

**INGWENYAMA MVA
CUP
2017/2018
(NATIONAL PHASE)**

RULES AND REGULATIONS

Prepared by

THE INGWENYAMA MVA CUP MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Approved by

THE NATIONAL FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION OF SWAZILAND

19th September 2017

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PREAMBLE

This document lays out the Rules and Regulations of the Ingwenyama MVA Cup (*herein after called the Rules*)

The abovementioned tournament shall be managed and administered by the Ingwenyama MVA Cup Management Committee, herein referred to as the MC in accordance with the Rules contained herein. The MC shall be as appointed by the Board of the Cup and any four members shall form a quorum in a meeting organised for the Management Committee.

The Secretariat of the MC shall be at the PLS Offices at Sigwaca House, PLS Offices Ground Floor, Mbabane; all notices/correspondence must be served to the MC on this location.

The MC and participating clubs in this tournament shall be deemed to have given their assent to these rules and to have undertaken to abide by them.

DEFINITIONS

All terms and phrases used in these rules will have the meaning defined in the constitution and rules of the League unless appears otherwise from the context.

1. The “*League*” is the Regional Super League or the National Leagues that conduct their affairs under the name and style of the Regional Football Associations or the Premier League of Swaziland (PLS) respectively.
2. The “*competition*” means the Ingwenyama MVA Cup.
3. The “*competition sponsor*” means Swaziland Motor Vehicle Accidents Fund (MVA).
4. “*Perimeter board*” is a pitch-side advertising hoarding placed at ground level around the perimeter of the pitch within the perimeter fence.
5. “*Secondary advertising*” is all stadium advertising other than the perimeter boards including but not limited to advertising or signs wherever positioned, A-frames , cam carpets (*advertising on the ground itself whether painted or physical*), flags, banners, inflatable branded vehicles or virtual advertising.
6. “*MC Representative*”: an official allotted and entitled by the MC for the devotions of the administration of the competition matches at the match venue or stadium, who shall also have the accountability of generating a report for the MC with respect to the organizational issues around the match, where applicable in terms of the rules and regulations of the competition.
7. “*IFAB*”: International Football Association Board; being the body authorized to develop, amend and prescribe the Laws of the Game, which govern the constitutive practice of football matches.
8. **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 this document who is responsible for preparing a report of the match and to forward same to the relevant authorities in terms of these rules.
9. **Official:** Any member of the Match Supervisors or Competitions Committee of the Regional League **OR** Any person designated by the Regional Executive Committee (REC) to act in its capacity for match supervision e.g. a match commissioner, match supervisor, stadium representative, etc. **OR** Any member of the REC, the Regional Football Association (RFA) Office and its Standing and/or Adhoc committees.

10. **Defaulter:** A player who is not eligible to play in a particular game for any reason such as;
- a) suspension, expulsion, improper registration, double registration, or
 - b) registered with more than one football club,
 - c) unregistered,
 - d) Declared ineligible in accordance with the regulations in force, etc.
 - e) Any player as defined, shall be considered a defaulter if his name appears on the team list presented to the match officials at checking point for that particular game OR shall be considered a defaulter if he has played in the game in question.

11. **Player:** any football player licensed by an association.

12. ***Unsporting Behaviour and Misconduct:***

- a) An improper registration of a 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 provocative or insulting hand gestures/signals, and includes any incitement, conspiracy or attempt to engage in an act to bring football into disrepute; **OR**
- d) Failure by the football club(s) to control their official(s) or player(s) or supporter(s) or fan(s); **OR**
- e) Disregard of the Statutes of the NFAS and rules governing this competition. It also includes disobedience of instruction by; the Cup Official; Match Commissioner or Referee or the Stadium Representative.

13. **FIFA:** Federation Internationale de Football Association

14. **NFAS:** National Football Association of Swaziland

15. **IFAB:** International Football Association Board

16. **DC:** The Protest and Disciplinary Committee.

17. **PLS:** Premier League of Swaziland

18. **RFA:** Regional Football Association

19. **RSL:** Regional Super League

ARTICLE 1 Scope and Organization

1. These rules cover the National Phase of the Ingwenyama Cup Competition; which commences from the Fourth (4th) Round to the Eighth (8th) Round. In this nomenclature; the 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th Rounds correspond to the Last 16 Stage (1/16th), Quarter (1/4) Finals, Semi (1/2) Finals and Finals respectively.
2. Football Clubs/Teams that are eligible to participate in this National Phase of the competition are; the six (6) football teams from the Regional Associations Super Leagues Phase of the competition; the 12 National First Division League teams; and the 14 Premier League teams.
3. These rules must be read in the consulting with the; rules of the Premier League of Swaziland and/or the MTN Premier and National First Division Leagues.
4. Where any matter is not provided for in these rules, the rules and Statutes of the NFAS will apply.
5. In the instances where a football club is unable to participate in the competition, the MC shall decide on the formula and /or regulation for the replacement.
6. The competition will be managed and administered by the Ingwenyama MVA Cup Management Committee (MC), herein referred to as the MC, which shall be a composition of appointed personnel by the Board of the Cup.
7. Any of the four (4) members shall form a quorum in a meeting organised for the MC.
8. Football Clubs and all parties concerned in this tournament shall abide by the rules of the League as well as these rules.

ARTICLE 2: Trophies and Awards

1. The winning Football club who will be conferred the Champions of the competition will be presented with the Champions Trophy which shall remain the property of the MC.
2. Where possible; as may be decided by the organizers and sponsors of the competition; the winning club may be conferred with a replica trophy for its perpetual custody.
3. If a club wins the competition three (3) times it will be entitled to keep the trophy permanently and counting will begin from zero for the clubs.

ARTICLE 3: Participation

1. The competition shall be played by the six (6) football teams from the Regional Associations Super Leagues Phase of the competition; the 12 National First Division League teams; and the 14 Premier League teams. This is subject to decisions and directives of the NFAS regarding unforeseen circumstances in football under its auspices.
2. This national phase of the competition shall, like the regional phase be played in a knock out format (*4th to 8th Round*).
3. The MC shall prepare a schedule of fixtures for the matches to be played, giving the date and time of each match at least two (2) days before the date of the fixture.
4. The MC may in certain circumstances change or reschedule the fixture. Clubs affected by these changes shall be informed in writing, electronically or telephonically through any designated member. This shall be done at least one (1) day before the date of the match.
5. It shall be the duty and sole responsibility of all teams to collect their schedule of fixtures. Failure to collect a fixture shall not exonerate a club or team from sanction in the case it arrives late or fails to honour a match.
6. The MC and participating football clubs shall strictly adhere to the schedule of fixtures of the matches. No variations from the fixtures shall be allowed except in unforeseen extra-ordinary circumstances as may be determined by the MC. Unforeseen and/or extra-ordinary circumstances shall be determined by majority vote of the MC in case of any dispute.
7. The Match Officials shall conduct a pre-match inspection of the facilities including the pitch, dressing rooms, lights (where applicable) at least one-and-a half hours (1½ hrs) or 90 minutes before the scheduled commencement of a match.
8. The MC's stadium representative shall be responsible for ensuring that the field of play is ready for play, i.e. the grass is properly cut, lines are properly marked, goal nets are secure, flag poles are in place, floodlights (where applicable) are functioning properly, etc. at least two and a half hours before the scheduled commencement of the match.
9. The MC's stadium representative shall ensure that the stadium owner delivers the keys and access to the facilities for use by the Match officials and clubs at

least one and a half (1.5) hours or 90 minutes before the scheduled commencement of the match.

10. The MC's stadium representative shall ensure that all points of entry or as may be designated by the Match official are operational at least two (2) hours before the scheduled commencement of the match.

11. The MC stadium representative and officials of the clubs shall ensure that the sitting arrangement for fans, supporters, spectators of both clubs is properly demarcated and known.

ARTICLE 4: Players Registration

1. All clubs shall use their currently players; registered in terms of the prevailing regulations for the status and transfer of players as promulgated by the NFAS.
2. A player shall not be eligible to play for more than one club in this competition.

ARTICLE 5: Starting Time

1. Each club must arrive at the match venue ninety (90) minutes before the scheduled start of the match. On arrival at the match venue; each club shall submit its team's start list to the match commissioner or designated official in his/her absence. A pre-match meeting will be hosted at this point.
 - a) Each club shall report at the card checking point seventy (70) minutes before the scheduled start of the match.
 - b) The card checking point shall be the dressing rooms of the stadium where the match is played or any other designated area for that purpose as directed by the match officials.
 - c) Failure to report as in (1) (a) above, a club shall be summarily fined an amount of E3 000.00 by the MC.
2. Between the scheduled kick-off time and fifteen (15) minutes after the scheduled start of the match, a club fails to report for card checking, the offending club shall be summarily fined by the MC an amount equivalent to 25% of its share of gate collections or E10,000 whichever is greater.
3. Any club reporting after fifteen (15) minutes, for checking after the scheduled start of the match; the offending club shall be summarily fined by the MC an amount equivalent to 50% of its gate collections or E25, 000 whichever is greater.

4. When entering and/or exiting the field of play, a club shall use the official entrance as guided by the match officials. A club that contravenes this rule shall be subject to a summary fine of E25, 000-00 by the MC, which shall be deducted from its share of gate collections and/or prize money.
5. The match commissioner's report and/or referee's report shall provide conclusive proof as to when a club arrived at the stadium, and reported at the card checking point and whether or not article 5.4 was contravened.
6. The report of the referee officiating the match shall be conclusive proof as to when a club reported at the card checking point.
7. A club that abandons or causes the abandonment of a match, or refuses to take the field of play shall lose the match to the opposing club, and be further subjected to a disciplinary action by the Disciplinary and Protest Committee and liable to a fine not less than E30,000.00.
8. The referee's report or that of the Match Commissioner shall provide conclusive proof as to which club abandoned or caused abandonment.

ARTICLE 6: Match Officials and Play

1. The Referees Committee shall appoint the referees and match commissioners to officiate in all matches of the tournament.
2. In the event that one or two referees fail to show up, the Match Commissioner shall appoint substitute referees.
3. The Match Commissioner and referees of each match shall arrive at the field of play one-and-half (1 1/2) hours or 90 minutes before the scheduled start of the match to conduct an inspection of the facilities and a pre-match meeting.
4. Failure to conform with 5.3 as stated above; shall result in a referee allowance deduction; 25% of his allowance if he arrives from 16-30 minutes before the start of the match and shall lose 50% of his allowance if he arrive within 15 minutes before the starting time of the match and shall further be liable further result in the disciplinary action in terms of the Referees Code of Conduct and the MC duly advised in writing by the Referees Committee before he/she officiates on any proceeding match after such default;

- a) Provided that such notification shall not apply where a referee is due to officiate in any match within the same weekend or any match falling within three (3) days from such day of default.
5. Any referee who takes the field of play, one to fifteen minutes after the scheduled start of the match shall be subject to disciplinary action in terms of the Referees Code of Conduct and a notification made to the MC with the application of the provision in Article 5.3.
 6. If after fifteen (15) minutes, after the scheduled start of the match any one or all four Referees are not present, the Match Commissioner or MC Official shall appoint substitutes. The defaulting referees shall be subject to disciplinary action in terms of the Referees Code of Conduct and the MC duly notified with an application of the provision in Article 5.3.
 7. The report of the Match Commissioner and/or MC Official officiating at the game shall be conclusive proof as to when a Referee took the field of play.
 8. Before the commencement of each match, the Referee, Match Commissioner and the captains of both clubs shall check the players against their identity cards and team lists.
 9. After the completion of the card checking formalities, the Match Commissioner and the Referees shall formally lead the two clubs into the field of play at the start of the game and restart of the second half of the game (see attached annexure).
 10. It shall be an offence for a club to refuse to follow match officials' instruction. Any club that refuses to follow a match officials' instruction shall be summarily fined an amount of E10, 000 by the MC.
 11. At the end of each match the referee shall write a report of the match, which shall be conclusive to decide any matter(s) arising from the match, giving as much details as possible of all occurrences before, during and immediately after the match, such as -
 - (a) When the club took the field of play.

- (b)** Misconduct of players leading to the caution or expulsion of such players.
- (c)** Unsporting behaviour of the officials, member, (s) supporter (s) and/or fans.
- (d)** Goals scored in the match and the names of players who scored.
- (e)** Cards (both yellow and red) issued to any player or official.
- (f)** The number of substitutes introduced by each club and their names.
- (g)** Any other incident, which in his opinion is worth reporting.
- (h)** Any protest or objections by a club.

12. The Referee shall compile his report and hand it over to the MC at the PLS Office within two working days after the match at which he was officiating, producing such report in duplicate and cause the duplicate to be stamped with the seal of PLS and duly received thereto.

- (i)** The duplicate report shall remain with such referee who produced it and may be used if all such available and material pages bear the seal of PLS and signature of the official PLS Officer proving to have been received in terms of article 5.11.

13. The Referee shall conduct the match according to the recognised Laws of the Game and his accession on points of facts connected with play shall be final.

14. No club shall refuse the Referee that has been appointed by the Referees Committee or nominated to substitute an unavailable referee to officiate at any match of this competition. A club that refuses a referee shall be deemed to have abandoned the match and in the event that the match is called-off the matter shall be dealt with as provided for in Article 7.4.

15. The fourth official shall check the details of a substitute player, if such a player is introduced during the match.

16. The identity Cards of (a) player sent off the field and anyone alleged by the opposing club to be (a) defaulter(s) (accompanied by protest) shall be retained by the Referee and handed over together with the match report to the MC.

17. The Laws of the Game shall be those currently in force and as published by the International Football Association Board.

18. Each match shall last ninety minutes i.e. two periods of forty-five minutes with an interval as laid down in the Laws of the Games.
19. In cases of a draw during the ninety minutes in the 4th and 5th rounds, the game shall proceed straight to penalty shoot-outs. If after five penalties taken by each club it still remains a draw, the sudden death penalty rules shall apply.
20. In the case of a draw during the ninety minutes in the quarter-finals, semi-finals and finals, the game shall continue to extra time of thirty (30) minutes, i.e. fifteen (15) minutes each half. If it is a draw after the extra time the game shall proceed to penalty shoot – out, and if after five penalties taken by each club it still remains a draw, the sudden death penalty rules shall apply.

ARTICLE 7: Determination of winners

1. The tournament shall be played as a knockout where the winners of each round shall proceed to the next round until the finals.
2. Each match shall last ninety (90) minutes i.e. two periods of forty-five (45) minutes with an interval as laid down in the FIFA Laws of the Game.
3. The following scenarios shall apply for the determination of a winner in each of the stages of the tournament:

(a) 4th to 5th Round Stages

- i. The 4th to 5th Round Stage matches shall be played as one knockout match where the winner shall be qualified for the next round.
- ii. In the case of a draw during the ninety minutes (*regular time*), the game shall proceed to penalty shoot-outs in terms of the Laws of the Game, and where applicable, sudden death penalties.

(b) 6th to 8th Round (Quarter Finals to Finals) Stages

- i. From the Quarter Finals to the Finals; the matches shall be played as one knockout match where the winner shall be qualified for the next round.

- ii. In the case of a draw during the ninety minutes (*regular time*), the game shall continue to extra time of thirty (30) minutes i.e. fifteen (15) minutes each half.
- iii. If it is a draw after the extra time, the game shall proceed to penalty shoot-outs in terms of the Laws of the Game, and where applicable, sudden death penalties.

ARTICLE 8: Playing Kit, Colours and Numbering

1. Each registered club shall have two sets of contrasting uniforms in its registered colours so as to effect change in case of colour clashes. A club that fails to bring an additional playing kit shall be summarily fined E5, 000.00.
2. The visiting or away club shall be required to change uniform in case of colour clashes.
3. Failure by a visiting team to effect a colour change in its uniform within 15 minutes after the scheduled start of the match will result in the match being called off. The offending club shall if found guilty forfeit the match to the opposing club and be fined not less than E10, 000.00.
4. Club officials should submit their club jerseys to the match officials so that the toss is conducted seventy (70) minutes before the scheduled kick-off time.
5. The players' kits shall bear numbers on their jerseys.
6. Numbering shall be from 1 to 99.

ARTICLE 9: Serious Player/Club Misconduct

1. Players who are red carded will automatically be suspended from participating in one immediate official match after being sent-off and may further be liable to disciplinary action.
2. Yellow cards accumulated in various games of this tournament shall have no bearing on this tournament or any other tournament organised under the auspices of the NFAS, but a second yellow card in one game shall result in a red card.
3. A player who received a red card will automatically have his registration card withdrawn and forwarded to the office. The officiating referee shall be responsible to collect the player's registration card and submit it to the office with his match report.

4. For each subsequent occasion that a player is dismissed in the duration of the tournament, the period of suspension shall be increased by one (1) match from the suspension previously served.
5. A registration card, taken or confiscated by the office on account of 2 above, will only be returned after completion of the period of suspension to his club upon payment of the retrieval fee of **E100.00** to the bank account and an authentic bank deposit slip is produced to the office.
6. It is the responsibility of each club, and not the office, to ensure that all players are eligible to play in this competition. Any club contravening this rule shall be prosecuted and if the team is found guilty, it shall be fined a minimum of five thousand (**E 5, 000.00**) emalangeneni.
7. 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.
8. Any club fielding a suspended player shall lose the match in which the suspended player featured. Such a case shall be referred to the disciplinary committee and if found guilty may take disciplinary action against the club and the player concerned. If found guilty the club may be fined not less than E1,000.00, with the player liable to a possible suspension of not less than six (6) official matches.
9. Any club walking out; refusing to play a match; 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 and the club in question shall be deemed to have caused the abandonment and shall, if found, guilty of such offence, by the NFAS Disciplinary Committee, lose the match to the opposing club, as well as forfeit all its share of the prize money to the MC, and be liable to a fine of E25,000-00.
10. The referee's report shall provide conclusive proof as to which club abandoned or caused the abandonment of the match.

ARTICLE 10: Other Unsporting Behaviour and Misconduct

1. Any club whose member(s), player(s), official(s) or supporter(s)/fan(s) engage in unsporting or violent misconduct before, during or after a match; shall be liable to punishment.

2. Any player(s), official(s), supporter(s) /fan(s) who engage in unsporting or violent misconduct before, during or after a match; shall be liable to a punishment.
3. The following offences shall be punishable in the following ways -
 - a) Throwing objects of any kind onto the field of play - a summary fine E3, 000 by the MC.
 - b) Invading the pitch during a game by a supporter(s) or fan(s) or spectator(s), unless authorized by the referee, including the celebration of a goal(s) or any other cause – a summary fine E3, 000 by the MC.
 - c) Threatening by conduct or words to assault or attempt to assault a referee(s) or match official(s) or club official(s) or player(s) or fan(s) or supporter(s) or spectator(s) – a minimum fine of E5, 500-00 and a maximum fine of E10, 000-00 by the DC.
 - d) Assaulting a referee(s) or match official(s) or club official(s) or player(s) or fan(s) or supporter(s) or spectator(s) – a minimum fine of E10, 000-00 and a maximum fine of E100, 000.00. In addition, the offending club shall be ordered to compensate the victim for any financial loss incurred due to the assault.
 - e) Uttering abusive or obscene or derogatory words and/or spitting or emission of saliva onto any person or directed towards a person - a minimum fine of E3, 500 and a maximum fine of E10, 000-00 by the DC
 - f) Failure by a club(s) to control their officials or players or supporters or fans - a minimum fine of E3, 000-00 and a maximum fine of E10, 000-00 by the DC.
 - g) Use of provocative or insulting gestures/signals or unbecoming behaviour or conspiracy or attempt to act to bring football into disrepute – a minimum fine of E3,000-00 and a maximum fine of E10,000-00 by the DC.
 - h) A derogation of the above offences may also result to the suspension of an individual offender either official, supporter, player and or fan for a period not less than 3 months and not more than 6 months on all football activities in the country.
4. Any referee(s) or match official(s) or club official(s) or player(s) or fan(s) or supporter(s) or spectator(s) positively identified by the Referee or Match Commissioner or Match Official to have contravened any section of Article

8,1(ii), if found guilty shall be liable to suspension as provided in the NFAS constitution.

5. Members, players, officials, supporters, spectators, fans 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 official, player, supporter, fan and or such other person who may be found defaced or cause to be altered any record or document duly produced for the purposes of these Rules and for the Competition the club whose advantage the offence was intended to benefit shall be fined an amount not less than E10, 000-00 and lose such game which the report or document was about and such person be suspended from all football activities for a period of not less than 6 months.
 - c) 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,
 - d) Any person known by the NFAS or PLS or NFD or Regional Association to be a supporter, official or fan of one of the clubs, and/or,
 - e) Any person who commits the offence in furtherance or support of the offending and/or particular club's interest or favour.
 - f) 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 CC official to serve as a mitigating factor in the case that the club is charged for misbehaviour of its supporters, fans or members. However it shall be an offence for any member of a club who does not appear on the team list to be seen in the technical area (tunnels, dressing rooms, technical bench, field of play or any other such area as designated by the match commissioner). Any club whose supporters (s), fan(s), marshal(s), club official(s), spectator(s) or any unauthorized person seen in the technical area – a summary fine of E5,000-00 by the MC.
6. It shall be an offence for a football club, as represented by its supporters or fans, or officials or players, to be seen using any substance that is supposed or known to command super natural powers. Any football club that contravenes this offence shall be summarily fined an amount not less than E5, 000.00 and not exceeding E15, 000-00 by the MC.

ARTICLE 11: Protest

1. A protest regarding a defaulter must be lodged with the referee before the start of the game or at the time of substitution/introduction of the alleged defaulter otherwise it shall be rendered null and void.
2. Any other protest shall be lodged with the referee when the incident of protest occurs, otherwise it shall be null and void. The referee shall be obliged to record a protest (s) as requested. A decision taken by the referee during the course of the match shall not be subject to protest.
3. The referee and both captains shall sign the protest for acknowledgement. Club captains shall not refuse to sign a protest lodged by another club. Offending clubs shall be summarily fined an amount of E3, 000.00 by the MC.
4. Confirmation of protest in writing plus supporting evidence in duplicate must reach the PLS before 12:00 noon the following working day, after the match, otherwise it shall be null and void. A bank stamped deposit slip for a non-refundable protest fee amounting to E2, 000.00. An offending party shall be summarily fined E3, 000.00 by the MC.
5. The Secretary of the MC shall make arrangements for the convening and sitting of the Protest and Disciplinary Committee (DC). In his absence the Secretary or any other member of the MC duly authorised will act on his behalf.
6. In the hearing, each club shall be represented by a maximum of two of its officials, and any person who is the subject of a complaint shall appear personally.
7. The DC shall have the power to consider and deal with a matter brought for its consideration and make the necessary decision.
8. The DC shall have the 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.

9. In the event that a party was 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 bear the costs related to the postponement of the case. Such costs shall include sitting allowances, travelling allowances, etc. of all parties concerned including the DC.
10. If a club is convicted and found to have used a defaulter by the DC, they shall forfeit the game to the opposing club and be further subjected to a fine not exceeding E10, 000.00.
11. The NFAS Protest and Disciplinary Committee shall preside over any matters of dispute arising from this competition and any person there appearing to perform any duty on behalf of the League and or MC, such person must have been duly appointed by the Management Committee in terms of these regulations and/or in terms of the NFAS Constitution.

ARTICLE 12: Appeals

1. Any party that is not satisfied with the decision of the DC shall have the right to appeal to the NFAS Appeals Board provided that notice of such appeal was given to the DC immediately after delivering its verdict on the matter, or notify the MC and parties concerned by letter by 10:00hrs of the following day otherwise the appeal shall be rendered null and void.
2. Subject to the provisions of article 10.1 an appeal shall be made to the NFAS Appeals Board within TWO WORKING DAYS after the written verdict of the DC otherwise it shall be null and void. A non-refundable cash fee amounting to E3, 000 must accompany the appeal.
3. Notwithstanding the provisions of the constitution of NFAS, the decision of the NFAS Appeals board being the last and final body shall be final and binding on all parties and no further appeal shall be made to the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) or Tribunal Board.

ARTICLE 13: Matters Not Provided For

1. The MC shall decide on any matters not provided for under these Rules, and its decision shall be final and binding to all clubs taking part in this tournament.
2. The MC shall be allowed by these rules to refer any matter for advice or for purposes of ascertaining certain facts or on mere referral to the Executive Committee of the NFAS if the MC deems it fit and necessary in the circumstances regarding the said matter for referral.

ARTICLE 14: General

In the event of a conflict between any Rules of this tournament and provision of the Constitution of the NFAS Statutes and applicable regulations, as they relate to the subject in question the NFAS Statutes shall take precedence.

ARTICLE 15: Publishing in the Press

1. The Public Relations Officer (PRO) or the MC Secretary shall be entitled to publish in the press (or any other media) reports or activities of the tournament or such other authorised individual in the absence of the Secretary or by some other reason which the MC may deem fit.
2. Each club shall be responsible for advertising its matches through the media. Clubs shall furnish the MC with the names, addresses, E-mail addresses, telephone and fax numbers of two (2) club officials that will be entitled to receive mail for this tournament five days before the start of the tournament, and other information as the tournament may be progressing until the final day of presentation of prizes.
3. Clubs or officials or supporters or fans shall not publish or make statements that may bring the tournament, sponsors, the NFAS, PLS, Regional Associations, other clubs and the MC, including all the aforementioned organisations' sub-committees, into disrepute. Any club that commits such offence shall be summarily fined E10, 000-00 by the MC.

ARTICLE 16: Breakdown of Prizes

FOOTBALL CLUBS

Champions	E1, 200, 000.00
2 nd Position.....	E500, 000.00
2 x Semi-finalists losers @ E200, 000 each	E400, 000.00
4 x Quarter-finalists losers @ E 75, 000 each	E300, 000.00
Best Finisher (<i>National First Division League</i>)	E30, 000.00
Participation Fee (NFDL teams) @ E 5, 000 each	E60, 000.00

INDIVIDUALS

Player of the Series (<i>plus trophy</i>).....	E15, 000.00
Top Goal Scorer (<i>plus trophy</i>)	E10, 000.00
Best Goalkeeper	E10, 000.00
Referee of the Tournament.....	E6, 000.00
Assistant Referees (<i>to share</i>)	E8, 000.00
Best PRO	E6, 000.00

MEDIA

Best Print Media	E10, 000.00
Best Electronic Media	E10, 000.00
Best Editor.....	E6, 000.00
Best Reporter.....	E5, 000.00
Best Photographer.....	E4, 000.00

ADMINISTRATION

Competition Administration Fees.....	E245, 000.00
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NOTE:

- Clubs that shall be eliminated in the 4th round shall not be considered for the Best Finisher (NFDL) Award.
- In the event that more than one club satisfy the criteria for the Best Finisher Award; the prize money shall be shared amongst the clubs.
- In the event that no club qualifies for a stated prize; the prize money shall be forfeited to the MC; and may utilized as advised by the Ingwenyama Cup Board.
- One set of playing kit shall be made available to each club that will reach the quarter finals stage to use in both the quarter finals and the semi-finals, and one set of playing kit shall be purchased for each of the two finalists to use during the finals.

ARTICLE 17 Fixture Programme

1. Seeding of the football clubs shall be according to the attached Annexure 1.
2. A draw shall be conducted to determine the fixtures as set out below –
3. The Top 16 clubs; in terms of the Log Standing at the Premier League and National First Division League at the end of the First Round (*i.e. PL teams to take positions 1-14; with NFDL top 2 teams taking positions 15-16*) shall be seeded only for purposes of the fourth (4th) round draw.
4. The clubs positioned 17 to 32 (*i.e. the rest of the NFDL teams to take positions 17-26; with the 6 Regional Super League teams taking positions 27-32*) shall be drawn as opponents to the 16 seeded clubs.
5. The clubs positioned 17 to 32 shall enjoy home ground advantage only in the fourth round except or unless their fixture against any of the 16 seeded clubs is in the Grand Opening.
6. No seeding will be done for the 5th Round, Quarter Finals and Semi Finals, and an open draw involving all clubs shall be conducted to determine fixtures.

ARTICLE 18 General

1. Entrance fees at all matches shall be as follows;
 - (a) The minimum entrance fee for games under this tournament shall be E10.00 whilst the maximum shall be E50.00. The exact entrance fees to be charged at the various matches of this tournament shall be determined by the Management Committee.
 - (b) Children below the age of twelve (12) years will be charged half the applicable entrance fee.
2. The MC shall collect 20% on behalf of the PLS of the Gross Gate Collections from all matches played in this tournament, which shall be deposited with the PLS Cheque Account number 1210322831501 held at Swazi Bank, Mbabane Branch.

3. The MC shall further collect from the gross gate takings match officials fees which shall be deposited into the PLS Cheque Account number **1210322831501** held at Swazi Bank, Mbabane Branch. This exercise shall commence from the 4th round of matches.
4. The clubs shall provide adequate change at all matches and shall further provide enough personnel to collect gate takings in their fixtures at least two and a half hours before the scheduled start of the match. Any club that fails to bring adequate change and/or sufficient gatemen/women on time shall be summarily fined by the MC, an amount of E1000-00 from the club's day's share of gate takings and the amounts to be provided shall be determined by the MC from time depending on the particular match (s) which shall be communicated in writing two days before the said matches is or are played.
5. All fines imposed and payable by clubs in respect of this tournament will be settled as much as possible with funds due to the respective clubs from the tournament in either the form of gate takings and prize money. Such funds will be deposited in the PLS Cheque Account number **1210322831501** held at Swazi Bank, Mbabane Branch.
6. In the event of any dispute or conflict arising between any rule of this competition and those laid down in the Constitution of the PLS or NFAS, the rules of this tournament shall take precedence.
7. A maximum compliment of twenty-five (25) club members (players and officials) from each of the playing clubs will be allowed free entrance into their fixtured matches.

ARTICLE 19: Adoption

The present rules and regulations have been adopted and approved the NFAS on the 16th September 2017 and come into force on the same date.

President
Adam Mthethwa

General Secretary
Frederick Mngomezulu



ANNEXURE 1:**List and Seeding of Participating Clubs**

1. Mbabane Swallows FC
2. Young Buffaloes FC
3. Manzini Wanderers FC
4. Matsapha United FC
5. Green Mamba FC
6. Malanti Chiefs FC
7. Royal Leopards FC
8. Mbabane Highlanders FC
9. Manzini Sundowns FC
10. Moneni Pirates FC
11. Tambuti FC
12. Vovovo FC
13. Red Lions FC
14. Mbabane City FC
15. Mbabane Citizens FC
16. Madlenya FC
17. Tinyosi FC
18. Manzini Sea Birds FC
19. Milling Hotspurs FC
20. Tabankulu Callies FC
21. Bad Boys FC
22. Hlathikhulu Tycoons FC
23. Amalanda FC
24. Hub Sundowns FC
25. Sikhalo Se-Africa FC
26. Mahlalini FC
27. City Warriors FC
28. Young Movers FC
29. Stumbo XI FC
30. Billy Ocean FC
31. Boyane Young Aces FC
32. Rail United FC