the assault and ii) The offending player(s), official(s) or fan(s) shall be suspended for a period of three (3) official games	Open DC Case i) Minimum fine of E8,000 fine. Suspension of 6 official games ii) The offending player(s), official(s) or fan(s) shall be suspended for a period of six (6) games	Open DC Case i) Minimum Fine of E12,000 fine. ii) The offending player(s), official(s) or fan(s) shall be banned for 24 official games
g)	Sprinkling of any substance that is believed to command supernatural power in around the field of play	Open DC Case Minimum fine of E 2,000.00	Open DC Case Minimum fine of E 5,000.00	Open DC Case Minimum fine of E 10,000.00

ARTICLE 8: PROTEST, DISCIPLINARY CASES, APPEALS AND FEES

- 1) Any protest regarding defaulters must be lodged with the referee with the reference with the referee the start of the match or at the time the player is introduced into the field of play. The protest must be countersigned by both captains, and acknowledged by the referee. Refusal to sign by any party does not render the protest null and void. The referee shall take the player's playing license protested about and submit it to the office. The office shall photocopy playing license and return it to the club for the next game.
- 2) A party that refuses to sign the protest shall be summarily fined E500.00.
- 3) Any other protest shall be lodged with the referee at a time of occurrence otherwise it shall be null and void.
- 4) Confirmation of a protest plus supporting evidence must reach the office of the secretary not later than 48hrs, excluding Saturday, Sunday and Public holidays after the match. A non-refundable protest fee amounting to Five Hundred Emalangeneni (E500.00) shall accompany the confirmation.
- 5) If the club fails to confirm the protest within the stipulated time, it shall be summarily fined a sum of Five Hundred (E500.00) Emalangeneni, payable within twenty-one (21) days.
- 6) The DC shall have power to consider and deal with the protest lodged by an individual club or league or make necessary decisions.
- 7) Parties at a protest shall be afforded an opportunity to present their case when the protest is being heard, and shall receive at least two working days' notice before the hearing.
- 8) A party summoned to attend a hearing before the DC shall receive a notice atleast two working days before the hearing and shall have a representation of its choice.
- 9) The association may subpoena any party under its jurisdiction and/or request the office to subpoena such a person to give evidence at the hearing.
- 10) A party not satisfied with the verdict of the DC may appeal to the EFA's appeals Committee. Such an appeal shall be logged within five (5) working days on receipt of a written verdict. A non – refundable fee amounting to E2000. 00 (paid directly to EFA) must accompany the appeal.
- 11) The DC shall have power to sit over a case even if the other party is not represented, if the DC is satisfied that such party was informed of the date, time and venue of hearing. The decision of the DC shall be binding to all parties.
- 12) If a party requests for a postponement at the hearing, the DC is empowered to order the said party to pay the costs related to the postponement of the case, that included the sitting and travelling allowances of all concerned or in the event a club requests for postponement. The costs are calculated by the office and are payable to the office before the next sitting.
- 13) A club which shall need to produce evidence from the office or any other EFA member shall do so through the office and shall request such in writing at least 3 days before the hearing.
- 14) Any club that has been found guilty shall pay all costs for the hearing (e.g DC sitting, prosecutors and travelling expenses).
- 15) All clubs shall be expected to collect their written verdicts from the office.
- 16) Any team that fails to attend any meeting shall be liable to the following fines:
 - a) **Women Football Association meeting** - E 500.00
 - b) **Quarterly meeting and annual general meeting** - E 1,000.00
 - c) **Sponsorship Launching and Presentation** - E 1,000-00

ARTICLE 10: PROMOTION AND RELEGATION

For the current 2022/2023 football season; there shall be no relegation, subject to the formation of the main league's second tier (*i.e Women National First Division League*), in which case the bottom three (3) teams shall be relegated and all teams wishing to join the WFA shall use the second tier as an entry point.

ARTICLE 11: PRIZES AND AWARDS

Prizes and awards, in the WFNL shall be implemented in terms of the agreements and/or directives of the EFA as they are currently funding the WFNL. Once sponsorships are secured, they shall be implemented in terms of the agreements entered between the WFA and the relevant sponsors and/or partners. In case where the agreements do not provide for such, the WFEC will determine the implementation of the prizes and awards. Such will be done considering the development and business of objectives of the game of football within the constraints or magnitude or sponsorship.

ARTICLE 12: PRESS STATEMENT AND REPORTS

- 1) Each Club shall be responsible for advertising its matches through the media. Clubs shall furnish the office with names, addresses, email addresses and contact telephone numbers of two persons who shall act in this capacity. Clubs that do not adequately advertise matches shall face disciplinary action from the office.
- 2) The WFA office and the EFA CEO shall be entitled to publish in the press, or in any other media, reports of activities related to the Women Football Association.
- 3) Clubs and/ or clubs officials shall not publish or make statements that may bring the Women Football Association or WFEC, and its sub committees into disrepute. Anyone or any club that commits this offence shall be brought before the DC for disciplinary action. If found guilty the person(s) or club shall be fined an amount not less than E1000.00 but not exceeding E2000.00.

ARTICLE 13: GENERAL

- 1) Entrance Fees at all matches shall be determined by the WFEC.
- 2) All participating teams shall attend the launching and prize presentation ceremonies of any sponsor.
 - a) If a team fails to attend any one of the occasions, shall forfeit E500.00 of its prize money to WFL in each occasion.
 - b) In the event a team failing to attend both occasions, shall forfeit all its prize money to the WFL.
- 3) In the event of any dispute or conflict arising between any rules of this competition, the Women Football Association's statutes and/or the EFA Statutes and regulations in as far as that particular matter of conflict is concerned, shall take precedence.

ARTICLE 14: MISCELLANEOUS

- 1) Any Team that fails to pay certain fees/ fines within the stipulated time shall be suspended and any suspended team shall not participate in all activities organized by the WFA.
- 2) The WFA shall impose the sanctions .
- 3) Games which will be fixture during the course of the team's suspension will be awarded to their opponents i.e suspended team will lose the game to the opposing team.
- 4) If after 3 days the team still fails to pay, it will be summoned to appear before the WFEC and if it still fails, it shall be expelled from being an affiliate of the WFA AFTER THE FINAL decision has been taken by the WFA.
- 5) If two teams are fixture against each other while they are both suspended; they will both lose the game i.e. three (3) points and three (3) goals thrown away.
- 6) Any team that fails to pay their fines (summary and DC) within the stipulated time of 21 days after receiving the written verdict, shall be suspended from all WFA activities. It remains the sole responsibility of any team to collect their correspondence from the office.
- 7) All correspondence to the office must be written on the team's letterhead, otherwise it is not official and cannot be accepted.
- 8) Any team writing their team list on any paper other than the team's letterheads shall be summarily fined E150.00 by the office.
- 9) Any changes to be made in respect of the clubs officials should be accompanied by minutes of the meeting that was held where the said officials were elected.
- 10) Such changes can be made up to 72 hours before the team can appear before any committee.
- 11) It shall be the responsibility of every club to collect correspondence from the office.
- 12) Any club shall be expected to sign summons in the office in case they have committed an offence sanctioning that club to appear before the Executive Committee or subcommittees.
- 13) All payments due to the office shall be deposited to the Women Football League Bank Account.
- 14) All teams are directed to utilize the WFL account held at: **Eswatini Bank, ACC NO: 77040578200, Mbabane Branch**, when making payments in respect of all dues to WFL for the season 2022/2023, such as Affiliation fee, fines, red cards fees etc.
- 15) After making the deposit, the team should proceed to the WFL office with the stamped bank deposit slip where they will be furnished with a receipt by the secretary as acknowledgement of payment/ deposit.
- 16) Clubs may scan and email the proof of payment to: eswatiniwfa@gmail.com
- 17) The fixtures of the competition as well as matches organized by the WFA and all data related to them are subject to a "copyright" reserved to the WFA.
- 18) If for any reason whatsoever, a team withdraws from the competition or does not report for a match except in cases of force majeure accepted by the WFA, or if its refuses to play or leaves the ground before the regular end of the match without authorization of the referee, it shall be considered a loser and shall be eliminated for good from the competition. Further measures may be adopted by the WFEC.

ARTICLE 15: MATTERS NOT PROVIDED FOR

Matters not provided for in the present rules and regulations are in terms of article 14(3) shall be decided by the WFA. The WFA's decision shall be binding to all parties.

ARTICLE 16: ADOPTION

The present rules and regulations have been adopted and approved by the EFA on the 28th October 2022 and come into force on the same date.

President
Peter Simelane

General Secretary
Frederick Mngomezulu

APPENDIX 1:

Applicable Breakdown of Prizes for the 2022/2023 Football Season

1 st Prize	E20,000.00
2 nd prize.....	E15,000.00
3 rd prize.....	E12,000.00
4 th Prize.....	E 10,000.00
5 th Prize.....	E 8,000.00
6 th prize.....	E 7,000.00
7 th Prize.....	E 6,000.00
8 th Prize.....	E 5,000.00
9 th Prize.....	E 4,000.00
10 th Prize.....	E 3,500.00
11 th Prize.....	E 3,000.00
12 th Prize.....	E 2,500.00
13 th Prize.....	E 2,000.00
Top Goal Scorer.....	E 600.00

Player of the Season (*per specific sponsors*)

Goal Keeper of the Season (*per specific sponsors*)