



## BOTSWANA FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

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### REGULATIONS FOR THE 2020 DEBSWANA FIRST DIVISION PLAYOFF GAMES

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#### PREAMBLE

- 1.0 The Promotional Games for the Debswana First Division League are official competitions of the Botswana Football Association (BFA).
- 2.0 These Play-off Games shall be played on a point system basis.
- 3.0 Any rights which are not ceded by these Regulations to any club taking part in the competition shall belong to the Botswana Football Association.

#### ARTICLE 1 – TITLE

- 1.1. These Promotional Games shall be played to determine the team that will join Botswana premier League for the 2020-2021 season.

#### ARTICLE 2 – ENTRY QUALIFICATION

- 2.1. Qualification for participation in the promotional Games shall be by runners up in the **2019/2020 Debswana First Division League (north and south)**.
- 2.2. For **(2019/2020)** the participating Clubs shall be as follows:
  1. DFDNL - Nico United Football Club
  2. DFDSL - Mogoditshane Fighters Football Club





### ARTICLE 3 – ORGANISATION OF THE COMPETITION

- 3.1. The Organising Committee for the **2020** Promotional Games shall be as follows:
- 3.1.1. Two members each from both the First Division North and South League Committees.
  - 3.1.2. A member of the BFA National Competitions Committee or a representative.
  - 3.1.3. A member of the BFA secretariat as Secretary.
- 3.2. A majority decision of the Organising Committee on all matters relating to the Play-off games shall be final, provided that a decision by this Committee may be reviewed by the National Executive Committee.
- 3.3. The Play-off games shall be played on a home and away basis. A point system shall be applied, three points being awarded for a win, one point for a draw and no points for a loss during the Play-off games.
- 3.4. Each game of these Competitions shall last for **90 minutes**. In the event that the two teams have an equal number of goals at the end of the competition, the away goal rule shall apply. A penalty shootout shall be used to determine the winner in the event that both teams have equal number of goals.
- 3.5. For purposes of the **2020** Promotional Games the following shall be enforced:
- 3.5.1. Only properly registered players shall be permitted to participate in these games. Teams must only use prescribed Match Sheets during these games. The hosting team (team A) shall be the team that appears first on the fixture and while the away team (team B) shall



appear on the right-hand side of the match sheet. The Organising committee shall supply the teams with the match sheets.

- 3.5.2.** Players who were not registered with the participating clubs during the **2019/2020 or 2020/2021** football season shall not be allowed to play in the **2020 promotional games**.
- 3.5.3.** Each participating club shall be used to use a maximum of 5 substitutes per game from the 12 allowed to sit on the bench.
- 3.5.4.** Player's registration books, including International Transfer Certificates (ITCs), Work Permits (WPs) and Residence Permits (RPs) for all Foreign Players shall be inspected before the beginning of each game.
- 3.5.5.** A team that uses a defaulter shall automatically forfeit points to its opponent and attract a fine of not less than **P500.00** which the Organising Committee is empowered to administer. The Organising Committee shall scrutinise all relevant documents to ensure that no defaulters are used and shall investigate all matters referred to it and take appropriate measures.
- 3.5.6.** Teams shall be held responsible for the misconduct of their members/supporters during these competitions and a fine of not less than **P500.00** shall be imposed upon any team if found guilty of misconduct by the Organising Committee.

#### **ARTICLE 4 – WITHDRAWAL, PENALTY FOR FAILING TO PLAY REPLACEMENT**

- 4.1.** Both teams that have qualified to play in the Play-off games are obliged to play all their matches.
- 4.2.** If a team does not report for a match, except in cases of force majeure recognised by the Organising Committee, or if it refuses to continue to play or leaves the ground before the end of the match, the team shall be

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considered as having lost the game and shall consequently forfeit the results (3 points and 2 goals) of the game to the innocent team. The guilty team shall also be expected to pay compensation for any damages or losses incurred by the other club. Further disciplinary measures may be taken by the Organising Committee and/or the Botswana Football Association Disciplinary Committee.

- 4.3. Matters of violence and any other matter considered relevant by the Organising Committee shall be referred to the BFA Disciplinary Committee by the Organising Committee.
- 4.4. The Organising Committee shall take whatever action it deems necessary in cases of force majeure.

#### **ARTICLE 5 – PROTESTS**

- 5.1. **No protest** whatsoever shall be allowed in the competition, provided the Organising Committee of the Promotional Games shall have the power to review and deal administratively with any reported irregularities.

#### **ARTICLE 6 – MATCHES PLAYED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LAWS OF THE GAME**

- 6.1. All matches shall be played in accordance to the laws of the game as promulgated by the Botswana Football Association and where these regulations are silent, FIFA play rules and regulations shall apply.
- 6.2. In case of any discrepancy in the interpretation of the laws of the game, the English text shall be authoritative.

#### **ARTICLE 7 – TEAMS COLOURS**

- 7.1. In the event of a clash of colours at any game, the **Away** (the team that appears on the right-hand side in the fixture) team shall change to an alternative colour. The away team shall be expected to carry with it an



alternative colour which must be available at the field of play for quick change within fifteen (15) minutes from the time the referee orders such change. The host team shall be the team that appears on the left-hand side in the fixture.

- 7.2. In the event that there is a delay beyond **fifteen (15) minutes**, the away team shall be held responsible for the delay and shall accordingly be sanctioned by the Organising Committee. Such sanction may include a fine of not less than **P500.00**.
- 7.3. Teams are requested to bring their kits for inspection at a prematch meeting to be held a day prior to the commencement of the games or any other time that may be determined by the Organising Committee which time shall not be less than 24hrs before the commencement of the playoffs.

#### **ARTICLE 8 – MATCH OFFICIALS, GATE REVENUE AND STADIUM LEVY**

- 8.1. Referees and Assistant Referees shall be appointed by the Referees Committee or any competitive authority as may be assigned by the BFA National Executive Committee.
- 8.2. Only Referees and Assistant Referees duly appointed shall be permitted to officiate the promotional playoffs games.
- 8.3. There shall be no collection of gate revenue during the games as spectators will not be allowed access into the match venues.
- 8.4. The Organising Committee shall be responsible for payment of the match officials and stadium levy where applicable.





### ARTICLE 10-OTHER MATTERS

- 10.1. All teams participating in these games are requested to observe and abide strictly by these Regulations.
- 10.2. In all matters that are not covered by these Rules and Regulations, the relevant BFA and FIFA Statutes shall apply.
- 10.3. A total of **30 persons** per team (inclusive of **players and officials**) shall be allowed free access into the stadium and no other persons shall be permitted access into the match venue except with explicit permission from the Organising Committee and in conformity with the Covid 19 protocols governing football matches.

**Pelotswheu Motlogelwa**  
**1<sup>ST</sup> VICE PRESIDENT**

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**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**