



2019-2020 Budweiser Soccer League

RULES AND REGULATIONS

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. General Information | 10. Failure to Play & Abandonment |
| 2. Format | 11. Failure to Appear |
| 3. Standings & Awards | 12. Team Misconduct |
| 4. Rescheduled Matches | 13. Match Regulations |
| 5. Entry & Obligations | 14. Match Suspension & Termination |
| 6. Rosters | 15. Anti-Doping |
| 7. Player Eligibility | 16. Protests |
| 8. Player Transfers | 17. Sponsorship |
| 9. Player Ineligibility | 18. GFA Office Hours |
| | 19. Matters Not Provided For |

1. General Information
 - a. Current FIFA Laws of the Game shall apply except as amended herein.
 - b. By participating in this competition, all players, coaches, team officials, parents, and spectators agree to abide by these rules and any sanctions for violating these rules.
 - c. The official name of the competition shall be **2019-2020 Budweiser Soccer League**.
 - d. The competition shall be organized by the GFA Competitions Committee (hereafter called "the Committee").
 - e. The POC's shall be Samuel San Gil and Erlissa Delfin, GFA Competitions Department, who can be reached at sam.sangil@theguamfa.com or erlissa.delfin@theguamfa.com
 - f. All matches shall be played at the GFA National Training Center in Harmon, Guam.
2. Format of Competition
 - a. Premier League: Double Round Robin; Single Knock-Off Round (FA Cup)
 - b. Amateur League: Double Round Robin; Single Knock-Off Round (FA Cup)
 - c. Masters League: Double Round Robin; Finals based on League Standings
 - d. Each match will consist of two (2) equal forty-five minute halves with a half-time interval not exceeding fifteen (15) minutes.
 - e. The committee reserves the right to make changes to the format if the need arises.
3. Standings & Awards:
 - a. A club's standing in its division shall be determined in the following manner:
 - i. Total points gained (Win = 3 points, Draw = 1 point, Loss = 0 points)
 - ii. Total points gained in head-to-head competition



2019-2020 Budweiser Soccer League

1. If more than two teams, skip to next tiebreaker
 - iii. Goal differential
 - iv. Fewest goals allowed
 - v. Fewest disciplinary points (Yellow = 1 point, Red = 2 points)
 - vi. Playoff (only to determine first place, otherwise finish tied)
 - b. The following awards will be given at the end of the competitions for Premier and Amateur Leagues:
 - i. League Champion
 - ii. Golden Boot
 - iii. Golden Glove
 - iv. Fair Play Award
 - c. The following awards will be given at the end of the competitions for Masters League:
 - i. League Champion
 - ii. Finals Champion
 - iii. Golden Boot
 - iv. Golden Glove
 - v. Fair Play Award
4. Rescheduled Matches
- a. Clubs are encouraged to follow the official schedule so that the competition may run as smoothly as possible.
 - b. If a club requests to reschedule a match, written notice must be given to the Administrator no later than one week before the originally scheduled kickoff time.
 - c. Once approved by the Committee, opponents of the club making the reschedule request must also agree to reschedule.
 - d. Once opposing club agrees, the POC's and clubs involved then work together to find earliest available date to reschedule the match in question.
 - e. A new date must be found by the latest working day before the original kickoff time (e.g. Thursday for a Friday kickoff or Friday for a Sunday kickoff).
 - f. If a new date is not agreed by then, the original kickoff time will be kept.
 - g. The Committee will work with clubs for any rescheduled matches due to inclement weather, acts of God, or any other unforeseen circumstances.
5. Entry & Obligations
- a. Clubs must notify the POC's of intent to play in upcoming competition by providing information to include but not limited to: official club name, team colors, names and contact info for at least two POCs.
 - b. Clubs can enter only **one** team into the Premier League.
 - c. Clubs that have any outstanding financial and/or disciplinary obligations will not be allowed entry into the competition.



2019-2020 Budweiser Soccer League

- d. If a club fails to pay the competition fee and subsequent late fee before kickoff of the last match of the season, any team and/or individual awards will be forfeited.
6. Rosters
- a. Clubs/teams are limited to **25** players per match; albeit there is no limit to number of registered players per club/team.
 - b. Managers must submit an updated roster to the POC's at least 48 hours before the scheduled match to ensure correct player information and jersey numbers.
 - i. If a match is scheduled for a Saturday, rosters must be submitted on a Thursday, and so on. If roster remains the same, POC's must be contacted that roster remains "AS IS."
 - c. Managers must verify and sign official match report upon completion of each match.
 - d. Only 25 registered players and two non-playing officials (e.g. manager and doctor) may be present in the technical area in any one match. These officials must be listed on the official team roster. **Any extra players, non-playing officials, or other people may not be present in the technical area or pitch.**
7. Player Eligibility
- a. A player may participate in the competition if he has a current adult GFA Player ID Card and does not have any outstanding disciplinary suspensions and/or fines.
 - b. All Premier and Amateur players **MUST** be at least 15 years old during the calendar year of the match in which they intend to play.
 - c. All Masters players **MUST** be at least 40 years old during the season in which they intend to play.
 - d. A player may only be registered to one team during the competition at any given time.
 - e. A player must be listed on the official team roster before playing in a match. A player must have played in **TWO** regular season matches in order to be eligible to participate in the playoffs.
 - i. Off-island based college students who are **registered with a club prior to the end of the transfer window** (January 25th, 2019) are exempt from having to play two regular season matches.
 - f. Any player who does not meet the above requirements will be considered ineligible.
8. Player Transfers
- a. Once a player registers for a club and gets his player ID card, he must play for that club and may not transfer to another club until the January transfer window.
 - b. The January transfer window shall be from January 3rd – 31st.
 - c. All transfers require the Transfer Request Form (TRF).
 - d. The TRF shall have the following completed:



2019-2020 Budweiser Soccer League

- i. Signatures of the player, selling club and buying club.
 - ii. Approval of the committee.
 - iii. \$25 payment to the GFA Main Office.
 - e. An additional transfer fee may be agreed between clubs. It is recommended that selling club does not sign the TRF until any such agreed fee is paid. Kindly disclose any added transfer fee to the Committee via the POC's.
 - f. Clubs must maintain at least 15 players on the roster. No transfers out of a club will be allowed if the club roster size falls below 15.
9. Player Ineligibility (per Art. 55 of 2014 GFA Disciplinary Code)
 - a. If a player is fielded in an official match despite being ineligible, his club will be sanctioned by forfeiting the match and paying a minimum fine of \$50.
 - b. The ineligible player shall be suspended a minimum of three matches and fined a minimum of \$50.
10. Failure to Play & Abandonment (per Art. 56 of 2014 GFA Disciplinary Code)
 - a. If a team refuses to play a match or to continue playing one which it has begun, it will be sanctioned with a minimum fine of \$100 and will, in principle, forfeit the match.
11. Failure to Appear
 - a. If a club cannot produce a minimum of 7 registered players that are properly geared, as defined by section 14 below, by scheduled kickoff time (no grace period), they will receive a 0-3 forfeit.
 - b. If both teams fail to meet the above requirement, both teams will receive a 0-3 forfeit.
 - c. Any subsequent offences by the same team will incur a \$100 fine and the possibility of additional sanctions.
 - d. Any fines must be paid prior to the forfeiting team's next scheduled match. Failure to pay will result in an additional sanction.
12. Team Misconduct (per Art. 52 of 2014 GFA Disciplinary Code)
 - a. Disciplinary measures may be imposed on clubs where a team fails to conduct itself properly. In particular:
 - i. A fine may be imposed where the referee sanctions at least five members of the same team during a match (caution or expulsion);
 - ii. A fine of at least \$300 may be imposed where several players or officials from the same team threaten or harass match officials or other persons. Further sanctions may be imposed in the case of serious offenses.
13. Match Regulations
 - a. Law 3 The Number of Players (Substitutions)
 - i. Premier: Teams have three substitution opportunities during a match and may substitute an unlimited number of players per opportunity. Players may re-enter the match after being substituted. Halftime substitutions shall not count.



2019-2020 Budweiser Soccer League

- ii. Amateur: Teams have five substitution opportunities during a match and may substitute an unlimited number of players per opportunity. Players may re-enter the match after being substituted. Halftime substitutions shall not count.
 - iii. Masters Division: An unlimited number of substitutions may be made and players may re-enter the match after being substituted.
- b. Law 4 The Players Equipment
- i. With the exception of the goalkeeper, all players on a team must wear identical jerseys, same color shorts and same color socks. A variation in color shades for shorts and socks is acceptable. No pockets in shorts allowed.
 - ii. Identical is defined as referring to design and color. All sponsor logos and patches must be properly applied per manufacturers' recommendations. Long sleeve jerseys can be considered identical to short sleeve jerseys. Old league patches will be considered identical to the new patches. It is recommended that all new jerseys use the new sponsor's patch.
 - iii. All players must wear a unique jersey number listed on the official roster. Numbers may not be taped or written onto the jersey.
 - iv. A field player substituting a goalkeeper must wear a number different than the goalkeeper he is replacing. It may be a different number than his field player jersey as long as no other player on the roster has the same number.
 - i. A goalkeeper substituting a field player must wear a number different than the field player he is replacing. It may be a different number than his goalkeeper jersey as long as no other player on the roster has the same number.
 - ii. If – in the opinion of the referee – there is a uniform conflict, the home team must use a different-colored jersey. A uniform set of bibs may be used as an alternative.
 - iii. With the exception of a Medical Alert necklace/bracelet, players may not wear jewelry of any kind. This includes watches, fashion bracelets, rubber bands, necklaces, etc.
 - iv. Players may not participate in a match if they are wearing a hard, unyielding cast or splint – even if padded.
 - v. Players may wear undergarments (e.g. compression shorts) of a different color than the sleeve or shorts as long as it is a solid color and center referee or head referee deems it not to be a conflict. It is recommended that all teammates wear same color.
 - vi. The match commissioner will be the authority to determine whether players are in compliance with the above rules. If no match commissioner is present, the referee will make the determination.
 - vii. Any player found in violation of **Section 14b** will be considered an ineligible player.
- c. Law 12 Fouls & Misconduct
- i. Caution Accumulation: A player who receives a caution in three separate matches will be suspended for the match that immediately follows the third caution. A player sent off for two cautions in the same match will not count as



2019-2020 Budweiser Soccer League

two cautions (it is a red card). However, a player who received a caution and then a straight red card in the same match will have the caution counted in the accumulated caution tally.

- ii. Caution Accumulations will be displayed weekly on the GFA website (www.guamfa.com).
- iii. A player who is sent off – after receiving two cautions in the same match or shown a straight red card – shall not play in the next match of the competition.
- iv. Ejection – Team officials in the technical area who, at the discretion of the referee, are guilty of committing a sending-off offence will be asked to leave the field of play.
- v. Players sent-off and team officials ejected must leave immediately and may come no closer than 30 yards from the perimeter of the field of play.
- vi. Any player or team official that is sent off or ejected will be referred to the GFA Disciplinary Committee and may receive additional sanctions.

14. Match Suspension & Termination

- a. If a referee stops a match for reasons of- but not limited to- safety (e.g. bad weather), serious infringement of the Laws of the Game (e.g. broken leg), and interference by spectators, the following procedures must be followed:
 - i. The match is stopped and suspended for up to 15 minutes to allow conditions to improve. If conditions do not improve sufficiently to restart the match after the 15 minutes, the referee shall terminate the match.
 - ii. If a match is terminated after the halftime whistle, the result shall be considered final.
 - iii. If a match is terminated before the halftime whistle, the Committee shall determine if the result is final, if the match should be replayed, or if an alternate solution is needed.
 - iv. No appeals may be made against decisions stated in this section.

15. Protests

- a. All protests must be submitted within 24 hours of the match in question in writing to the GFA Main Office or e-mailed to competition@theguamfa.com
- b. Per Article 123 of the 2014 GFA Disciplinary Code, all protests must be accompanied with a \$50 deposit. Deposits must be made at the time of protest submission (or by the next business day after protest is filed if protest is submitted after hours) otherwise the protest will be considered invalid.
- c. If the Committee rules against a protest, the team that filed the protest will forfeit the \$50 deposit.
- d. Protests concerning refereeing decisions (e.g. foul, offside, etc.) will not be honored.

16. Anti-Doping



2019-2020 Budweiser Soccer League

- a. Doping is prohibited. The AFC Anti-Doping Regulations, the GFA Disciplinary Code, and all relevant GFA directives in relations to anti-doping are applicable to the Competition.
 - b. The GFA shall inform each member association by means of a circular of the doping control procedure for the Competition.
 - c. The GFA Medical Committee shall be responsible for the approval of the WADA-accredited laboratory which shall carry out the analysis of all doping samples.
17. Sponsorship
- a. As part of the agreement with league sponsor Budweiser, all players 21 and older must wear the official BSL patch on the left sleeve of their jersey. Those under 21 are not required to wear the patches.
18. GFA Main Office Information
- a. Office Hours: Monday to Friday from 10:00am – 6:00pm
 - b. Phone: 637-4321
 - c. E-Mail: info@theguamfa.com
 - d. Website: www.guamfa.com
19. Matters Not Provided For
- a. The GFA Competitions Committee shall rule on any matters not provided for in this document.