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## PHILOSOPHY

*The Recreational League is a soccer league for novices that emphasize fun and recreation. **Standings are not recorded**, the spirit of the game should be kept light, and referees are encouraged to call the game closely.*

### 1. General Information

- 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.
- The official name of the competition shall be **2024 Latte Recreational League Winter Season (hereafter referred as the "Rec League".)**
- The competition shall be organized by the GFA Football Events Department.
- The Person of Contact shall be Samuel San Gil, GFA Head of Football Events, who can be reached at [gfafed@theguamfa.com](mailto:gfafed@theguamfa.com) or at (671) 637-4321 ext. 202.
- All matches shall be played at the GFA National Training Center in Harmon, Guam.

### 2. Format

- Small sided games: 8v8 playing on 60 meters in length and 40 meters in width fields.
- 2 – 25 minute halves, and 1 – ten (10) minute half time.
- Off Sides apply, unlimited substitutions and substitutions on the fly
- In the event, no referees are available each team would need one (1) representative to officiate the game. Furthermore, representatives would need to submit to [gfafed@theguamfa.com](mailto:gfafed@theguamfa.com) a W-9 (<https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/fw9.pdf>) as this is a paid position.
- Games are RECREATIONAL in nature and should be kept good in spirit and fun competition.

### 3. Promotion & Regulation

- a. Not applicable

### 4. Standings & Awards

- a. As this is a recreational league, standings are NOT recorded.

### 5. Reschedule Matches

- a. Clubs are to follow the Power Up Official schedule to ensure the competition may run as efficiently as possible.
- b. The Department will work with clubs for any rescheduled matches due to inclement weather, force majeure, public health restrictions, or any other unforeseen circumstances.
- c. There will be no requests for rescheduling of games for the 2024 season due to the following reasons:
  - i. Field closure
  - ii. Hosting of international competition.
  - iii. Limited availability of referees

### 6. Participating Team Entry & Obligations

- a. Only GFA Member Club are eligible to participate in the GFA sanctioned adult league.
- b. Clubs that have any outstanding financial and/or disciplinary obligations will not be allowed entry into the competition. For the current league, the club will have thirty (30) days to pay the competition league fee and any additional fees. Failure to pay within the timeline will result in the teams forfeit and may incur other sanctions and fines.
- c. Coaches are required to be registered in Power Up and apply for the season. [Club Member Zone >> Sign In >> Get Involved >>Team Official Application.](#)
- d. Club's Power Up Administrator must enter a team into the Power Up Convenor >> Manage>> Manage Teams>>Submit Governing Body;
- e. Member club shall submit the team in PowerUp by **October 25, 2024, by 5:00 pm.**
- f. **Should a member club decide to withdraw between October 29 through November 8, 2024 there is no fine to the member club. Should a member club decide to withdraw from the competition beyond the November 8, 2024, the member club will be fined \$100.**

### 7. Rosters

- a. Each team has a roster limit of 25 players and 2 non-playing officials.
- b. Suspended players and Officials are NOT allowed in the technical area. NO EXCEPTIONS.

## 8. Player Eligibility

- a. All players **MUST be born on or before 2006.**
- b. A player may participate in the competition if she has a current Power Up Sports account and any outstanding balances and fines are "processed".
- c. All players' registration into the league, **ALL SALES FINAL. NO REFUNDS**
- d. All players must be registered in PowerUP complete with proof of birthdate via Driver's License, Passport, Government ID, Birth Certificate or GFA Verification of Birth Document, Player Photo, and no outstanding disciplinary sanctions and/or fines
- e. GFA retains the right to its policy in regard to player registration. Failure to provide player's proof of Date of Birth (or providing erroneous information, or an unacceptable document) will cancel the player's application for registration. The Guam Football Association reserves the right to modify or supplement the provisions of player registration at any time.
- f. Any suspension and fines imposed will need to be served and paid before being eligible to participate in a match.
- g. Any player who does not meet the above requirements will be considered ineligible.
- h. A player in the competitive division is prohibited from playing in the recreational Moms League division.
- i. If you are registered to the 2024-2025 Women's G-League, you **CAN NOT** play for the Latte League.
- j. Current and former GFA National Team Players are not eligible. A National Player is defined as any player who was selected to a traveling team in the last FIVE years.
- k. It is the responsibility of each Team Manager/Coach to know who is not eligible on his/her team.

## 9. Player Transfers

- a. A player may only transfer her registration to another club during the season on the condition that she has not played any matches, in whole or in part, for her original club. Once a player plays for a club, she may NOT register to play for another club in the same competition. There will be NO refunds, if you qualify to switch clubs, you must satisfy any outstanding balances and fines with past and current clubs to be considered "processed".

## 10. Player Ineligibility (Per Article 58 of the GFA Disciplinary Code-Edition 2021)

- a. If a player takes part in an official match despite being ineligible, her club will be sanctioned by forfeiting the match and paying a minimum fine of \$50.

## 11. Forfeit and Abandonment

- a. **Forfeit (per Art. 58 of 2021 GFA Disciplinary and Ethics Code)**
  - If a club cannot produce a minimum of five (5) registered players that are properly geared, as defined by Section **15.b**, by scheduled kickoff time (no grace period), they will receive a 0-3 forfeit.

- If both teams fail to meet the above requirement, both teams will receive a 0-3 forfeit.
- As per Article 59:  
The fine for a forfeit is dependent on when the forfeit was officially communicated to the league administrator (Football Events Department). Times are related to the kick-off time of the match in question.

**Penalty:** More than 48 hours: Fine of at least USD50;  
Within 48-24 hours: Fine of at least USD100;  
Less than 24 hours: Fine of at least USD150.

The offence is aggravated in repeat offences.

**Penalty:** Initial fine as defined above, but an additional USD50 for each repeated offence.

**Second offence:** Initial fine, plus an additional USD50;

**Third offence:** Initial fine, plus additional USD100;

Each subsequent offence: The additional fine shall increase by USD50 from the previous; possible disqualification from a competition in progress and/or exclusion from a future competition.

#### **b. Abandonment (per Art. 60 of 2021 Disciplinary and Ethics Code)**

- If a team refuses to play a match or to continue playing one which it has begun, the club will be sanctioned with a minimum fine of \$200 and will, in principle, forfeit the match. (i.e., a team played only first half and declared to no longer play the second half, regardless if the opposing team give consent or not.)
- The club will be notified of any sanctions and fines as per Article 60 of 2021 Disciplinary and Ethics Code. The offence is aggravated in repeat offences.

#### **12. Failure to Appear**

- a. If a club fails to give proper notice and fails to produce the minimum of five registered players by the scheduled kickoff time, they will receive a forfeit.
- b. If both teams fail to meet the above requirement, both teams will receive a forfeit.

#### **13. Team Misconduct**

- a. As this is a competition, teams must follow and set by example the level of good sportsmanship and fair-plays.
- b. GFA recognizes that participation in said activities is a source of strong emotional feelings, which with the desire to win will often during sporting matches lead to misunderstanding, disagreements, and other conflicts.
- c. However, GFA also believes that every participant has a duty to respect the right of competitors to hold conflicting views and accept the limits of amateur sports officiating.

- d. GFA expects is coaches, players, referees, and spectators, as well as their friends and families to deal with conflicts in a spirit of good sportsmanship and to cooperate in promoting the enjoyment of football to the greatest extent possible.
- e. Illegal, unfair, rowdy, violent, dangerous, and unsportsmanlike behavior will not be tolerated, whether on the field of play or on the GFA Facility.
- f. GFA expects all participants and spectators to show respect for opponents, officials, and participants of GFA competitions, activities, and promotions, regardless of their skill.
- g. All participants agree to abide by the Release of Liability, Zero Tolerance Policy, Code of Conduct, IFAB 2024/25, and the GFA Disciplinary and Ethics Code. Available via Power Up or the GFA website.
- h. Unacceptable conduct shall include, but not be limited to:
  - All coaches and players are not allowed to use the locker rooms or gym during league games.
  - Consumption of alcohol by players and coaches is strictly prohibited immediately before the match and during the match. Furthermore, alcoholic beverages are prohibited in the technical area.
  - Vulgarity by coaches, players, or spectators directed toward anyone;
  - Harassment of referees, coaches, or players by anyone;
  - Debasement or degradation of referees, coaches, or players by anyone;
  - Physical violence or threat of violence directed toward anyone or encouraged by anyone;
  - Verbal or physical assault on a referee. Physical assault is defined as any physical contact initiated by a player, coach, team official, spectator, elected officer, or appointed official.
  - Use of illegal drugs/doping and smoking (all forms).

## 14. Match Regulations

- a. Minimum number of players to play a game is 5.
- b. Substitution is on the fly. Entry and exit point for substitution will be at the halfway line. Players must exit the pitch before substitute player can enter.
- c. MERCY RULE
  - i. The "Mercy Rule" will apply once a team is up by 5 goals (or has a goal differential of 5). Once a team is ahead by 5 goals, the leading team must remove a player. If the leading team scores again, the team must remove another player but no less than five players. If the losing team scores, the leading team can put back a player and so on. Once a team is at five players, no further players will be removed.
- d. Charging the goal keeper will not be permitted.
- e. Sliding tackling a player to dispossess her of the ball is NOT permitted. Slide tackling will be determined at the referee's discretion.

## 15. Laws of the Game

### a. Law 3 The Number of Players (Substitutions)

- i. 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 similar color jerseys, similar color shorts and similar color socks. A variation in color shades for shorts and socks is acceptable. Shorts must be worn over leggings and compression shorts. No pockets in shorts allowed.
- ii. All players should wear a unique jersey number or letter listed on the official roster.
- iii. A field player substituting a goalkeeper must wear a number different than the goalkeeper she is replacing. It may be a different number than her field player jersey as long as no other player on the roster has the same number.
- iv. A goalkeeper substituting a field player must wear a number different than the field player she is replacing. It may be a different number than her goalkeeper jersey as long as no other player on the roster has the same number.
- v. 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.
- vi. 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.
- vii. Players may not participate in a match if they are wearing a hard, unyielding cast, splint, or brace – even if padded.
- viii. 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.
- ix. The match commissioner will be the authority to determine whether
  1. Players are in compliance with the above rules.
  2. If no match commissioner is present, the referee will make the determination.
- x. Any player found in violation of Section 15b 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 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. 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.
- iii. 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.

- iv. 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.
- v. Any player or team official that is sent off or ejected will be referred to the GFA Disciplinary Committee and may receive additional sanctions.

## 16. Match Suspension & Termination by the Referee

- 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 GFA Competitions 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.

## 17. Protests

- a. As this is a recreational league, no protests shall be heard. Constructive comments are welcome. Please email concerns to [gfafed@theguamfa.com](mailto:gfafed@theguamfa.com).

## 18. Sponsorship

- a. The Recreational League is sponsored by TBA

## 19. GFA Office Hours

- a. The GFA Main Office is open Monday to Friday from 10:00am-5:00pm.
  - a. Phone: (671) 637-4321; Email: [info@guamfa.com](mailto:info@guamfa.com); Website: [www.guamfa.com](http://www.guamfa.com).

## 20. Matters Not Provided For

- a. The GFA Competition Committee shall rule on any matters not provided for in this document.