

# **STANDARD CODE OF RULES FOR YOUTH COMPETITION**

## **DEFINITION**

### **1 (A) In These Rules:**

“Team” means a team for the time being in membership of the “competition” means the kids football challenge tournament.

“Competition Match” means any match played or to be played under the jurisdiction of the competition.

“Deposit” means the sum of money deposited with competition as part of the requirements of membership of the competition.

“Fine Tariff” means a list of fines approved by the management committee for any breach of the rules.

“Ground” means the ground on which the school team(s) plays its competition matches.

“Management Committee” means in the case of a competition which is unincorporated association the management committee elected to manage the running of the competition.

“Match Officials” means the referee, the assistant referees and any fourth official appointed to a competition match.

“Noncontract player” means any player who is not eligible to play for a school.

“Officer” means an individual who is appointed or elected to a position in a competition or school which requires that individual to make day to day decisions.

“Participants” means an Affiliated Association, School, Official, Intermediary, Player, School Official, Match official, Management committee member, member or employee of an affiliated school and all such persons who are from time to time participating in any activity sanctioned either directly or indirectly by the association.

“Playing Season” means the period between the date on which the first competitive fixture in the competition is played each year until the date on which the last competitive fixture in the competition is played.

“Rules” means rules under which the competition is administered.

“Secretary” means such person or persons appointed or elected to carry out the administration of the competition.

“Written” or in writing” means the representation or reproduction of words or symbols or other information in a visible form by any method or combination of methods, whether sent or supplied in electronic form or otherwise.

“Kids football” means those participating at ages 5s to under 12s.

- a) All School shall adhere to the rules. Each school shall be deemed, as a member of the competition to have accepted the rules and to have agreed to abide by the decisions of the management committee,
- b) The competition will be known as “Radio Nigeria Kids Football Challenge”. The school participating in the competition must be members of the competition. A school which ceases to be entitled to play in the competition for any reason whatsoever shall there upon automatically cease to be a member of the competition.

- c) The administration of the competition under these rules will be carried out through the management committee.

## **2. MANAGEMENT, NOMINATION, ELECTION**

- a) The management committee shall comprise the Officers of the competition. All participants shall abide by the management committee regulations for safeguarding children.
- b) The management committee shall meet as and when required.
- c) Except where otherwise mentioned all communications shall be address to the secretary who shall conduct the correspondence of the competition and keep a record of its proceedings.
- d) All communications received from schools must be conducted through their officers and sent to the secretary.
- e) Failure to comply with this rule will result in a fine (in accordance with the fines tariff).

## **3. POWERS OF MANAGEMENT:**

- a) The management committee may appoint sub-committees and delegate such of their powers as they deem necessary. The decisions of all sub-committees shall be reported to the management committee for ratification.
- b) The management committee shall have powers to apply, act upon and enforce the rules of the competition and shall also have jurisdiction overall matters affecting the competition.

In the case of violation of rules of the competition or alleged breaches of rule, the management committee shall issue, a formal written charge to the school concerned.

The school charged is expected to respond to the charge within 24hours from the date of notification of the charge.

In such reply a school may:

- i) Accept the charge and submit in writing a case of mitigation for consideration by the management committee on the papers; or
- ii) Deny the charge and submit in writing supporting evidence for consideration by the management committee on the papers.

Where the school charged fails to respond within 2days, the management committee shall determine the charge in such manner and upon such evidence as it considers appropriate.

Having considered the reply of the school, the management committee shall make its decision and, in the event that the charge is accepted or proven, decide on the appropriate penalty.

The maximum fine permitted for any breach of a rule is **₦2000** and when setting any fine, the management committee must ensure that the penalty is proportional to the offence, taking into account any mitigating circumstances.

- a) All decisions of management committee shall be binding subject to the right of appeal. Decisions of management committee must be notified in writing to those concerned within 2days.
- b) All school must comply with an order or instruction of management committee, and must attend to the business and/or the correspondence of the competition to the satisfaction of the management committee. Failure to comply with this rule will result in a fine.

- c) A member of the management committee appointed by the competition to attend a meeting or match may have any expenses incurred refunded by the management committee.
- d) The business of the competition as determined by the management committee may/shall be transacted by electronic mail, and other medium.

## **QUALIFICATION OF PLAYERS**

- a) i) A registered student playing member of a school is one who, being in all other respects eligible has: completed competition registration form in ink, and who is registered with the (Registrations) secretary a day prior to playing.
- ii) Each school must have 18 players registered a day before the start of the competition.
- b) A child who has not attained the age of 5 shall not play, and shall not be permitted or encouraged to play, in a match of any kind.

## **SCHOOL COLOURS SCHOOL NAME**

- a) Every school must register the colour of its shirts and shorts with the secretary by 17<sup>th</sup> of January, 2020 who shall decide as to their suitability.
- b) Goal keeper must wear colours which distinguish them from other players and the match officials.
- c) Should a school delay the scheduled time of kick-off for a competition match by not having a change of colours they shall be fined (in accordance with the fine tariff).
- d) Shorts must be numbered.

## **TIME OF KICK – OFF**

- a) All competition matches shall be played in accordance with the laws of the game as determined by management committee.

Age Group	Minimum Duration of play per half
Under 12	20min

Referees must order matches to commence at the appointed time and must report all late starts to the secretary.

- b) The minimum number of players that will constitute a school team for a competition match is 16.
- c) A school team may at its discretion and in accordance with the laws of the game use substitute players in any match in this competition.  
A player who has been substituted becomes a substitute and may replace any player at any time subject to the substitution.
- d) The half time interval shall be of 10 minutes duration, and shall not exceed 10minutes. The half time interval may only be altered with the consent of the match officials.
- e) The school team taking part in the competition shall identify a team captain who shall wear an armband and shall have a responsibility to offer support in the management of the on filed discipline of his/her teammates.

Failure to comply with this rule will result in a fine (in accordance with the fines tariff).

## **REFEREES**

- a) Registered referees for all competition matches shall be appointed in a manner approved by the management committee.
- b) In cases where there are no officially appointed match officials in attendance, the clubs shall agree upon a referee. An individual thus agreed upon shall, for that game, have the full powers, status and authority of a registered referee.
- c) Where assistant referees are not appointed each team shall provide a club assistant referee.
- d) The referee shall submit a report form, supplied by the competition giving the result of the match, the number of players in each team and the time of kick-off to the secretary on the same day of match.
- e) Match officials shall have undertaken a RESPECT briefing offered by the organizers.

## **APPEALS**

Any appeal against a decision of the management committee must be lodged with the sanctioning authority a day of the posting of the written notification of the decision causing the appeal. The procedure for the appeal shall be determined by the sanctioning authority, in such respect the sanctioning authority may (but is not obliged to):

- i) Invite submissions by the parties involved;
- ii) Convene a hearing to hear the appeal;
- iii) Permit new evidence; or
- iv) Impose deadlines as are appropriate

Any appeal shall not involve a rehearing of the evidence considered by the management committee.

## **FINANCE**

- a) The management committee shall determine with which bank or other financial institution the funds of the competition will be lodged.
- b) All expenditure in excess of **₦500,000** shall be approved by the management committee. Cheques shall be signed at least two officers nominated by the management committee.
- c) The books, or a certified balance sheet, of the competition shall be prepared and shall be audited/verified by some suitable qualified person(s) who shall be appointed by the management committee.

## **INSURANCE**

All clubs must have public liability insurance cover of at least **1million pounds (₦1,000,000)**. Failure to comply with this rule will result in a fine.