USSA Football
National Championships 2013
19th Edition

REGULATIONS
Tshwane University of Technology - Pretoria Campus
1. ORGANISERS

1. USSA Football
2. LOC (Local Organising Committee)
3. Host Institution (Tshwane University of Technology – Pretoria Campus)

USSA FOOTBALL NATIONAL CLUB MEN AND WOMEN CHAMPIONSHIPS

General Provision

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TECHNICAL RULES FOR THE FINAL COMPETITION

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1. **USSA FOOTBALL NATIONAL CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS™**

1.1 The USSA Football National Club Men and Women Championships are USSA Football competitions embodied in the USSA Football Constitution.

1.2 The National Club Championships takes place annually. As a general rule, every institution affiliated to USSA Football may participate in the National Club Championships.

1.3 The National Club Championships consists of a preliminary competition (qualifiers) and a final competition.

1.4 The regulations for the USSA National Club Championships regulate the rights, duties and responsibilities of all institutions taking part in the National Club Men and Women Championships. The regulations and all guidelines and circulars issued by USSA Football are binding for all parties participating and involved in the preparations, organization and hosting of the USSA Football National Club Championships.

2. **Preliminary Competition (Qualifiers)**

2.1 The organization of the preliminary competition (qualifiers) in the applicable form is assigned to the PEC’s (Provincial Executive Committees) in accordance with the USSA Football Constitution. The PEC’s are required to draw up regulations for their respective provincial qualifies and to submit them to the USSA Football Secretary General at least two (2) months before the start of the Qualifiers.

2.2 On entering the qualifiers, all institutions automatically undertake to:

a) Observe these regulations;

b) Accept all administrative, disciplinary and refereeing matters relating to the qualifiers shall be dealt with by the respective PEC’s in conjunction with that Province SAFA Structures in compliance with regulations submitted. USSA Football NEC will only intervene in any cases specifically provided for in the disciplinary;

c) Observe the USSA and USSA Football Constitution;

d) Observe the principles of Fair Play.
3. **USSA Football Organising Committee**

3.1 The Organising Committee for the USSA Football National Club Championships 2013 will be constituted as follows:

- a) 3 members of USSA Football
- b) 3 members of the Tshwane University of Technology, Pretoria Campus
- c) 2 members of USSA Gauteng Football

4. **Host Institution**

4.1 The USSA Football Executive has appointed/awarded the Tshwane University of Technology, Pretoria Campus as the host of the final competition of the USSA Football Club Men and Women Championships 2013.

4.2 The host institution is responsible for organising hosting and staging the final competition. It shall set up a Local Organising Committee (LOC) which will have members of the USSA Football NEC.

5. **Participating Member Institutions**

5.1 The institutions that qualify for the final competition agree to comply with and ensure that every Delegation Member (Players, Coaches, Managers, Medical Personnel, Representatives and Drivers) complies with these regulations, the Laws of the game, the USSA Football Constitution, USSA Constitution and USSA Regulations.

5.2 On entering the final competition, the participating member institutions automatically undertake to:

- a) Comply with the maximum number of players and officials per official delegation for the Final Competition;
- b) Observe these regulations and ensure that their delegation members, in particular but not only their players, also observe these regulations and the principles of Fair Play;
- c) Accept and obey all decisions taken by the bodies and officials of USSA Football under the terms of these regulations;
- d) Participate in all matches of the final competition on which their team is scheduled to take part;
- e) They are responsible for the conduct of their delegation members and any of their persons carrying out duties on its behalf throughout the duration of the final competition at the host institution;
f) Attending all press conferences and any other official media activities organised by USSA Football.

g) Responsible for paying for medical costs for its delegation.

6. **Withdrawal, penalty for failing to play, replacement**

6.1 All participating member Institutions undertake to play all of their matches until the end of the USSA Football Club Championships.

6.2 Any Participating member Institution that withdraws before the start of the final competition may be replaced be another Institution. The USSA Football Organising Committee shall decide on the matter at its sole discretion.

6.3 Depending on the circumstances of the withdrawal, the USSA Football Disciplinary Committee may impose sanctions, including the suspension of the Participating Member Institution concerned from subsequent USSA Football Competitions.

6.4 If, through the fault or negligence of any Participating Member Institution, a match in the final competition cannot take place or be played in its entirety, the USSA Football Disciplinary Committee shall declare that the match be forfeited (awarding victory and the resultant three points to the opposing team as well as the score of 3 – 0, or greater, depending on the score in the match at the time of abandonment) and/or exclude the team concerned from the final competition.

6.5 The USSA Football Organising Committee shall take whatever action deemed necessary in the case of force majeure.

7. **Disciplinary Matters**

7.1 Disciplinary incidents are dealt with in compliance with the disciplinary of USSA, SAFA and the host institution in force as well as with all relevant circulars and directives, with which the participating institutions undertake to comply.

7.2 The participating institutions and their delegation members agree to comply with the Laws of the game and with the USSA Football Constitutions.

7.3 In addition, the players agree notably to:

   a) Respect the spirit of Fair Play and non-violence;

   b) Behave accordingly;

   c) Refrain from doping;
8. Medical and Doping

For the duration of the USSA FOOTBALL NATIONAL CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS™ USSA Football and the Host Institution shall provide medical personnel during the matches and will inform the surrounding hospitals of the tournament. Should any player be admitted the cost of which shall be borne by the Institution where the player belongs to.

9. Disputes or Protests

9.1 Protests are objections of any kind related to events or matters that have direct effect on matches, including but not limited to the state of and marking on the pitch, eligibility of players and footballs.

9.2 Unless otherwise stipulated in this article, protests shall be submitted in writing to the USSA Football Tournament Secretary within two (2) hours of the conclusion of the match in question, with a full written report, otherwise they will be disregarded.

9.3 Protests against any incidents that occur during the course of a match shall be made to the referee by the team captain immediately after the disputed incident and before play has resumed.

9.4 No protests may be made about the referees decisions regarding facts connected with play, such decisions being final.

9.5 The protesting team must pay a protesting fee of R500.00 cash, during the presentation of the letter to the tournament Secretary before the hearing takes place.

9.6 If the above time limits and formal requirements for lodging a protest are not met, the protest shall be disregarded.

9.7 If an unfounded or irresponsible protest is lodged, the DC may impose a fine.

10. Equipment and Team colours

10.1 The participating institutions shall comply with the equipment regulations in force.

10.2 Each team shall inform USSA Football of the Two (2), different and contrasting colours, (one predominately dark and one predominately light) for its official and reserve team kits (shirt, shorts and socks). In addition, each team shall select three (3) contrasting colours for its goalkeeper kits. These three (3) goalkeeper kits must be distinctly different and contrasting from each other as well as different and contrasting from the official and reserve kits. This information shall be sent to USSA Football on the team colour form. Only those colours may be worn during matches.
10.3 Throughout the Club Championships, each player shall wear the number assigned to him/her on the official players list in accordance with the regulations.

10.4 Each kit (top and shorts) shall be numbered and it shall be on the back of the shirt and in front maximum 6cm in height on the shorts.

10.5 The official and reserve team kits including those of the goalkeepers shall be taken to every match.

10.6 The footballs used in the final competition shall be selected and exclusively supplied by USSA Football. The footballs shall conform with the provisions of the Laws of the game. They shall bear one of the following three designations: the official “FIFA APPROVED” logo, the official “FIFA Inspected” Logo, or the “INTERNATIONAL MATCHBALL STANDARD” reference.

10.7 In the case where training balls are provided by USSA Football as additional training balls on arrival at the host institution, only those balls delivered by USSA Football may be used for training and warm up sessions in the official venues.

11. Venues and Kick-off times of matches

11.1 The venues and kickoff times shall be confirmed by the USSA Football National Club Championships Organising Committee.

11.2 The teams shall be allowed to warm up on the pitch before each match, weather permitting.

11.3 Smoking or drinking is not allowed in the technical area

12. Match Officials

12.1 A referee, two (2) assistant referees and a fourth official will be appointed for each match by the SAFA Referee Committee.

12.2 The match officials shall wear their official refereeing kits which were provided by SAFA. They shall wear and use only those kits and equipment on match days.

12.3 If the referee or one of the assistant referees is prevented from carrying out his/her duties, such referee or assistant referee shall be replaced by the fourth official.

12.4 After each match the referee shall complete and sign the official SAFA/USSA Football report form. On the report form the referee shall note all occurred occurrences of significance, such as misconduct of players leading to caution or expulsion, unsporting behavior by supporters and or by officials or any other person acting on behalf of the institution at the match and any other incident happening before, during and after the match in as much detail as possible.

11.5 The decisions of the SAFA Referees Committee are final and binding and is not subject to appeal.
13. **Laws of game**

All matches shall be accordance with the Laws of the game in force of the time of the USSA Football National Club Championships.

14. **Number of teams**

The USSA Football Council determines the maximum number of teams to take part in the final competition. The number of teams taking part in the 2013 final competition has been fixed to 16, to be apportioned among the provinces as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Province</th>
<th>Men</th>
<th>Women</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Eastern Cape</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Free State</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gauteng</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KwaZulu Natal</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Limpopo</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mpumalanga</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North West</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western Cape</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Defending Champions</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Hosts</strong></td>
<td>TUT - Pretoria</td>
<td>TUT - Pretoria</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

15. **Draw**

15.1 The draw shall take place at least six (6) weeks before the first match of the final competition.

15.2 The draw will be organised by USSA Football.

16. **Arrival at Tshwane University of Technology – Pretoria Campus (TUT - Pretoria)**

Each team participating in the final competition shall arrive at the TUT - Pretoria Campus at least by no later than 18H00 on Sunday, 01 December 2013. TUT – Pretoria Campus residences will be used for accommodation of the participating teams delegations.

17. **Eligibility of players**

Only bona-fide students from participating institutions are allowed to play in the tournament. Players must produce a valid student card (2013) or accreditation before each game or upon request by tournament officials. The following documents are necessary to be accredited to participate in the tournament.

a) Valid Student card (2013)
b) Identity Document or Passport
c) Proof of registration (which shall have been issued not older than 3 months prior to the Final Competition and be certified)
d) ID photo (Sent Electronically)
e) USSA 2 Form completed
18. Player list and official delegation list

18.1 Each participating institution shall submit a list of players (USSA 2 form as well) to the Secretary of USSA Football. The maximum number shall be twenty (20) players of which two (2) shall be goalkeepers.

18.2 The list of players shall be accompanied at a minimum, by the following:
- Full Name
- All First Names
- Popular Name
- Number to be placed on shirt
- Number of Goals at USSA level
- Position
- Date of Birth
- Height and Weight

18.3 The final list of players and officials shall constitute the official delegation list.

18.4 Before the start of the official competition each player on the list must prove their identity by providing or producing their valid documents as per Article 17 herein.

18.5 All twenty (20) players shall be named on the player list for each match (eleven (11) selected players and nine (9) substitutes). Not more than fifteen (15) people shall be allowed to sit on the substitute bench. A suspended player will not be allowed to sit on the substitute bench. Up to a maximum of three (3) of the substitutes may take place of the selected players at any time during the match.

18.6 Before the start of the final competition, all team officials on the official delegation list must prove their identity by producing their ID or passport with a photograph. USSA Football shall issue each player and a team official with an official accreditation bearing a photograph. Each participating institution will receive a maximum of twenty-six (26) accreditations (twenty (20) for players and six (6) for their officials).

18.7 Only players in possession of a valid accreditation may play in the final competition. The accreditation shall always be available for inspection.

18.8 As per USSA regulations on submission of forms no changes can be made on the team list ten (10) days before the official start of the final competition.

18.9 The participating institutions shall ensure that all accreditation data required by USSA Football is submitted by the deadline stipulated by USSA.
19. **Competition Format**

19.1 The final competition shall be played in a group stage, followed by two (2) knockout stages and the final.

19.2 In the group stage, the last matches in each group shall be played simultaneously.

19.3 In the knockout stages, if a match is level at the end of normal time, no extra time shall be played, and kicks from the penalty mark will be taken to determine the winner.

20. **Group Stage (Men & Women)**

20.1 The sixteen (16) participating teams will be divided into four (4) groups of four (4) teams.

20.2 The USSA Football Exec will divide teams into groups by seeding and putting them into different pots, thereafter drawing them in public, taking into consideration the teams from the same province are not in the same group.

20.3 The teams in the four (4) groups will be designed as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group A</th>
<th>Group B</th>
<th>Group C</th>
<th>Group D</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A1</td>
<td>B1</td>
<td>C1</td>
<td>D1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A2</td>
<td>B2</td>
<td>C2</td>
<td>D2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A3</td>
<td>B3</td>
<td>C3</td>
<td>D3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A4</td>
<td>B4</td>
<td>C4</td>
<td>D4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

20.4 The system of play will be the league system, each team playing one match against each of the other teams in the same group, with three (3) points for a win, one (1) point for a draw and none (0) for a defeat.

20.5 The ranking of each team in each group will be determined as follows:

20.5.1 Greatest number of points obtained in all group matches;

20.5.2 Goal difference in all group matches;

20.5.3 Greatest number of goals scored in all group matches;

If two or more teams are equal on points at the end of the group matches, their rankings will be determined as follows:

20.5.4 Greatest number of points obtained in group matches between the teams concerned;

20.5.5 Goal difference resulting from the group matches between the teams concerned;

20.5.6 Greater number of goals scored in all group matches between the teams concerned;
20.5.7 Fairplay points system (where cautions and suspensions will be taken into consideration);

20.5.8 Toss of a coin.

20.6 The top two (2) teams finishing first and second in each group qualify for the quarter finals. The two (2) teams finishing third and fourth shall play for positions nine to sixteen (9-16).

20.7 The matches in the group stage shall be played in accordance with the following schedule drawn up by the USSA Football Organising Committee.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1st Match</th>
<th>2nd Match</th>
<th>3rd Match</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A1 V. A3</td>
<td>A2 V. A3</td>
<td>A2 V. A1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A2 V. A4</td>
<td>A4 V. A1</td>
<td>A3 V. A4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B1 V. B3</td>
<td>B2 V. B3</td>
<td>B2 V. B1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B2 V. B4</td>
<td>B4 V. B1</td>
<td>B3 V. B4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C1 V. C3</td>
<td>C2 V. C3</td>
<td>C2 V. C1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C2 V. C4</td>
<td>C4 V. C1</td>
<td>C3 V. C4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D1 V. D3</td>
<td>D2 V. D3</td>
<td>D2 V. D1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D2 V. D4</td>
<td>D4 V. D1</td>
<td>D3 V. D4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

20.8 All matches for both man and women shall last 70 minutes comprising of 35 minutes each half and a half time of 10 minutes.

21. Knockout Stages

21.1 The top two teams finishing first and second in each group will qualify for quarter finals and will play them as follows:

Winner A V. Runner-up C = 25
Winner C V. Runner-up A = 26
Winner B V. Runner-up D = 29
Winner D V. Runner-up B = 30

21.2 The bottom two teams finishing third and fourth in each group will play to determine the positions nine to sixteen (9-16) as follows:

Third A V. Fourth C = 27
Third C V. Fourth A = 28
Third B V. Fourth D = 31
Third D V. Fourth B = 32

21.3 If after 70 minutes of play the game is drawn, kicks from the penalty mark will be used to determine the winners in accordance to the Laws of the Game.

22. Cautions and suspensions

The following shall apply in relation to the cautions and suspensions;

22.1 Two bookings in two separate matches is punishable by one match suspension;

22.2 A send off (Red Card) is punishable by an immediate suspension from the match and a further one-match automatic suspension. The referees report may warrant further disciplinary action;
22.3 At the end of the round-robin phase all yellow cards incurred will cease to apply but all the players who are to serve suspension will remain suspended.

22.4 Any player, official and team who are deemed to have behaved in a manner that puts the game into disrepute will be summoned to a Disciplinary hearing. The DC is empowered to suspend, fine or expel the people in question as per USSA, SAFA and FIFA Rules and Regulations

23. Trophies and Awards

23.1 The Chairperson of USSA Football will present the winner of the 2013 USSA Football National Club Championships with the USSA Football National Trophy (hereinafter: the Trophy), which remains the property of USSA Football. The winning team will be provided with the Trophy during the ceremony following the final whistle. An official Winners trophy will also be issued to the winning team for them to keep.

23.2 The Winning Team is responsible for the engraving of the Trophy.

23.3 The winning participating member shall take all reasonable steps, at its own expense, to ensure the security and safety of the Trophy while they are in the possession of the winning participating member.

23.4 Twenty five (25) medals will be presented to each of the top three teams in the final competition, i.e. gold medals to the winners, silver medals to the runners-up and bronze medals to the team ranked third.

23.5 One medal will be presented to each of the officials who officiate at the Finals of each segment.

23.6 At the conclusion of the 2013 USSA FOOTBALL NATIONAL CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS™, the following special awards will be presented:
   a) Team of the Tournament
   b) Coach of the Tournament
   c) Manager of the Tournament
   d) Golden Boot award
      The Golden Boot will be awarded to the player who scores the most goals in the final competition. If two or more players score the same number of goals, the total number of minutes played in the tournament and also the fairplay points will be taken into account
   e) Golden Ball
      The Golden Ball will be awarded to the best player of the final competition on the basis of a selection by the USSA Football Technical Study Group (Selectors)
   f) Golden Glove
      The Golden Glove will be awarded to the best player of the final competition on the basis of a selection by the USSA Football Technical Study Group (Selectors)
24. Selection of National Players

USSA Football National Team will be selected.
University Sport South Africa - Football

Chairman: Dennis Tshabalala
Secretary: Kwena Montsha

Corner Enoch Sontonga and Raikes Road
Johannesburg
Gauteng
South Africa
2050

Telephone: 011 717 9413

Internet: www.usafafootball.org.za

USSA Football National Championships 2013
Tswane University of Technology - Pretoria Campus