

**MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT,
SPORTS AND YOUTH AFFAIRS**

SPORTS DIVISION

2009 PRIMARY SCHOOLS FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

REGULATIONS/PLAYING CONDITIONS

1. The championship will be governed in accordance with the normal laws of the game, except for the following regulations/playing conditions:

2. **CHAMPIONSHIP**

Primary Schools Football Championship

3. **REGISTRATION**

- (a). Schools are required to register a minimum of ten (10) players per team.
- (b). Registration of teams must be done on the prescribed registration form.
- (c). The correct date of birth must be clearly written next to the full name of each player appearing on the registration form.
- (d). A player shall not be registered for more than one institution.
- (e). Registered players must be bona fide members of the institution for which they are registered.
- (f). Completed registration forms must be submitted to the Sports Division by Friday, January 16, 2008.

4. **QUALIFICATION**

Only bona fide registered players will be allowed to play in the championship.

5. **CONDUCT OF CHAMPIONSHIP**

The championships will run as follows:

- Qualifying Round in various zones/districts: Top two (2) teams from each district and the 4 best 3rd placed teams will proceed to the intermediate stage of the championship.
- Intermediate Round: Qualified teams will be placed in zones and will play a round robin to determine the eight (8) quarter finalists.
- Final Round: The 8 quarter finalists will play a knock out to determine the champions.

6. **MATCH FIXTURES**

The match fixtures will be circulated to all participating teams before the commencement of the championship.

7. **BALLS**

- (a) The Sports Division will provide balls for the matches (size 4).
- (b) Teams are however urged to bring along their own balls to warm up.

8. **POINTS SYSTEM**

- (a). Win - 3 (win by forfeit: Score 2 goals to 0).
Draw -1
Loss - 0
- (b). In the event that a match is abandoned without any play having taken place, the match will be re-scheduled.
- (c). With respect to (b), matches will only be re-scheduled if it is determined that the cause for abandonment was beyond the control of the teams concerned.
- (d). Where one team is at fault, the points will be forfeited to the other team.
This course of action will however only be taken after a thorough investigation of the circumstances.
- (e). If both teams are at fault, no points will be awarded to either team

9. **SUBSTITUTES**

- (a) No more than four (4) substitutes are allowed in a match.
- (b) A replaced player cannot enter the same game again.

10. **WINNER**

- (a). The winner in all round robin situations will be the team with the most points
- (b). In the event that two (2) or more teams have the same number of points, the team with the superior goal difference shall be the winner.
- (c). If after (b) there is no winner then the team with the most goals shall be the winner.
- (d). If there is no winner after (C), winner shall be winner of match when the teams concerned played each other in the Round Robin stage.
- (e). Should there still be no clear winner after (d) then the team conceding the least goals shall be the winner.
- (f). In the event of a draw during the knock out phase, kicks from the penalty spot will be taken.

11. **UNIFORMS**

Teams must be properly dressed in team colours and numbered at all matches.

12. **DISCIPLINE**

(a) **Reporting for matches**

- A school team should be afforded due supervision and must be accompanied by a school teacher at all its matches.
- Teams are expected to arrive on time for their matches. Failure to arrive on time may result in the abandonment of the said match.
- A school unable to fulfill a match engagement must notify the Sports Division at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to the start of the match in question
- Players receiving red cards will be ordered to leave the field of play and will automatically miss the next match. During this period of suspension, the incident will be investigated by the Sports Division to determine whether further suspension will be warranted

- Any player insulting or assaulting a referee, match official, Officer of the Sports Division/Ministry, guests of the Sports Division, principals, teachers, parents, players, spectators will be suspended from further participation in the championships, until the outcome of an investigation to determine whether further disciplinary action will be warranted

(b) **Withdrawal of teams**

- Schools are expected to complete all match fixtures.

In the event that a school withdraws from a championship after having started or confirmed its participation in the championships, the matter will be investigated, and if the reason for such withdrawal proves unsatisfactory to the Sports Division, the matter will be brought to the attention of the Chief Education Officer for necessary action. Students/pupils from the school concerned will not be considered selection awards and selection on national school teams.

(c) **Over age**

- Schools playing student(s) who are over the age limit set for the championship will forfeit match points
- The offending students/pupils will not be considered for awards and selection on national school teams.

(d) **Procedure for protest**

- Dissatisfaction with the course of control of a match entitles a team to submit protest in writing to the Sports Division within forty-eight (48) hours after the conclusion of the said match.
- Players and team officials may not call off a match which is in progress - only the referee may do so.
- Offending teams under this rule will forfeit match points in addition to the penalties in 13 (b).

13. **CRITERIA FOR MVP AND MOST DISCIPLINED TEAM**

(a) **Most Valuable Player (MVP)**

- a) Coaches shall nominate 1st and 2nd choices for MVP on the opponents team after each game during the Round Robin phase.
- b) 1st choice nominees will receive a score of 10 points
- c) 2nd choice nominees will receive a score of 5 points
- d) Player with most points will be declared MVP. In the event of a tie, the Sports Division will declare the MVP.

Note: A team's MVP is the player who had the greatest positive impact on his team's performance

(b) **Most Disciplined Team**

Teams will be penalized with negative points for ill-discipline as follow:

Lateness:	arrival within ten minutes prior to start of a match(negative 5 points)
	arrival after the scheduled start of match (negative 10 points)

No Show:	unexcused or unacceptable reason for “No Show”. (Team will be not be considered for award)
Yellow Card:	negative 5 points per player
Red Card:	negative 10 points per player
Improper Dress:	negative 2 points per player out of uniform
Improper Coaches Behaviour:	coaches will be penalized on a scale Negative 2 to negative 10 points.

Teams with the least negative points will be declared the Most Disciplined Team.
In the case of a tie, the Sports Division will determine the winner of the award.

14. **GENERAL COMMENTS**

- School teachers are expected to ensure that their players and supporters exhibit attitudes conducive to maintaining the good name of the sport and their respective institutions.
- All players and team officials are required to observe the edit: “the referee’s decision is final”.
- School teachers are required to arrange for their teams to arrive as a group when turning up for their matches.

15. **SPECIAL REGULATIONS**

Teams size: 7 players (1 goalkeeper and 6 out field players)

Field size: ½ football field (50m x 30m)

Offside rule: The offside rules are only applied from the prolonged lines of the penalty boxes (see sketch below), not from the midfield line.

