
2015 / 2016
U20 PREMIER LEAGUE
RULES AND REGULATIONS

Compiled and presented by
THE PREMIER LEAGUE OF SWAZILAND

Approved by
THE NATIONAL FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION OF SWAZILAND
on the
16th January 2016





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PREAMBLE

In response to the directive of the NFAS to establish junior structures under the sporting criteria in fulfillment of the Club Licensing Regulations, in conformity to the obligatory regulations advocated by the continental and global football constructions, the Premier League of Swaziland (PLS) has established, as one of many, junior structures, the U20 League Competition. The U20 League Competition shall be utilized as a Reserve League and a final nurturing junior structure for senior team football domestic competitions under the auspices of the NFAS, particularly when it refers to premier league football clubs.

The above competition shall therefore be managed and administered by the office of the Chief Executive Officer of the Premier League of Swaziland in full observance of all applicable regulations and regulatory frameworks as directed by the NFAS, under whose authority the PLS subsists.

This document henceforth articulates, in detail, the Rules and Regulations of the 2015/2016 U20 Premier Reserve League Competition (hereinafter referred to as the Rules).

All Clubs participating in this competition undertake to observe and be bound by these rules. Only U20 Junior teams of football clubs affiliated to the Premier League, unless or otherwise, directed by the NFAS and/or developments continent ally or globally through CAF or FIFA respectively shall be eligible to participate in this league competition.

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ARTICLE 1: Definitions and Abbreviations of Terms used in this Document

1. An **Official or Premier League of Swaziland Official** is:
 - a) Any member of the office of the Premier League and/or any member of the Sub-Committees of the Premier League of Swaziland.
 - b) Any person designated by the Premier League of Swaziland's Chief Executive Officer to act in his capacity matches, e.g. a Stadium Representative, etc.
 - c) Invited dignitaries and/or guests, members of the Royal Swaziland Police.
2. A **Match Commissioner** is: The match official appointed by the Referees Committee that has an authority for ensuring that a match is officiated according to the rules of the game as well as those laid down in this document and who shall be responsible for preparing a report of the match in his/her area of responsibility, for the relevant authorities.
3. **Unsporting Behavior and Misconduct** shall include amongst others:
 - a) An improper registration of a player(s), double registration, and fielding of a defaulter. It also includes disobedience of instruction by:
 - i. the Premier League of Swaziland Official;
 - ii. Match Commissioner or Referee;
 - iii. The Stadium Representative
 - 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.
 - c) Uttering abusive or obscene or derogatory words, spitting or emission of saliva onto a person or directed towards a person, use of provocative or insulting hand gestures/signals, and includes any incitement, conspiracy or attempt to engage in an act to bring football into disrepute.
 - d) Failure by club(s) to control their official(s) or player(s) or supporter(s) or fan(s).
 - e) Disregard of the constitution of the Premier League of Swaziland and rules governing this tournament.

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4. A **Defaulter** is defined as:

- a) A player who is not eligible to play in a particular game for any reason such as suspension, improper registration, double registration, etc.
- b) Any player as defined shall be considered a defaulter only he has played in the game in question.

5. An **International player** is:

- a) A player who is transferring from another association in the membership of FIFA into the territory of the NFAS.
- b) International players shall be allowed to register with a PLS club upon production of a valid International Transfer Certificate, a valid contract with the club he intends to join, duly signed Registration, Medical Certificate and two passport sized photos. However the player can only play on production of a valid work permit. In the case of students, a study or student permit shall be required instead of a work permit.

6. The following abbreviations may be consistently used in this document:

- a) PLS - The Premier League of Swaziland.
- b) C.E.O - Chief Executive Officer
- c) DC - The NFAS Disciplinary Committee
- d) NFAS - The National Football Association of Swaziland

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ARTICLE 2: Affiliation, Registration and Transfer of Players

1. All registration of players shall be done electronically and exclusively by the NFAS, in conformity with the Regulations for the Status and Transfer of players, including registration periods and provisions thereof, as promulgated by the NFAS ahead of each football season.
2. All U20 Teams to participate in the U20 League competition for the current 2015/2016 season shall belong to the football clubs affiliated to the PLS and must have been registered in terms of the provisions of paragraph 1 of this article above.
3. For the current 2015/2016 season, affiliation to participate in the U20 League competition will be free of charge.
4. Players eligible to participate in the current season; 2015/2016; shall be born on or after the 1st January 1996. For the subsequent seasons, in consideration of the fact that the season starts in August and close in May, all players eligible to participate shall have been born on or after the 1st July, such that for example, for the 2016/2017 season, all players shall have been born on or after the 1st July 1997.
5. Before the beginning of the league, each club shall furnish the PLS office with a list of their authentic officials for the soccer season, with addresses, E-mail, telephone and fax numbers, of one (1) person and alternate who shall receive the club's correspondence.
6. The registration of U20 players for the current 2015/2016 season will be free of charge. However, if a playing card is lost, a fee of E50 per playing card which shall be paid exclusively with the NFAS before such a card is produced, subject to the submission of an authenticated affidavit on the lost or damaged card.
7. Any player who changes or intends transferring from his 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 his previous club
 - c) International Transfer Certificate (in case of a foreign player)
 - d) Player's Registration Form from the previous club,
 - e) Player's Registration Card from the previous club,
 - f) A Work Permit or Temporary Work Permit or Study/Student Permit in the case of a student (where applicable).
 - g) A medical report issued by a recognized Medical Practitioner/Institution.
 - h) Loan agreements (where applicable)
 - i) Contract between a player and club (where applicable)
 - j) Any other documentation in terms of the requirements of the club licensing system as may be communicated by the NFAS from time to time.
8. Each club shall submit to the NFAS, an authentic list of up to a maximum of thirty (30) players for registration.

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9. The deadline for the final registration of players shall be in accordance with the instructions or circulars issued by the NFAS from time to time, and comply with the regulations governing the Status and Transfer of players.
10. Transfers and registration of players shall be in accordance with the Rules and Regulations of the NFAS Statutes and any other regulations as may be directed by the NFAS, CAF or FIFA from time to time.
11. Transfers of non-Swazi citizen (*international*) players from associations in membership with FIFA shall comply with the FIFA Regulations for Status and Transfer of players, and shall be done exclusively through the NFAS.
12. A player not registered with any club in the membership of NFAS 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.
 - a) Such a player shall be required to complete the Free Agency Form, in addition to the Registration Form.
 - b) In addition, attach an affidavit indicating that he has never played and/or registered with any club in the past 30 months.
 - c) This shall be subject to any provision as per the regulations governing such, which are enshrined in the NFAS Statutes, the regulations governing its application or regulations that may be introduced by the NFAS, CAF or FIFA relating to the subject and any other associated from time to time.
13. Any player not fulfilling the requirements of registration outlined in this Rules and the Rules and Regulations of the NFAS Statutes shall not be considered a properly registered player, thus a defaulter.
14. Any club fielding a defaulter shall be guilty of misconduct and shall be liable to lose the game and forfeit three points and three goals to the opposing club.
 - a) However, if the goal difference in the field of play is greater than three (3), the result in the field shall be maintained.
 - b) The offending player may be suspended for a period not more than three (3) months.
15. Any club wishing to secure registration 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 shall be fined an amount not less than E2, 500.00 by the D.C.

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ARTICLE 3: Participation in the Tournament

1. The competition shall be played as a one-legged league for the current 2015/2016 football season; hence no home and away basis. In this respect the competition committee or authority responsible for managing this league competition as per these rules shall determine the fixture, with the venue and times of all matches under this league competition.
2. Points for the league competition shall be awarded as follows:
 - a) Three (3) points for a win.
 - b) One (1) point for a draw.
 - c) Zero (0) for a loss.
3. Each U20 team, may utilize up to a maximum of two (2) of its senior team players, provided they are recovering from injury and as part of their rehabilitation before they return to the senior team's competitions, they need rehabilitation matches;
 - a) A player from the senior team eligible, under such a provision shall be allowed up to a maximum of two (2) consecutive matches, provided they do not play for their senior team in between one and the next match of the U20 team.
 - b) An U20 team intending to utilize a senior team player under these provisions must notify, in writing, the competition committee or authority tasked with managing this competition, of its intention to do so.
 - c) The U20 team's senior team player utilized under these provisions, shall utilize his current season's playing card.
 - d) In the last three (3) matches of the season, **NO** club shall use a player who is registered with the senior team, irrespective of the above mentioned provisions under this paragraph, i.e. Article 3 (3) (a - d). Only players registered specifically for the U20 League shall be allowed to feature.
 - e) An U20 team found to have violated any of the aforesaid provisions under this paragraph shall be liable to lose the match to the opposing team, in terms of the regulations governing losing a match to your opposition, *i.e. 3 points, 3 goals taking into account the scoreline on the field of play of the match or matches for which the player in question participated.*
4. A player who is serving a suspension accrued whilst playing for the senior team, shall not be allowed to play for its U20 team.
 - a) An U20 team that may be found to have done such shall be liable to lose the match to the opposing team, in terms of the regulations governing losing a match to your opposition, *i.e. 3 points, 3 goals taking into account the scoreline on the field of play of the match or matches for which the player in question participated.*
 - b) The team may also be liable to be fined, up to a maximum E 3,000.00
5. A fixture programme of all matches shall be prepared and issued to the clubs by the PLS. The fixture programme issued by the PLS shall be adhered to by all clubs unless prior and written permission has been granted by the PLS for a club to deviate.

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6. The PLS office or authority tasked with the management of the league shall ensure that all the playing teams are aware of the fixture (date, venue, and starting time). Such information shall be communicated to the clubs by telephone or facsimile or e-mail to the designated club official, at least Two (2) days before kick-off of their respective matches.
7. The PLS office or authority tasked with the management of the league shall be responsible for ensuring that the field of play is ready, the grass or turf is properly cut, the lines are properly marked, the nets are secured and flag poles are in place, where applicable floodlights are functional at least Two (2) hours before the scheduled commencement of the match.
 - a) Unless, a match has been granted by the PLS on account of an application by the senior team to have its U20 team match play ahead of their match, at the same venue where all such responsibilities shall be borne by the hosting team. In this case, the respective U20 team of the senior team shall be dedicated as a host team.
 - b) Failure to comply shall mean that the team would have failed to fulfill its fixture and therefore shall be deemed to have caused the abandonment of the game, shall, if found guilty of such an offence lose the match, with three (3) points and three (3) goals awarded to their opponents and further be fined up to a maximum of E2, 500.00 by the DC.
8. The Referees and/or Match Commissioner shall conduct a pre-match inspection of the facilities including the pitch, dressing rooms, at least one and a half hours before the scheduled commencement of a match with the hosting club.
9. The PLS official shall ensure that the keys to all facilities such as the club's dressing rooms, referees changing rooms, etc. are available at least two (2) hours before the scheduled commencement of the match.
 - a) The match commissioner must also be provided with the keys where applicable.
 - b) This provision is however, subject to the application of paragraph 7(a) of this article where the host team shall be responsible for providing the keys as per this provision.
10. The PLS official or Stadium Representative or where applicable in terms of these rules, the host club, shall ensure that all points of entry, as may be designated are operational two hours before the scheduled commencement of the match.
11. The home club, where applicable, shall ensure that the sitting arrangement for fans and/or supporters of both clubs is properly demarcated and marked.
12. Failure by the hosting club, where applicable, to comply with any of the requirements outlined in 9, 10 and 11, above, the club shall be summarily fined by the PLS for each violation; a fine of E500.00 for each violation.

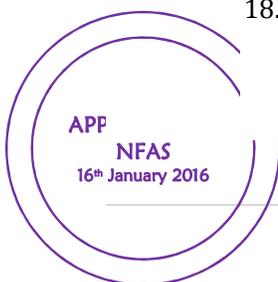
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ARTICLE 4: Starting Times of Matches

1. The dates and venues of matches shall be fixed by the Chief Executive Officer of the League who may delegate his powers to any League official.
2. Clubs shall be notified by the League of all fixtures changes in writing by no later than Twenty Four (24) hours before the scheduled start of the match. Such notification shall include the date, time and venue when the said fixture will be played.
3. Should any club wish to request a change to a fixture, such request must be submitted at least three (3) days before the scheduled start of the match. Fixtures will only be amended in extreme circumstances, at the discretion of the PLS.
4. Save and except where permission to change a fixture has been applied for and given in terms of Article 4.2 and 4.3 above, No fixture may be changed in any manner whatsoever with the exception that the PLS CEO shall have the right to alter fixtures in his sole discretion, within the acceptable regulations of football, and in observance to fairness and Fair Play.
5. A club, where applicable, shall name the ground at which it prefers to play its home fixtures, as well as an alternative home ground. In this regard, if the League is of the opinion that it may be impractical to play a match at that venue, for any reason whatsoever then the League may at any time prior to any match under its auspices, fixture such match at an alternative venue or alternatively postpone such fixture.
6. If for any reason a club, where applicable, is unable to play its home fixture at its home ground, the League may order the club to play a fixture at a ground selected by the club as its alternative home ground or at an alternative venue determined by the League. All reasonable costs of whatsoever nature occasioned by the change shall be paid by the original home club.
7. The onus of securing a venue shall be on the home club, where applicable, and save and except for Force Majeure, the club's failure to secure a venue shall be regarded as misconduct, and the club shall be deemed to have failed to fulfill its fixture/s which may be punishable in terms of the regulations of this league competition.
8. Should a match be abandoned by the Referee due to an electricity power failure in a match played under floodlights or due to Force Majeure, then the match will be replayed at a date, venue and time stipulated by the PLS. The gate takings of the replayed match shall be shared between the two clubs having deducted the percentage due to the League, stadium and Match Officials' costs.
9. The team manager from each club shall report to the PLS official at the venue of the match at least Forty-Five (45) minutes before the scheduled start of the game to enable a pre-match meeting. Failure to report to the PLS Official, a club shall be summarily fined an amount of E400.00 by the PLS.
10. Each club shall be at the card checking point ready for checking Thirty (30) minutes before the scheduled start of the match. The PLS official will inform the clubs of any delay and further inform them of the new card checking time.

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11. Failure by a football club to report, as directed in 4.10 above, shall be summarily fined an amount of E2, 500.00 by the PLS.
12. The card checking point shall normally be the dressing rooms of the stadium, and all clubs shall use such dressing rooms as directed by the PLS Official/Match Commissioner/Referee. Failure to comply with the officials' directive of using the dressing room shall render the club guilty of contravening this rule and liable to a summary fine of E1, 250.00 by the PLS.
13. At all stadiums, clubs shall adhere to instructions given by the PLS official/Match Commissioner/Referee/Stadium Representative regarding the use of facilities.
 - a. It shall be deemed an offence for clubs to ignore or not follow the instructions of the officials on this matter.
 - b. Any club found guilty of contravening this rule or provision shall be liable to a summary fine of E1, 000.00 by the PLS.
14. Each registered club shall have two sets of contrasting uniforms, for home and away fixtures. The (home and away) colours must be registered with the PLS office and be adhered to by all clubs. In cases of colour clashes, the away or visiting club shall be required to change uniform. Failure to comply with this rule may result in the game being abandoned or called off and if the game is abandoned or called off, the offending club shall be brought before the DC and if found guilty shall be fined an amount of not less than E500.00 and further lose the match with three points and three goals awarded to their opponents.
15. Any club reporting for card checking after fifteen (15) minutes after the scheduled start of the match, will result in the match being called-off. The offending team/club shall be liable to a disciplinary hearing and if found guilty shall be fined an amount not less than E500.00 and shall further be deemed to have caused the abandonment of the match; hence further lose the match, with three points and three goals awarded to their opponents.
16. After the card checking formalities have been completed, clubs will be led into the field of play by the referees and/or match officials. A club contravening this rule shall be summarily fined an amount of E1, 500.00 by the PLS.
17. Any club walking out, refusing to play a match or refusing to honour a fixture duly issued by The PLS and/or whose fan(s), supporter(s), official(s) invade the field of play and/or throw missiles/objects into the field of play which would result in the match officials stopping the game shall be deemed to have caused the abandonment of the match, and shall, if found guilty of such an offence shall lose the match, with Three (3) points and Three (3) goals awarded to their opponents, and a suspension of not more than Three (3) months imposed on them plus a fine of not less than E5,000.00 by the DC.
18. The referee's report/ Match Commissioner's and or Stadium Representative's report in the event that the match had already kicked-off, shall provide conclusive proof as to which club abandoned or caused abandonment of the match.



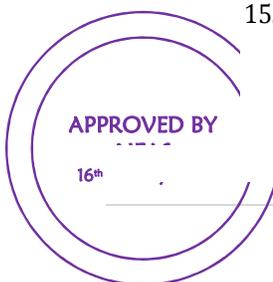
ARTICLE 5: The Referee and Play

1. The Referees Committee, as established by the NFAS, shall appoint match official (i.e. match commissioner, referees and assistant referees) for all matches of the league competition.
2. Referees shall report to the venue of the match they are officiating at least One and a half hour before the scheduled start of the match.
 1. In the event of One or Two of the referees failing to show up Thirty (30) minutes before the commencement of the match, the Match Commissioner or PLS official shall appoint substitute referees.
 2. The report of the Match Commissioner or PLS official shall provide conclusive proof as to the time of arrival of the referee. Failure to comply shall lead to the PLS, deducting 30% of the match official's allowances due for the match.
 3. The PLS Official's report shall provide conclusive proof as to the time of arrival of the Match Commissioner.
3. If 15 (fifteen) minutes after the scheduled start of the match, all referees fail to arrive, and The Match Commissioner or PLS official cannot provide substitute referees, the Match Commissioner/PLS Official shall call off the match. The referees scheduled for this match shall be subject to disciplinary conduct in terms of the referee's code of conduct.
4. The Referee, Assistant Referees, Match Commissioner or PLS official and the club captains, Shall before the match, inspect the clubs and check the line-ups.
5. The Referee, Assistant Referees and the Match Commissioner or PLS official, on completion of the inspection, shall lead the clubs into the field of play. Immediately at the end of the game, the referee and his assistants shall make it point that all players are commissioned back into the dressing rooms to avoid any form of misconduct by club(s), players(s), officials(s) etc.
6. The Referee may allow the clubs a period of warm up, if time and circumstances permit. It must be noted that clubs can go into the field of play for warm-up before inspection by the referees.
7. The Referee shall at the end of the match, compile a match report in duplicate for the PLS.
8. The following details should be included in the report:
 1. Name of the competition,
 2. Date and venue of the match,
 3. Names of the referee and assistants,
 4. Names of clubs,



5. Names of club captains,
6. Times of the start, half time and full time,
7. Half time and full time score,
8. Substitutes used,
9. Cards (red and yellow) issued to players during the match,
10. Any event that the referee considers worth reporting, i.e. misconduct by any club/s, player/s, club official/s, fan/s etc.
11. Signature of the referee.

9. The Referee's report is to reach the offices of the PLS by 4'oclock the second working day following the match in question. Failure to adhere to this timeframe shall **NOT** render the contents of the reports null and void.
10. Any Referee that fails to submit his report within the period as stated in Article 5 (9) shall have 30% of his/her allowance for that match deducted and paid to the PLS. Further delays in submitting the report will result in a further 10% deduction for each day that the report is delayed.
11. Persistent incompetent and inadequate performance by a Referee(s), including incomplete, inconsistent and ambiguous reports and/or consistent late reports shall lead to suspension and/or dismissal of such referee(s) from officiating in all PLS organized matches, as determined by the C.E.O. in consultation with the Referees Committee.
12. Article 5.9 and 5.10 apply to Match Commissioner's reports equally.
13. The Referee's report and/or that of the Match Commissioner shall provide conclusive proof pertaining to any circumstance(s) regarding the match. The reports, either the original or duplicate (bearing the PLS received stamp) shall be admissible as proof during the DC hearings.
14. The PLS may require the PLS Official to provide a report regarding any occurrence(s) at the stadium in addition to the reports referred in Article 5.13 of the Rules. The Match Commissioner, referee, stadium representative, PLS Official shall report all occurrences of misbehavior by club(s), player(s), official(s) fans(s) etc. during and after the game and such report shall be conclusive proof pertaining to any circumstance (s) regarding the match during and after the game.
15. At the end of every game the club's coaches shall give Media Houses an interview and such place will be identified by the Fourth official or the Match Commissioner or the League Official. Failure or refusal by the Coach of a team to give such interview, the club shall be summarily fined an amount of E1, 000.00 by the PLS.



ARTICLE 6: Serious Player/Club Misconduct

1. Dismissals

- a) Any player dismissed from the field of play by the referee (i.e. "red carded" or sent off, including dismissal as a result of two (2) yellow cards awarded in the same match) for the first time in any season shall be suspended from participation in the next one (1) match to be played by his team in any official competition under the auspices of the PLS and this Rule shall duly be affected by any subsequent amendment by FIFA as the case may be.
- b) For each subsequent occasion that a player is suspended during the same season the period of suspension shall be increased by two (1) match from the suspension previously served.
- c) Any period of suspension or part thereof of which remains outstanding at the end of a season must be served at the start of the following or next season.
- d) The League shall be responsible for keeping all records relating to cautions, dismissals and suspensions, and only the League's records shall be considered accurate and binding.
- e) This Rule shall only be applicable to cautions and dismissals that occur in a match forming part of an official competition of the League. For the purposes of this Rule, "official competition" shall not include Charity cup fixtures.
- f) The provisions of Rule a) to d) above shall also apply to club officials who are dismissed from the field of play, including the technical area. When under suspension club officials may not enter the confines of the field, including the technical area or official area. The Referee will be the sole judge of what constitutes the technical area in question while the PLS official at a match or the Match Commissioner shall determine what constitutes the official area at any given match.
- g) Where a player or official transfers to a new club during a period of suspension, cautions and dismissals, the counting shall also transfer to the new club from the time when the player or official becomes eligible for the new club.

2. Cautions

- a) Any player who accumulates three (3) cautions (i.e. "yellow cards") in any season shall be suspended from participation in the next one (1) match to be played by his team in any official competition under the auspices of the PLS.
- b) Where a player receives a red card in a match any yellow card received by the player in that particular match shall not be counted for the purposes of this Rule.
- c) Once the player has served the suspension the player's total number of accumulated cautions will revert to zero (0) and counting will resume again. The cycle of counting of cautions and the resulting suspension may be repeated any number of times in a season.



- d) Players who have accumulated cautions and are transferred to a new club within the same playing season shall carry over such cautions to the new club.
- e) A player who receives a red card will automatically have his Registration Card withdrawn by the C.E.O. The officiating referee shall be responsible to collect the player's registration card and submit it to the PLS together with his match report. The registration card will only be returned on completion of the period of suspension to his club upon production of an authentic Bank deposit slip for payment of the retrieval fee of E50.00 to the PLS.
- f) It is the responsibility of each club to ensure that all its players are eligible to play in this competition. Any club contravening this rule shall be deemed to have fielded a defaulter.
- g) Notwithstanding any provision in these rules, the PLS reserves the right to charge any player and/or club that contravenes Article 6(2) (e) above, and if found guilty the offending club shall lose three points and three goals from the total number of points accumulated by the offending club. The offending player may further be suspended up to three months.
- h) Any club who knowingly utilize players that are not eligible for a competition if found guilty, the club shall be liable to lose all matches in which the player in question feature. The player if found guilty shall be suspended for all matches until he is eligible to play.

ARTICLE 7: Other Unsporting Behavior and Misconduct

1. Any club whose member(s), player(s), official(s) marshal(s) or supporter(s) engage in unsporting or violent misconduct either before, during or after a match shall be liable to punishment. The following offences shall be punishable in the following ways:
 - a) Invading the pitch during a game by a supporters), fan(s), a marshal(s) or spectator(s) (unless authorized by the referee) in celebration of a goal(s) - a summary fine of E750.00 by the PLS.
 - b) Threatening by conduct or words to assault or attempt to assault a referee, PLS official, player, club official, marshal, supporter, fan, and spectator - a fine of not less than E500.00 by the DC.
 - c) Uttering abusive or obscene or derogatory words, spitting or emission of saliva onto any person or directed towards a person - a fine of not less than E1, 000.00 by the DC. This should also include players where players can incite fans, opposing players and officials, etc.
 - d) Use of provocative or insulting gestures/signals, unbecoming behavior or conspiracy or attempt to act to bring football into disrepute or inciting people to behave in a manner that brings football into disrepute - a fine of not less than E1,500.00 by the DC.



- e) Throwing objects of any kind onto the field of play or its surroundings or unto any person(s) thus assaulting or attempting to assault and invading the field of play - a fine of not less than E1, 000.00 by the DC.
 - f) Assaulting a referee, PLS official, player, club official, marshal, supporter, fan, and spectator - a fine of not less than E2, 500.00 by the DC. In addition, the offending club shall be ordered to compensate the victim for any financial loss incurred due to the assault.
 - g) Failure to control fan(s), supporter(s), official(s), marshal(s) - a fine not less than E1, 500.00 by the DC.
2. Notwithstanding, the provisions of Article 7 (1) above, the PLS reserves the right to charge any player, official, marshal, supporter, fan, spectator positively identified by the Referee or Match Commissioner or PLS Official to have contravened any of Article 7(1) and if found guilty he/shall be punished in accordance with the NFAS Constitution and/or the NFAS rules and regulations or the NFAS Disciplinary Code.
3. Member(s), player(s), official(s), supporter(s), fan(s), and spectator(s) shall include the following:
- a) Any person wearing articles of a colour commonly associated with the colour of the offending club, e.g. scarf, badge, etc., and/or,
 - b) Any person who is seated at a stand or section of a stadium that is occupied by the followers of the offending club when the offence is committed and/or,
 - c) Any person known to the PLS Official to be a member, player, marshal, official, supporter or fan of one of the clubs and/or,
 - d) Any person who commits the offence in furtherance or support of the offending club's interest or favor.
4. Clubs are expected to post marshals in the stands to control their crowds and the marshals 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 PLS official to serve as a mitigating factor in the case that the club is charged for misbehavior of its supporters, fans or members.
5. Use of any substance that is alien to, or is foreign to, a football field or stadium is not allowed, and:-
- a) It shall be an offence for a club, if its supporters, fans, officials and players, are seen using any substance that is alien to, or is foreign to, a football field or stadium. Any club identified by the Referee/Match Commissioner or the Stadium representative committing this offence shall be summarily fined an amount of E3,000.00 by the PLS.

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- b) The Referee's report/Match Commissioner/ Stadium representative's or any PLS Official report shall provide conclusive proof regarding the use of substance as outlined in Article 7 (5) (a) above.
6. If a club appears before the DC for a second time on the similar charges of violence and if found guilty, the DC shall double the fine. Further to that a club shall lose six (6) points.
7. The PLS-CEO shall provide copies of the NFAS Constitution to the members of the NFAS Protest & Disciplinary Committee.
8. 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 the hearing. The decision of the DC shall be binding to all parties concerned herein.
9. In the event that a party has been properly served with the notice to sit for a hearing, and the matter has to be postponed due to the party's unavailability, the DC may order the said party to pay the costs related to the postponement of the case. Such hence proof of payment produced before the sitting.

ARTICLE 8: Powers of the Protest and Disciplinary Committee

Notwithstanding the above mentioned disciplinary procedures, the DC shall have the liberty to use the disciplinary measures as outlined in the Rules and Regulations of the Constitution of the NFAS.

ARTICLE 9: Sponsorship Terms

The PLS shall advise on this subject, however, conformity to the regulatory frameworks, decisions and directives of the NFAS, CAF and FIFA in so far as this subject is concerned.

ARTICLE 10: Protests, Appeals and Fees

1. Clubs shall submit duly completed team list in Five (5) duplicates to the referee at least thirty minutes (30) prior to the start of play. Such list shall include:
 - a) The full names of Eleven (11) players starting the match;
 - b) The full names of Seven (7) substitutes which may be utilized during the match;
 - c) The full names-of Five (5) club officials positioned in the technical areas for the match.
2. Any protest involving defaulters shall duly be made immediately after inspection of both teams at the dressing rooms or such other allocated point of inspection in terms of these rules otherwise the protest shall be rendered null and void.
3. Any other protest shall be lodged with the referee at the time it occurs; otherwise it shall be null and void. A decision taken by the referee during a match shall not be subject to protest.

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4. Both captains and the referee must sign the protest for acknowledgement. Should any captain refuse to sign the protest, the Referee and/or the Match Commissioner shall indicate that in his/their report(s).
5. Club captains shall not refuse to sign a protest lodged by another club. Offending clubs shall be summarily fined an amount of E1, 000.00 by the PLS.
6. Upon receipt of a protest, the PLS shall charge the offending party with committing the offence complained about and institute a disciplinary hearing as soon as possible, wherein the said protest shall be tabled before the DC for determination. The protesting club bears the onus to prove its case.
7. The Disciplinary Committee of the NFAS shall dismiss the protest if it is deemed frivolous or vexatious on the face of it, failing which the Disciplinary hearing shall proceed.
8. The protesting club shall have the right to appeal against the decision of the Disciplinary Committee of the NFAS not to entertain the protest or dismiss the protest in terms of Rule 10.9.
9. The protesting club shall have the right to be presented and give evidence before the Disciplinary Committee hearing the charge/s against the offending party.
 - a) The Premier League may subpoena any party under its jurisdiction and/or request the NFAS to subpoena such person to give evidence or produce any book, paper or document at the hearing.
 - b) The protesting club and the offending party shall have the right of appeal to the NFAS Appeals' Board against any decision of the Disciplinary Committee.
10. A club may be represented by a person of their choice as per the FIFA and NFAS statutes or regulations. Their choice of a representative, however, must not be an individual who is a former employee of the PLS and/or a member of the Board of Governors or Executive Committee Member.
11. The DC shall have the power to sit and determine a case even if the other party is not represented, if the DC is satisfied that such party had been accordingly informed of the date, time and venue of the hearing. The decision of the DC shall be binding to all parties concerned therein.
12. In the event that a party that had been properly served with the notice to appear before the hearing, and the matter has to be postponed due to the party's unavailability, the DC may order the said party to pay costs related to postponement and subsequent sitting of the hearing.
 - a) Such costs will include; sitting allowances, travel allowances, etc. of all parties concerned.
13. Any club that is not satisfied with the decision of the DC shall have the right to appeal. An appeal shall be made to the NFAS Appeals Board within FIVE WORKING DAYS after the written verdict of the DC; otherwise it shall be null and void.
 - a) A non-refundable fee amounting to E2, 000.00 must accompany the appeal.

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14. A Complaint shall not be treated as a protest nor shall it warrant for a hearing as it assists administration as they manage the competition.
15. No club shall have direct communication with the sponsors and any club or anyone that breaches this rule shall be summoned to appear before the DC if found guilty shall be fined an amount not less than E3, 500.00.

ARTICLE 11: League Positions, Relegation and Promotion of Clubs

1. The number of points scored shall determine positions in this competition. The final and officially completed log issued by the PLS shall be binding on all clubs and officials, and will be used for the purposes of resolving disputes that should arise due to any unforeseen circumstances. A copy of the final and complete log shall be sent to all clubs by the PLS.
2. The club scoring the most points on completion of the league shall be declared the winner (League Champions).
3. In the case of equality of points between clubs, positions in the log will be determined by the best goal difference.
4. If 2 and 3 above are not decisive, the club having scored the most goals shall be declared the winner.
5. If 2, 3 and 4 still do not give a position, the combined results of the first and second round matches played by the contesting clubs that have tied shall be decisive.
6. If 2, 3, 4 and 5 fail to produce a clear position, and then a play-off match shall be played by the contesting clubs to determine the winner.
7. In the event the senior team of the respective U20 team gets relegated to a lower division; the U20 team (junior team) shall be relegated irrespective of its Log Standing or position on the log of the League competition.

ARTICLE 12: Prizes and Awards

1. The PLS shall advise participating teams on this subject.
2. However, a player from the senior team who has been utilized in terms Article 3 of these rules and regulations shall not qualify for any of the individual awards, such as player of the competition; top goal scorer or player of the match, as the competition in its essence is developmental. Only players registered for the U20 league shall qualify.



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ARTICLE 13: Press Statements and Reports

1. Each club shall be responsible for advertising its matches through the media. Clubs shall furnish the PLS with the name, addresses, E-mail, telephone and fax numbers, of the person who shall act in this capacity.
2. The PLS Chief Executive Officer shall be entitled to publish in the press, or in any other media, reports of activities related to the PLS League.
3. Clubs, officials, supporters, fans shall not publish or make statements that may bring the sponsors, the PLS and all its Sub-Committees into disrepute. Anyone or any club that commits this offence shall be brought before the DC for disciplinary action, and if found guilty, the person's) and/or the club(s) shall be fined an amount not exceeding E2, 000.00 by the DC.

ARTICLE 14: General

1. Generally, all U-20 League matches shall be free. However, where an U-20 League match has been fixtured to curtain-raise or alongside for the senior league match(es), the regulations of the Senior League shall be applicable.
2. Each club will be allowed to bring a maximum of thirty (30) registered players plus five (5) officials.
3. Each club shall provide three (3) ball boys at all their matches.
4. Failure of a football club to provide, as in 14.3 above, shall be summarily fined an amount of **E100.00** by the PLS.

ARTICLE 15: Payments to the PLS

1. All clubs are directed to utilize the PLS Cheque Account held at Swazi Bank, Mbabane Branch when making payments in respect of **ALL DUES** to the PLS for the season. Such payments include protest fees and fines, a/c number **77022831541**.
2. After making a deposit, the club should proceed to the PLS office with the stamped Bank deposit slip where they shall be furnished with a PLS receipt by the Accounts/Administration Officer, as acknowledgement of payment/deposit. **CHEQUE DEPOSITS ARE NOT ACCEPTABLE.**
3. Fines imposed by the PLS to clubs are payable within twenty-one (21) days. The PLS shall have power to suspend the defaulting club until the fine/s and or other costs have been paid. Such dues are subject to the normal rates of interest as may be determined by the PLS.
4. Failure by the club to pay fines imposed by the PLS, The PLS shall have the power to deduct the money from **ANY** allowance/prizes due to the club from competitions of the PLS.

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ARTICLE 16: Provisions

The provisions of Article 11 and any other provisions related, are subject to any amendments and/or directives or decisions on the structure of the League as may be pronounced or directed by the NFAS.

ARTICLE 17: Matters not provided for

1. In the event of any dispute or conflict arising from this rules; the Constitution of the PLS shall take precedence and if the PLS Constitution does not assist then the NFAS Rules and Regulations and/or the NFAS Statutes shall take precedence.
2. Matters not provided for in the present rules and regulations and in terms of Article 17 (1) of these rules and regulations shall be decided by the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee's decision shall be final and binding to all parties, subject to any other provisions as may be enshrined in the NFAS Statutes relating to such.

ARTICLE 18: Adoption

These rules and regulations have been adopted and approved by the NFAS Executive Committee on the 16th January 2016 and come into force on the 23rd January 2016.

