

CONSTITUENCY NETBALL TOURNAMENTS

PLAY RULES AND REGULATIONS

NOVEMBER 2016

PREAMBLE

The Constituency Netball Tournament is a mass participation programme Government of Botswana.

These Rules and Regulations have been established to provide guidance and foster compliance to the tournament to ensure fair play and honesty. The tournament shall be played under the auspices of the Ministry of Youth Empowerment, Sport & Culture Development.

Any rights which are not ceded by these Regulations to any team taking part in the Tournament shall belong to the Ministry of Youth Empowerment, Sport and Culture Development.

ARTICLE 1 – TITLE

- 1.1. The Constituency Netball Tournaments shall be played every year on a three (3) months cycle with a one month break in between the cycles where possible.

ARTICLE 2 – TITLE

- 2.1. The Constituency Netball Tournaments shall be played on a Tournament basis. Where there are **not** more than 6 (six) teams in a Council ward, teams shall play a round robin system and where there are more than 5 [five] teams in a Council Ward, teams will be grouped into pools and winners from each pool will play each other so as to have a champion.
- 2.2. All games are to be played in accordance with the Rules and Regulations of the tournament coordinated by various structures established by Ministry of Youth, Sport and Culture in the Districts
- 2.3 All games shall be officiated by the appointed competent referees by the Coordinating Committees

ARTICLE 3 – REGISTRATION AND TRANSFERS OF THE PLAYERS

- 3.1. Each team shall be permitted to register fifteen (15) of which twelve (12) are players and three (3) are officials/managers.
- 3.2. The minimum quota required for registration is ten (10) players. Any registration team list with less the number than required shall be NOT accepted.
- 3.3. A player shall only play for the team he has registered with, thus no player shall be permitted to play for more than one team in the same cycle.
- 3.4. Each team shall be permitted to register two (2) employed players and they must be indicated with the letter **E** in the registration form. The team are at liberty to field all the two players.

3.4.1. According to Employment Act 14 Dec 1994, Chapter 47:01:

“An employee shall refer to any person who has either, before or after the commencement of the Act entered into a contract of employment for the higher of his/her labour” for instance people working in the farms or house assistants are employees.

3.4.2. Exemption for registration and participation in the tournament as per above section, shall be given to people working in Ipelegeng Programme, Tirelo Sechaba, government Volunteer Scheme, Herdboys, Farm Assistants and House Assistants

- 3.5. Any team which has been found to have violated section 3.4 shall forfeit 3 points 2 goals to the opposing team or for any team they played with in the tournament
- 3.6. All teams are expected to bring approved Registration Lists and certified copies of National Identity Document (Omang) during registration and for inspection before commencement of the game. Any team that fails to comply shall not be permitted to play.
- 3.7. All the registering teams are required to submit completed surety forms comprising of the Team`s Treasurer details.
- 3.8. Certified IDs should be three (3) months or less, any certified copy of ID which is more than three (3) will not be accepted. Those with expired IDs will not be permitted to register with the tournament.

- 3.9. Registration of teams will only take place once, in the entire financial year commencing April to March every year, thus no new team will be accepted during the financial year. New participants willing to join the Constituency Sport Tournament are at liberty to join the existing teams.
- 3.10. Exemption for registration of new teams will only be considered when the existing team`s registration forms within the same wards are complete with required maximum quota of fifteen (15) players and managers/officials. Section 3.2 shall apply for the new registering teams.
- 3.11. Teams will only be allowed to participate in the tournament when they have registered with the various structures.
- 3.12. Movement of players shall only be permitted during registration period. No transfer of players shall be allowed during a Tournament cycle. Registration closing date marks the end of movement of players, thus no transfer shall be allowed during the cycle commencement.
- 3.13. Players eligible for participation are those forty (40) years and below.
- 3.14. Constituency Sport Tournaments is illegible to be played by people residing **within** the constituency by virtue of work, birth, relocation and residing with spouses or relatives
- 3.15. Employed players are not allowed to form their own teams, instead former players and community leaders are permitted to guide the youth teams in relation to coaching and financial advice.
- 3.16. Registration forms should be collected from MYSC Districts offices/Kgotla/District Commissioner Office. Registration period shall be announced and any team that submit the registration forms after deadline shall be rejected.
- 3.17. No person or group of people are allowed to manage more than one (1) club(s). A club may have several sporting codes bearing the same name.

ARTICLE 4 – ENTRY QUALIFICATION

- 4.1 Qualification for participation in the Games for Constituency Tournaments shall be for teams and players not affiliated and/or registered with the Botswana Netball Association (BONA). Only teams and players not registered with any team affiliated to the National Sports Associations (BNSC affiliates) shall be eligible to play

- 4.2. Those players in possession of registration books for clubs affiliated to Botswana Netball Association shall not be permitted to register in the tournament regardless of their playing time at their respective clubs. Movement of such players shall take place only within the structures Botswana Netball Association
- 4.3. School going girls/boys/men/women from Primary to Tertiary institutions are **NOT** eligible to compete in the tournament. Only BOCCODOL students are allowed to participate. The youth awaiting Form 5 results shall register for participation in the coming cycle(s) provided that they completed studies while registration is on-going. Furthermore, the youth that are admitted to different schools after registration are allowed to continue playing till the end of the cycle.
- 4.4. In the event of a ward having 1 [one] team in any given sport code, the team shall either qualify for the next match stage without the prize money or use the nearest neighbour index to qualify for the next round. However, where there are at least two teams in a ward, they will play against each other with a view to determine a champion.
- 4.5. All participants of the tournament who registered and are admitted as students are allowed to continue playing till the end of the cycle.
- 4.6. Retired players from active leagues shall be permitted to partake in the tournament only if they have spent more than a year without been active in the organised and official domestic league and tournament cups
- 4.7. All who registered and are admitted as students/employees are allowed to continue playing till the end of the cycle.

REGION 1

1. Ghanzi North
2. Ghanzi South
3. Kgalagadi North
4. Kgalagadi South
5. Jwaneng/Mabutsnae

REGION 2

6. Okavango
7. Ngami
8. Maun East
9. Maun West
10. Nata/Gweta
11. Chobe
12. Boteti West

REGION 3

13. Gaborone Central
14. Gaborone North
15. Gaborone South
16. Gaborone Bonnington North
17. Gaborone Bonnington South
18. Mochudi East
19. Mochudi West
20. Tlokweng

REGION 4

21. Tati East
22. Tati West
23. Francistown East
24. Francistown West
25. Francistown South
26. Shashe West
27. Tonota South
28. Nkange

REGION 5

29. Bobirwa
30. Mmadinare
31. Selibe Phikwe East
32. Selibe Phikwe West
33. Lerala/Maunatlala
34. Palapye

REGION 6

35. Mahalapye East
36. Mahalapye West
37. Shoshong
38. Serowe West
39. Serowe North
40. Serowe South
41. Sefhare/Ramokgonami
42. Boteti East

REGION 7

43. Gabane/Mmankgodi
44. Thamaga/Kumakwane
45. Molepolole South
46. Molepolole North
47. Lentsweletau/Mmopane
48. Letlhakeng/Lephephe
49. Takatokwane
50. Mogoditshane

REGION 8

- 51. Lobatse
- 52. Moshupa/Manyana
- 53. Ramotswa
- 54. Kanye North
- 55. Kanye South
- 56. Mmathethe/Molapowabojang
- 57. Goodhope/Mabule

ARTICLE 5 – ORGANISATION OF THE GAMES

- 5.1 The Organising Committee for the Constituency Tournaments shall comprise the following: Coordinating Committee; Regional Committee Constituency Committee and Council Ward Committee where the Ministry of Youth, Sport and Culture serves as the Secretariat an as part of the Coordinating structures in all levels of the games.
- 5.2. The National finals shall be organised by the Local Organising Committee in conjunction with the National Committee
- 5.3. The Committees shall assume full responsibility of the management of the finals which shall include fixtures, venues and overseeing the tournament.
- 5.4. All matters relating to the tournament regarding disputes, misconduct and protests shall be referred to the Appeals Committee for adjudication and resolution

ARTICLE 6 - FORMATION OF STRUCTURES

- 6.1. A Council Ward Committee shall be appointed by respective teams registered in that particular ward. The membership shall be chosen from Community leadership or retired/former players/teams. The membership shall be made of five (5) members who shall elect the Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Vice Secretary.
- 6.2. Constituency Committee shall be appointed and constituted by members elected by various wards. There shall be an Executive Committee of five (5) people whose responsibility is to settle disputes raised by other teams. Secretary position shall be reserved for MYSC
- 6.3. Regional Committee shall be constituted by Chairmen/Coordinators form various Constituencies. The Secretary position shall lie with MYSC office.
- 6.4. The members aligned to their own teams should recuse themselves from the hearing to avoid conflict of interest.

- 6.5. National Coordinating Committee shall constitute of Coordinators from the eight (8) Regions. The membership shall be eight (8) people with one person from Ministry HQ to serve as the Secretary of the Committee.
- 6.6. National Coordinating Committee Chairperson shall be recommended and endorsed by the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Youth, Sport & Culture.

ARTICLE 7 – QUALIFICATION TO THE NEXT LEVEL

- 7.1. The Constituency Games shall be played on around robin basis.
- 7.2. Champions of all levels will qualify to the next level of the constituency tournaments.
- 7.3. The game shall consist of four (4) quarters of fifteen (15) minutes each, with intervals of 3 minutes between first-second and third-fourth quarters. Teams shall change at the end of each quarter.
 - 7.3.1. The half time interval shall be either five (5) minutes or ten (10) minutes. The games committee have the powers to decide on time prior to start of the game.
 - 7.3.2. During hot conditions when any one of team plays more than one game, the teams shall be allowed to have an interval of 5 minutes between quarters to allow for enough water break.
 - 7.3.3. This intervals shall be extended to both the Umpires
- 7.4. In the event that two teams have an equal number of goals for and against, and points at the end of the competition, the two teams shall play an extra time of two (2) halves consisting of ten (10) minutes with an interval of two (2) minutes to determine the winner at the end of this extra time.
- 7.5. If after all the above a tie still persists, each team will be given two (2) penalties from a selected spot by the umpires. This will be repeated until a tie is broken.
- 7.6. During the extra time other normal games procedures shall be followed or apply such as substitutions for injuries or illness

ARTICLE 8 - SUBSTITUTIONS AND PENALTIES

- 8.1. The teams have the right to make substitutions when they wish to do so.
- 8.2. The substitution can be made either during an interval or when play is stopped for an injury or illness
- 8.3. There is no limitation in the number of substitutes required per team provided the number does not exceed the required maximum registration quota
- 8.4. During the game, an Umpire may award penalties such as free pass, penalty pass, toss-up, throw in for infringements, rough or dangerous play or when the ball goes out of the court. The following are some of the decisions the referee:

8.4.1. warn a player or team official

8.4.2. suspend a player for a specific period of time

8.4.3. order a player to leave the Court and take no further part in the match

8.4.4. after several warnings, expel team official/coach for inappropriate manner uttered

ARTICLE 9 – LATE ARRIVALS

Late arrival is not condoned in these organised games.

- 9.1. A player who arrives after a game has started shall not be permitted to replace a player who has filled that position unless in the occurrence of an injury or illness. In addition to this, the player may be used as a substitution in accordance with Article 8
- 9.2. Consequently if the player has not yet filled the position of the late arrival player, the player who arrives late may not enter the game if it's in progression. The process must only take place after notifying the time-keeper and umpire
- 9.3. The player must play in the position left vacant and this can only take place after the play has been stopped for injury, illness or after a goal has been scored

ARTICLE 10 - GENERAL MISCONDUCT OR INDISCIPLINE

Breaking the Play Rules and Regulations, deliberate delay of play or any conduct which is contrary to the spirit of this social game shall constitute a punishable offence

- 10.1. Teams shall be held responsible for the misconduct of their members / supporters during these competitions. Suspension or disqualification of one (1) cycle shall be imposed upon any team if found guilty of misconduct by the Coordinating Committee or the Appeals Committee.
- 10.2. Teams which vandalize the school property where they have been accommodated will be liable to pay for the damage caused and untidy premises. Such payments will be deducted from their prize money
- 10.3. Use of abusive language, violent behaviour or consumption of alcohol by spectators shall constitute disqualification from the competition

ARTICLE 11 – WITHDRAWAL AND PENALTY FOR FAILING TO HONOR GAMES

- 11.1. All teams that are qualified to play in the Constituency Tournaments games are obliged to play all their competition matches.
- 11.2. A team that withdraws from the Constituency Tournaments games shall not be replaced once the competition has commenced. If a team withdraws from the competition once it has started, the Council Ward, Constituency, Regional and/or National Committee shall determine a way of dealing with the withdrawal without disadvantaging any team, thus all the points of withdrawn teams shall be discarded and log shall be constituted from the remaining teams and the games they have played against each other
- 11.3. If a team does not report for a match, except in cases of force majeure recognised by the Council Ward, Constituency, Regional and/or Coordinating Committee, or if it refuses to continue to play or leaves the ground before the end of the match, the team shall be considered as having lost and shall not proceed with the Competition. The other team shall be declared winners of the match and awarded three points and two (2) goals. .
- 11.4. The coordinating committee at each level shall take whatever action it deems necessary in cases of force majeure

- 11.5. A team that gained soft points from a team that failed to honor the match shall NOT proceed to the next stage of competition with soft/free points in case it leads the log. Such teams will be eligible for a replay match with the next team below in the log to determine the winner. This article will not be applicable for teams that play the champion or deciding game, i.e. team that fail to honor the game for championship will be considered to have lost and the opposing team shall progress to the next level.
- 11.6. Matters of violence and any other disciplinary matter relating to the Games and considered relevant by the Coordinating Committee, shall be referred to the Disputes Resolutions Committees

ARTICLE 12 – PROTESTS

The coordinating committees at each level of the Tournament have the power to review and deal administratively with any reported irregularities. It is upon the coordinate Committee to call a team/individual for a hearing.

- 12.2. Protest shall be lodged at the beginning of the match and shall be registered with the Match officials or Coordinating Committee. Any team which make verbal protest without proper follow-up through the letter shall deem to have lost the protest.
- 12.3. The protest shall be made in writing and submitted to the Secretary of the Coordinating Committee for adjudication
- 12.4. The protesting team shall notify the opposing team with a letter of protest. Failure to follow the procedure shall constitute to dismissal of the protest.
- 12.5. In the event that a team uses a defaulter, a penalty of suspension from the cycle shall apply for such a player and 3 points and 2 goals shall be forfeited by the guilty team.
- 12.6. All appeals should be submitted in writing within three (3) working days after the game and it must be indicated in the match sheet. The appeal should be accompanied by adequate evidence. The team that is appealing is responsible for searching for evidence.
- 12.7. The same evidence of documents submitted at the lower structures for determining the matter, shall be submitted to upper structures when appealing
- 12.8. No protests shall be permitted based on the points or arguing against the decision of the referee. Such matters will be reviewed and determined by the Coordinating Committee.

ARTICLE 13 - FORGERY OF EVIDENCE- DOCUMENTS

13.1. If the appealing is found to have altered the evidence, such teams will be expelled from the tournament and handed to the investigating authority for necessary action.

ARTICLE 14 – MATCHES PLAYED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LAWS OF THE GAME

14.1. All matches shall be played in accordance with the laws of the game governing the tournament.

14.2. All teams participating in these games are requested to observe and abide strictly by these Regulations.

14.3. A game shall be started by tossing of a coin to determine sides from which will be changed at half time as per the tournament Rules and Regulations.

14.4. In all matters that are not covered by these Rules and Regulations the National Coordinating Committees shall make a final decision as it is the case with International Standards.

ARTICLE 15 – TEAM COLOURS

15.1. In the event of a clash of colours at any game, the host team shall change to an alternative colour. The host team shall be the team appearing first on the fixture schedule. The host team shall be expected to have brought with them to the ground an alternative playing outfit, provided that the change of kit shall not take more than fifteen (15) minutes from the time the Referee orders it.

15.2. In the event that there is a delay beyond fifteen (15) minutes, on account of clash of colours, the host team shall be held responsible for the delay and shall accordingly be sanctioned by the Council Ward, Constituency and/or Coordinating Committee.

ARTICLE 16 – REFEREES AND ASSISTANT REFEREES

16.1 Referees and Assistant Referees shall be appointed by the Coordinating Committee for purposes of the Constituency Tournament Games.

16.2. In the event the Referees and Assistant referees do not show up at Games, the teams involved may appoint officials at their discretion.

16.3. Teams are encouraged to look for competent impartial referees.

ARTICLE 17 – GATE TAKINGS

17.1 Where applicable, the teams shall share Gate takings on 50/50 basis.

17.2 A total of 25 persons per team including players and officials shall be allowed free access into the ground and a team that fails to observe this requirement shall forfeit its share of the gate takings from that particular match to the opponent. If they are not playing, they shall forfeit gate takings at the very next match they play.

ARTICLE 18 - OTHER MATTERS

18.1 Teams are reminded that assistance with transport might **ONLY** be provided at Regional and National Final Championships.

NOTE: No team/individual/committee shall modify/use/develop its own set of rules other than the ones captured on this edition.

.....
**NATIONAL COORDINATING
CHAIRPERSON**

.....
**DPS (R & D)
MYSC**