



# **THE BETWAY FKF CUP**

## **TOURNAMENT RULES AND REGULATIONS**

## **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

**I. GENERAL PROVISIONS**

**II. PARTICIPATION**

**III. FIXTURES AND FORMAT OF THE COMPETITION**

**IV. KICK OFF**

**V. RESCHEDULING OF MATCHES**

**VI. TEAM(S) FAILING TO APPEAR FOR A MATCH**

**VII. TROPHIES & MEDALS**

**VIII. PLAYER ELIGIBILITY**

**IX. MATCH VENUES**

**X. PLAYERS JERSEYS**

**XI. PLAYERS SANCTIONS**

**XII. PROTESTS & APPEALS**

**XIII. MATCH OFFICIALS**

**XIV. FINANCIAL PROVISION**

**XVI. UNFORSEEN**

## **GENERAL PROVISION**

- 1.1.** The Football Kenya Federation shall organize the Cup Competition annually open to all the Clubs affiliated to the Federation.
- 1.2.** The FKF National Executive Committee, acting in accordance with its statutory mandate shall appoint an Organizing Committee with exclusive rights to supervise and organize the Football Kenya Federation (FKF) Cup Competition every year.
- 1.3.** The Organizing Committee shall be subjected only to the FKF National Executive Committee regarding the administration and organization of the competition.
- 1.4.** Without prejudice to any other obligation assumed by them, the clubs eligible to compete in the Competition shall be subject to and shall comply with the Articles of the Association, the Registration Procedures, the Disciplinary Procedures and the Rules as amended from time to time.
- 1.5.** The Executive Committee shall delegate the entire control and management of the FKF Cup Competition to the Organizing Committee (FKF Leagues and Competitions Committee).
- 1.6.** The Committee is responsible for the organization and supervision of all the matches in the competition, and in accordance with the regulations that govern them.
- 1.7.** The Organizing Committee has the following power at all the stages of the competition;
  - a) Fixing the dates of the matches of all the rounds of the competition.
  - b) Replacing, in conformity with the rules of the competition, the clubs declaring their withdrawal from the competition.
  - c) Taking decisions in cases of force majeure.
  - d) Ratifying the results of the matches. If there is neither claim nor protest, the matches are automatically homologated 72 hours after the matches. All the homologation decisions are final and without appeal.
  - e) Designating the match commissioners.
  - g) Taking decisions on all complaints. The decision of the Committee shall be based on the written reports of the referee and/or the official commissioner and any other official designated by FKF.

h) Applying all sanctions stipulated for in the present regulations, in FKF Statutes and the Rules and Regulations Governing Kenyan Football are applied.

## **PARTICIPATION**

- 2.1. The Competition shall commence on a date to be determined in each season by the FKF Leagues and Competitions Committee. Prior to the commencement of the competition, clubs shall provide the Federation with written confirmation of its participation. The Federation will intimate in writing annually to all clubs eligible to compete in the Competition.
- 2.2. Any club intending to withdraw from the competition must give notice of its intention to do so to the FKF Secretariat not later than seven (7) days before the commencement of the Competition. FKF reserves the right to replace the withdrawing club before the commencement of the competition.
- 2.3. A compensation to be determined by the Organizing Committee may also be imposed.
- 2.4. Withdrawals which are notified after the competition has started but before the affected club has played its first match shall entail a fine to be determined by the Organizing Committee.

## **FIXTURES & FORMAT OF THE COMPETITION**

- 3.1. The Competition shall standardize on a maximum of 64 teams. Where the number exceeds 64 then preliminary matches shall be played by the last ranked teams so that the First round matches start with 64 teams.
- 3.2. The FKF Cup fixtures shall be drawn and published by the Organizing Committee and it shall be deemed responsible for any amendment or alteration thereto.
- 3.3. The matches shall be played on the days reserved in the FKF Competitions calendar of events.
- 3.4. Apart from the Final match, or in a case of force majeure recognized by the Organizing Committee, all matches in various rounds shall be played on a Knockout Basis.
- 3.5. The duration of each match shall be 90 minutes playing time (i.e. two periods of 45 minutes each) with half time interval of 15 minutes after the first 45 minutes.
- 3.6. After 90 minutes of play if there's no winner then the penalty rule shall apply to determine the winner save for the Finals where extra time of 15 minutes each half applies to determine the winner.

- 3.7. The matches shall be played in accordance to the current regulations and in conformity with the Laws of the Game.

### **KICK-OFF**

- 4.1. All FKF Cup Matches shall kick-off at times designated by organizers.
- 4.2. Competing teams of each match shall report to the Match Officials, at the place reserved for teams' inspection during the Pre-Match Meeting.
- 4.3. Not later than 2 hours before the start of the match, each club shall hand to the referee, and the host broadcaster, a duplicate of the Official Team sheet. The Official sheet shall contain accurate and complete details of the numbers, full player names in relation to not more than 18 players, together with full names of the technical personnel to be seated within the technical area (subject to a maximum of 6 such technical personnel). The Official Team sheet must be properly completed in block capitals, and signed by the Secretary or other accredited official. Upon signature by the Secretary or other accredited official, such Official Team Line will be deemed to be complete and binding on the club concerned.
- 4.4. The Players (field and substitutes), Team Officials of each of the competing teams, whose names are registered on the Team Sheets, and the Match Officials shall proceed, in an orderly form, preceded by the Match Officials, from the inspection/dressing room to the playing area. The Referee, the Assistant Referees and the twenty-two (22) competing players (or the field players not less than seven (7) from each team) shall then proceed directly onto the pitch (field of play) for the commencement of the game while the Match Commissioner, the fourth (4th) officials, the substitute players and the Team Officials proceed to their reserved seats.
- 4.5. If any of the first 11 players listed on the Official Team sheet is not able to start the match due to unexpected physical incapacity or other extreme circumstances (which are explained to and accepted by the referee), he may only be replaced by one of the named substitutes. The substitute(s) in question may then only be replaced by an eligible player(s) not originally listed on the Official Team sheet as signed, so that the quota of substitutes is not reduced. During the match, three players may still be substituted.
- 4.6. In order to avoid any conflict related to the location of the Team Officials/Substitutes Bench, the allocated positions of each team shall be assigned as follows;  
  
TEAM A (HOME TEAM) – Left side of fourth (4th) official's desk.  
  
TEAM B (VISITING TEAM) – Right side of fourth (4th) official's desk.

- 4.7. No unauthorized person should be accommodated by any of the participating clubs within the Technical Area and on the Technical Bench.

### **RESCHEDULING OF MATCHES**

- 5.1. If a match cannot start or cannot be played in full, the full or remaining match time is, as a rule, played on the next day, without prejudice to any possible disciplinary measures.
- 5.2. In case a match is abandoned and the Organizing Committee decides a continuation of play, the match shall recommence with the same score at the minute at which play was interrupted. For avoidance of doubt, the Organizing Committee may decide a full replay of the match that was abandoned.
- 5.3. If the match cannot be rescheduled the next day, the Organizing Committee shall fix a new date.
- 5.4. As a rule, a rescheduled match is played at the same venue. If the circumstances require a change of venue, the Organizing Committee must approve the alternative venue.
- 5.5. In all cases, the Organizing Committee must approve the venue and fix the new kick-off time taking account of both teams' needs wherever possible.
- 5.6. If a club is responsible for the rescheduling of all or part of a match, that club bears its own expenses, as well as any additional travel, board and lodging expenses of the other club, of the referee team and the match officers, without prejudice to any possible disciplinary measures.
- 5.7. If the match is rescheduled through no fault of either club, each party bears its own expenses related to the original fixture and the rescheduled match or remaining match time.
- 5.8. In all cases, decisions taken by the Organizing Committee on the basis of this article are final.
- 5.9. If the referee decides to abandon the match, the remaining match time must be played according to the following principles:
  - (i) The match sheet may contain any of the eligible players who were on the players' lists when the match was abandoned, irrespective of whether they were actually on the match sheet for the abandoned match, with the exception of players substituted or sent off during the abandoned match as well as players suspended for the abandoned match. The players who were in play at the time the match was abandoned may not be included on the match sheet as substitutes when the match is resumed.

- (ii) Any sanctions imposed before the match was abandoned remain valid for the remainder of the match.
- (iii) Single yellow cards imposed before the match was abandoned are not carried forward to any other matches before the abandoned match is completed.
- (iv) Players sent off during the abandoned match cannot be replaced and the number of players in the starting line-up remains as it was when the match was abandoned.
- (v) Players who were suspended following a match played after the abandoned match in question can be included on the match sheet.
- (vi) The teams can make only the number of substitutions to which they were still entitled when the match was abandoned, using their respective remaining number of stoppages in play.
- (vii) The match must restart on the same spot where the abandoned match action occurred (i.e. free-kick, throw-in, goal kick, corner kick, penalty, etc.). If the match was stopped during the normal flow of the game, a dropped ball on the spot where it was abandoned shall be used to restart.

### **TEAM(S) FAILING TO APPEAR FOR A MATCH**

- 6.1. If a team(s) fails to appear on the pitch for a scheduled match an hour (60) minutes after the designated kick-off time, the Referee shall declare the end of the match and submit a Report to the Organizing Committee.
- 6.2. Where both teams fail to appear, the match shall be deemed to have been played. In addition, both teams shall be eliminated from the competition and the Organizing Committee reserves the right to take further action against the teams.
- 6.3.** If a club refuses to play or is responsible for a match not taking place or not being played in full, FKF shall take a decision in the matter upon receipt of the match report.
- 6.4. Offences committed by teams to warrant the forfeiture of a match:
  - i. Team walks off the field of play;
  - ii. Team refuses to continue play;
  - iii. Team positions itself in such a way as to render the progress of the match impossible;
  - iv. Player(s), a supporter(s), or an official(s) of a team initiates an act responsible for the abrupt end of a match;
  - v. A team arriving late, thereby causing a late kick-off of the match, without reasonable cause, and renders the duration of the match to fall short of the scheduled period of play;
  - vi. A team that commits a fraud on the identity of a player or which allows a suspended or unqualified player to take part in a match;
  - vii. A team that fails to report for or fails to honor a match without just cause.

- 6.5. In respect of an offence related to Rule 24 (g) the offending team shall be considered as having lost the match. The Organizing Committee reserves the right to apply further sanction(s).

## **TROPHIES AND MEDAL**

- 7.1. The FKF shall provide a trophy to the Winners of the Tournament.
- 7.2. A presentation ceremony shall be held at a place and time to be decided by the Organizing Committee.
- 7.3. The Trophy shall be the property of the Football Kenya Federation
- 7.4. Any team that shall be presented with the Trophy should undertake to secure and maintain the Trophy while in its custody and shall return it not later than (30) day prior to the start of the following season.
- 7.5. Should the Trophy be lost, or be destroyed, or be damaged by fire or any other cause whilst under the care or custody of the said winning club, the club shall refund Football Kenya Federation the amount of its current insured value, or the cost of thorough repair in addition to any other penalty which the Football Kenya Federation may impose, or the replacement value of the Trophy.
- 7.6. A replica of the Trophy shall be awarded to any team that has won it for 3 (three) consecutive times.
- 7.7. In addition to the Trophy, the Football Kenya Federation shall present medals to each of the Players, Substitutes, five team officials and the match officials, of the FINAL match i.e. the Winning Team and the referees.

The Cup Winners shall receive 35 Gold Medals, 35 Silver Medals to the First Runners-Up and 35 Bronze Medals to the Second Runners-up of the competition.

## **PLAYER ELIGIBILITY.**

- 8.1. All players, duly registered in accordance with the FKF Regulations are qualified to take part in the competition.
- 8.2. Clubs may register a maximum of five (5) foreign players but not more than three (3) can participate in any one match.
- 8.3. An unqualified player is:
- i. An unregistered player;



- ii. A player suspended by the FKF from participating in Football Competitions indefinitely or for a specific period;
  - iii. A player banned from participating in football competitions organized by CAF, FIFA or other similar organizations to which the FKF may be affiliated.
  - iv. A player who has registered for more than one club or with any club registered with another National Association/League.
- 8.4. An unqualified player shall not take part in any official competition organized by the FKF.
- 8.5. For the avoidance of doubt, a player shall not be deemed to have been fielded (or took part) in a match unless he actually played in the match.
- 8.6. Without prejudice to the foregoing provisions of this Article, the Organizing Committee shall, in all cases, reserve the right to locate and punish the guilty party/parties.

### **MATCH VENUES**

- 9.1. All matches shall take place on the assigned venue as determined by Organizing Committee or in a Provincial Town depending on the participating Clubs.
- 9.2. Each venue shall have an enclosed ground where entrance tickets are sold to spectators
- 9.3. A club not having an enclosed ground where entrance tickets are sold shall obtain the consent of the Organizing Committee to use an alternative ground.
- 9.4. In the case of a replay match, the Organizing Committee shall approve the venue.
- 9.5. The Organizing Committee shall have the power to order any match to be played on an alternative ground if it is deemed necessary.
- 9.6. The Organizing Committee shall have the powers to rebrand the venue(s) of the match with billboards or any form of advertisements of the sponsor(s) in consultation with the FKF Executive Committee
- 9.7. The dimensions of the field of play for all matches shall be in accordance with the FIFA Laws of the Game.
- 9.8. Goal nets and corner flags must be used in all matches, and the field of play properly marked and provided with the correct appurtenances.
- 9.9. The playing area must be enclosed by a permanently fixed barrier, except those areas and spaces excluded from spectator viewing.
- 9.10. Adequate entrances and exits must be provided to guarantee the security and safety of players, officials and spectators.

9.11. Subject to this rule, Referees shall have power to decide as to the fitness of the ground in all matches and must report at the grounds where the match is to be played at least one and half hours before the time of kick-off.

## **PLAYERS JERSEYS**

- 10.1. Each team must wear the colors registered by its club. The colors (i.e. shirt, shorts, and socks) and their arrangement must be shown on the standard entry form (Club Participating Form) and will be communicated by the FKF Secretariat to all the participating Clubs before the start of the Competition.
- 10.2. When, in the opinion of the referees, the official and duly registered colors of two (2) opposing teams are similar, the visiting team must change their colors.
- 10.3. Every team must have a spare outfit, other than their original registered colors, available.
- 10.4. Players' shirts shall be clearly numbered on the back, in accordance with the team list to be submitted to the Referee/Match Commissioner before any match and no change of numbers will be permitted during the match, except in the case of goalkeepers.
- 10.5. If a match is played on a neutral ground, a toss of coin shall be made to determine the team having to change its jerseys in case of a clash.
- 10.6. Every Club may, at its own discretion, modify the formation of its team, between one match and another, even in case of matches to be replayed, provided that only the players appearing on the list submitted in accordance with the stipulations of Rule 8 are used.
- 10.7. Competing Clubs shall carry the logo or any form of publicity of the sponsor(s) on their jerseys on the orders of the Organizing Committee. Defaulting Club(s) shall face sanctions to be prescribed by the Organizing Committee.
- 10.8. Teams will be obliged to wear the following advertising on their playing jerseys:
  - (i) The sponsor's name on the front of their jersey.
  - (ii) The technical sponsor and the club crest on the left and right breast of the front of the jersey.
  - (iii) Where applicable, the relevant FKF official competition logo and the relevant FKF League Competition sponsor's logo on the right and left arm sleeve respectively
- 10.9. Goalkeepers shall wear colors which distinguish them from the other players and from the referee. The referee's decision on whether this Rule is met will be final and binding on all parties.

10.10. In the event of a conflict of interest, the decision of the Organizing Committee shall take precedent.

### **PLAYER(S) SANCTIONS**

- 11.1. A player who receives two (2) consecutive cautions (yellow card) shall be automatically suspended from playing the subsequent match in the FKF Cup Competition.
- 11.2. A player who receives, during the same match, two (2) cautions (yellow cards) shall incur an expulsion (indirect red card) and, consequently, automatic suspension from the next match. The two (2) cautions (yellow cards) that incurred the red card are rescinded.
- 11.3. In accordance with conditions contained in these Rules and Regulations, one match means a match in the FKF Cup Competition.
- 11.4. During the same year, a player is in principle eligible to play for one and the same club in the FKF Cup. However, a player even though registered on the list of a club and has not been fielded in any match, will be eligible to play for another participating club in the FKF Cup in the same year so long as all the regulations pertaining to transfers are complied with.
- 11.5. All contestation concerning the regularity of the licenses may be subject to a protest lodged in conformity with the present Rules and Regulations and submitted to the FKF Secretariat for decisions. The licenses of the contested players will be retained by the Match Commissioner of the match who shall send them to the FKF Secretariat along with his/her official report.
- 11.6. If an abandoned match is to be replayed, any caution (yellow card) issued during that match shall be upheld. If the match is not to be replayed, the cautions (yellow cards) received by the team responsible for causing the match to be abandoned are upheld; if both teams are responsible, all of the cautions are upheld.
- 11.7. The Organizing Committee reserves the right to extend the duration of this automatic suspension.
- 11.8. A team which will have committed a fraud on the identity of a player or which will have allowed a suspended player or ineligible player to take part in a match shall lose the match and shall be completely eliminated from the competition as soon as the incriminating facts are clearly established by the Federation.
- 11.9. If a player is guilty of serious unsporting behavior as defined in Law 12 of the Laws of the Game and is sent off (Shown a direct Red Card), any other caution (shown the yellow card) he has previously received in the same match is upheld.

## **PROTESTS & APPEALS**

- 12.1. All other protests shall be communicated directly to the General Secretary within twenty-four (24) hours from the end of the match concerned.
- 12.2. Copies of the protest should be served on the offending club. Failure to do so shall attract a fine to be determined by the organizing committee.
- 12.3. The decisions taken by the referee on the ground during the match on matters of fact shall not be subject to protests.
- 12.4. An appeal may be lodged to the FKF Appeals Committee against the decision of the Disciplinary Committee of FKF or the Organizing Committee but not against those stipulated as final.
- 12.5. The rights of the appeal are fixed at One hundred thousand Kenya Shillings (100,000 Ksh), to be satisfied at the time of filing the appeal.
- 12.6. The appeal, in writing, must reach the General Secretary directly by hand or by Registered mail not later than twenty-four (24) hours after the decision of the appropriate Committee has been communicated in writing to the Club(s), officials(s), or player(s) concerned.
- 12.7. The appeal shall have no delaying effect except in Financial matters and fines
- 12.8. The decision of the Appeals Committee in any matter shall be final.

## **MATCH OFFICIALS**

- 13.1. Match Officials refer to Referees, Assistant Referees (including a fourth official) and a Match Commissioner.
- 13.2. Match Officials designated for the FKF Cup competition must be on the most recent list of the Football Kenya Federation match officials established by the FKF Referees Committee
- 13.3. The decisions of the FKF Referees Committee on the appointment of Referees and Assistant Referees are final and not subject to appeal. A club may not refuse to accept the services of any match officials appointed by the FKF Referees Committee.
- 13.4. If the Referee is prevented or is unable to carry out his duties, such Referee shall be replaced by the Fourth official.
- 13.5. After each match, the Referee shall complete and sign the Official FKF match Report Forms. He shall send this report (by hand delivery or via mail) to the FKF Secretariat within Forty-Eight (48) hours of the end of the match.

13.6. The Referees and the Match Commissioners must send to the FKF Secretariat, within Forty-Eight (48) hours following the match, their report on the FKF referees form accompanied by the list of the main and substitute players, and the team officials as they appear on the match form. They must mention the protests, if any.

**FINANCIAL PROVISIONS**

14.1. All participating teams shall pay a Tournament Participation Fee as determined by the Organizing Committee

14.2. Each participating club shall bear the cost of team preparation, transport and accommodation during the entire period of the competition.

14.3. FKF shall ensure that all organizational expenses of a match are attended to, security at the match inclusive.

14.4. After deduction of the organizational expenses, the benefits resulting from the sale of the match day tickets will be distributed as follows:

- FKF – 40% (Forty Percent) of Net receipts
- Host Club - 30% (Thirty Percent) of Net receipts
- Away Club - 30% (Thirty Percent) of Net receipts

14.5. For any match where there will be a sale of match day tickets, the Federation will put at the disposal of both teams the following number of tickets:

- 5 tickets in the VIP (VVIP) Area
- 15 tickets in the adjacent Tribunes

14.6. The person(s) required to return an award shall return all the benefits received, in particular sums of money and symbolic objects (medals, trophy etc.). The money received shall always be returned in full.

**UNFORSEEN**

Cases unforeseen in these Regulations are to be decided by Tournament’s Organizing Committee.

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