



## **RUSTLERS Colleges and Universities Football League RULES 2019 – 2020**

### **1. Name**

All Competition's shall be preceded by the Colleges & Universities Football League (hereinafter referred to as CUFL) and is played under the auspices of the Football Association of Ireland (hereinafter referred to as "the FAI").

### **2. Definitions**

In all references to the Committee in the course of these Rules, it shall be understood and accepted that the words "the Committee" shall read "the CUFL Committee".

### **3. Commercial Rights**

- a) Participating clubs shall provide full support to the Committee in its exploitation of the commercial rights relating to the CUFL and shall not themselves exploit any commercial rights other than those rights that have been specifically assigned to them by the CUFL.
- b) In all rounds of the CUFL, clubs shall use UMBRO footballs. Failure to use UMBRO footballs may result in disciplinary action being taken against the offending club but shall not be the subject of protest or appeal.

### **4. Delegation of Powers**

The Committee shall have the power to delegate some or all of its powers or functions in relation to the running of the CUFL on a day to day basis to the Administrator of the League. Each year the Committee shall appoint a Disciplinary Committee and a Disciplinary Appeals Committee.

### **5. Prevailing Rules**

The competition shall be conducted in accordance with these rules (hereinafter referred to as "CUFL Rules"). In the event of a conflict between the CUFL rules and the rules of the FAI, the FAI rules shall prevail, provided that such rules in all circumstances comply with the Laws of the Game as decreed by FIFA.

### **6. Information to be Supplied by Clubs**

Each club entering the competition must forward the following information to the Administrator of the League on or before a date to be determined by the Committee:

- a) Name and full address of the club's home venue.
- b) The name, telephone number and e-mail address of the Club Secretary and an additional contact for each team entered.
- c) Colours of the clubs first and second choice jersey, shorts and socks including goalkeepers.
- d) All participant clubs shall complete a register of players wishing to participate in the CUFL. The details provided shall only be used by the CUFL for the purposes of running CUFL competitions.
- e) A copy of their FAI / Garda Vetting Form from each member of the coaching and management team involved in club activities including but not restricted to Team



## **RUSTLERS Colleges and Universities Football League RULES 2019 – 2020**

Meetings, Training Sessions, Travel, Fixtures and Fund-Raising, including those individuals who join the club staff after the season has begun. This is a legal requirement. The Committee of the CUFL reserve the right to sanction clubs who do not abide by these requirements as it sees fit.

### **7. Eligibility and Registration**

- a) The competition shall be played on a seasonal basis and shall consist of teams in membership of the Irish Universities Football Union, the Colleges Football Association of Ireland and Women's Soccer Colleges Association of Ireland under the auspices of the Football Association of Ireland.
- b) All teams competing in the CUFL shall only play players who are properly registered to play in the competition. Player registration details will be sent to colleges before the start of the season. In all cases, irrespective of whether the player in question is an amateur or non-amateur, the player, in order to be eligible to play in a CUFL match, must be properly registered to play by midnight the day (Saturdays, Sundays and bank holidays included) before the scheduled match.
- c) If an institution has two or more teams participating in CUFL, a player cannot play more than two games for a higher-ranking team(s) and thereafter play with the lower ranking team(s).
- d) The conditions of eligibility are as follows:
  - I. A student must be fully registered and hold a student card for her/his respective institution.
  - II. In the Republic of Ireland:
    1. All students must be registered at a minimum of a Level 6 course of 60 ECTS on the National Qualification Authority of Ireland Framework in any academic year.
    2. Part-time masters or postgraduate students must be studying for at least 50% of the credits that a full-time student would be studying in any academic year.
  - In Northern Ireland:
    1. All students must be registered at a minimum of a Level 4 course of 120 UK Academic credits on the Northern Ireland Qualifications Framework in any academic year or the
    2. Equivalent Level 4 on the Northern Ireland Framework for Higher Education Qualifications
    3. Part-time masters or postgraduate students must be studying for at least 50% of the credits that a full-time student would be studying in any academic year
  - III. There is no age restriction for CUFL competitions.
  - IV. Academic progression must be shown, i.e. a student shall not be eligible to compete where they are registered for a course that is ranked by the NQAI or



## **RUSTLERS Colleges and Universities Football League RULES 2019 – 2020**

NINQF at a level equivalent to or lower than two courses for which they have previously registered.

- V. The academic year shall be defined as September to August. Students in any institution with an academic calendar not running concurrently with this will be eligible for the academic year during which they enter and any subsequent academic years depending on the ECTS value of their course.
- VI. A sabbatical Officer of a Student Union (i.e. a student who is intermitting a year during an undergraduate or postgraduate course of study) shall be eligible provided that the sabbatical is taken during their course of study.
- VII. A student may only compete for one institution in any one academic year.

### **8. Proof of Qualification**

- I. All players must be able to produce evidence that they are a registered student upon request at any time to a representative of the CUFL.
- II. If the Committee has any doubt as to the qualification of any player taking part in the Competition, they shall have the power to call upon such player, or the Club to which he/she belongs and/or for which he/she played, to prove he/she is qualified according to the CUFL Rules. Failing satisfactory proof, the Committee may disqualify such player and/or impose such other penalty as they may think fit.
- III. Any Club making a frivolous objection will be liable to removal from the Competition.

### **9. Competition Formats**

The formats for competitions under the jurisdiction of the CUFL shall be decided by the Committee and may be amended from time to time but not whilst a competition is ongoing.

#### **a) 2019 - 2020 Mens League Structure**

##### *Premier Division*

- Twelve teams in total, split into two groups of six teams. Teams will play each other once in the group stages.
- The sixth placed teams in both groups will play a relegation playoff at a neutral venue. The losing team will be relegated.
- The top four teams in both groups will advance to the Premier Division quarter finals. The format will be as follows with the first team listed having home advantage:
  - Group A 1<sup>st</sup> Place v Group B 4<sup>th</sup> Place
  - Group A 2<sup>nd</sup> Place v Group B 3<sup>rd</sup> Place
  - Group B 1<sup>st</sup> Place v Group A 4<sup>th</sup> Place
  - Group B 2<sup>nd</sup> Place v Group B 3<sup>rd</sup> Place
- The semi-finals will be an open draw with the first team drawn out in each semi-final gaining home advantage for the tie.
- The final will take place at a neutral venue decided by the Committee.



## **RUSTLERS Colleges and Universities Football League RULES 2019 – 2020**

### *Division One*

- Twelve teams in total, split into two groups of six teams. Teams will play each other once in the group stages.
- The sixth placed teams in both groups will play a relegation playoff at a neutral venue. The losing team will be relegated.
- The top four teams in both groups will advance to the Premier Division quarter finals. The format will be as follows with the first team listed having home advantage:
  - Group A 1<sup>st</sup> Place v Group B 4<sup>th</sup> Place
  - Group A 2<sup>nd</sup> Place v Group B 3<sup>rd</sup> Place
  - Group B 1<sup>st</sup> Place v Group A 4<sup>th</sup> Place
  - Group B 2<sup>nd</sup> Place v Group B 3<sup>rd</sup> Place
- The semi-finals will be an open draw with the first team drawn out in each semi-final gaining home advantage for the tie.
- The final will take place at a neutral venue decided by the Committee.
- The Division One winners will be promoted to the Premier Division.

### *Division Two*

- Four groups consisting of a minimum of four teams and a maximum of six teams. Teams will play each other once in the group stages.
- The top two teams from each group will advance to the Quarter Finals.
  - I. The four first placed teams will be seeded and gain home advantage in the Quarter Finals.
  - II. Teams which were in the same group cannot be drawn to play each other in the Quarter Final.
- The semi-finals will be an open draw with the first team drawn out in each semi-final gaining home advantage for the tie.
- The final will take place at a neutral venue decided by the Committee.
- The Division Two winners may be promoted to Division One.

### *Division Three*

- Four groups consisting of a minimum of four teams and a maximum of six teams. Teams will play each other once in the group stages.
- The top two teams from each group will advance to the Quarter Finals.
  - I. The four first placed teams will be seeded and gain home advantage in the Quarter Finals.
  - II. Teams which were in the same group cannot be drawn to play each other in the Quarter Final.
- The semi-finals will be an open draw with the first team drawn out in each semi-final gaining home advantage for the tie.
- The final will take place at a neutral venue decided by the Committee.



## **RUSTLERS Colleges and Universities Football League RULES 2019 – 2020**

- The Division Three winners may be promoted to Division Two.

### *Division Four*

- Four groups consisting of a minimum of three teams and a maximum of six teams. Teams will play each other once in the group stages.
- The top two teams from each group will advance to the Quarter Finals.
  - I. The four first placed teams will be seeded and gain home advantage in the Quarter Finals.
  - II. Teams which were in the same group cannot be drawn to play each other in the Quarter Final.
- The semi-finals will be an open draw with the first team drawn out in each semi-final gaining home advantage for the tie.
- The final will take place at a neutral venue decided by the Committee.
- The Division Four winners may be promoted to Division Three.

In order to determine the final league positions the following criteria will apply:

- Teams will be ranked by order of the greater amount of points accumulated.
- In the event of two teams being tied on points the following criteria shall be applied:
  - Results of game between the two sides
  - Goal Difference
  - Goals Scored
  - Draw of lots to determine who advances
- In the event of more than two teams being tied on points the following criteria shall be applied:
  - Goal Difference
  - Goals Scored
  - Draw of lots to determine who advances

### **b) 2019 – 2020 Womens League Structure**

#### *Premier Division*

- Ten teams in total, split into two groups of five teams. Teams will play each other once in the group stages.
- The fifth placed teams in both groups will play a relegation playoff at a neutral venue. The losing team will be relegated.
- The top two teams in both groups will advance to the Premier Division semi-finals. The format will be as follows with the first team listed having home advantage:
  - Group A 1<sup>st</sup> Place v Group B 2<sup>nd</sup> Place
  - Group B 1<sup>st</sup> Place v Group A 2<sup>nd</sup> Place
- The final will take place at a neutral venue decided by the Committee.



## **RUSTLERS Colleges and Universities Football League RULES 2019 – 2020**

### *Division One*

- Four groups consisting of a minimum of three teams and a maximum of five teams. Teams will play each other once in the group stages.
- The top two teams from each group will advance to the Quarter Finals.
  - I. The four first placed teams will be seeded and gain home advantage in the Quarter Finals.
  - II. Teams which were in the same group cannot be drawn to play each other in the Quarter Final.
- The semi-finals will be an open draw with the first team drawn out in each semi-final gaining home advantage for the tie.
- The final will take place at a neutral venue decided by the Committee.

In order to determine the final league positions the following criteria will apply:

- Teams will be ranked by order of the greater amount of points accumulated.
- In the event of two teams being tied on points the following criteria shall be applied:
  - Results of game between the two sides
  - Goal Difference
  - Goals Scored
  - Draw of lots to determine who advances
- In the event of more than two teams being tied on points the following criteria shall be applied:
  - Goal Difference
  - Goals Scored
  - Draw of lots to determine who advances

### **c) 2019 – 2020 Futsal Structure**

- There will be a minimum of one qualifying round for the National Finals.
- The Committee will determine a suitable format based on the number of entries received.
- The winners and runners-up of the Men's Futsal competition will be granted automatic entry to the FAI Futsal Cup.

## **10. Fixtures**

- a) The Committee, at its discretion shall have the power to control any fixture in the CUFL at any stage of the competition if the Committee deems it necessary.
- b) A default fixture date will be provided upon the release of the fixture list. Unless there is an agreement between both teams to play the game on a date and time on or before the Friday of the week of the scheduled date, the fixture must go ahead at 2:00pm on the date fixed by the Committee.



**RUSTLERS Colleges and Universities Football League  
RULES 2019 – 2020**

- I. The Home Team shall inform the league administrator of such changes by 5pm on the Thursday of the previous week otherwise the original fixture will stand.
  - II. Representatives from both teams shall make reasonable effort to communicate with each other to ensure the fixture is confirmed and takes place at the date, time and venue stated.
  - III. The League Administrator shall be notified immediately if no response has been received to any communication issued by the Thursday deadline.
- c) No team shall have the power to break or postpone a League fixture without obtaining the consent of the CUFL Committee. This consent will only be forthcoming under extremely exceptional circumstances e.g. due to the death of the immediate family member of a player on a participating team.
  - d) In the case of general term holidays, exam periods or miscellaneous, applications to postpone/reschedule a fixture must be submitted in writing to the Committee by no later than October 1<sup>st</sup>.
  - e) In the event of any match being unfinished due to any reason the Committee, having regard to all circumstances, may reschedule the match or award the result as appropriate and take any other action it considers appropriate to arrive at a proper and fair result.
  - f) If weather conditions are inclement, the home team must arrange for a pitch inspection twenty-four hours before kick-off. In the event that a ground may be unplayable, it shall be the responsibility of the home club to contact the referee in time for the inspection to take place. Travelling teams shall be notified of a pitch inspection. If the pitch is unplayable the home team must contact the away team within one hour of the pitch inspection to inform them of that fact.
  - g) If a game is in doubt the home team must arrange an alternative venue on the same day of original game, if no alternative available the match should be switched to the oppositions ground and game played where possible before the next round is due to be played.
  - h) If the game doesn't take place before the next round, the game will still take place in the opponent's venue with a date set by the committee.
  - i) If a team has travelled to an away fixture and the game is postponed the home team lose home advantage in the re-fixed game. The home team may have to contribute to the travelling and other reasonable expenses of the away team subject to investigation by the Committee.
  - j) If a game doesn't take place in extenuating circumstances, it'll be the decision of the committee to assess the facts and determine the date and venue for the re-fixed game.
  - k) Any objection to pitch, goalposts, goal nets or ball must be lodged in writing by the Club Secretary with the Referee before the game is started, the Referee shall have power to deal with such objection before the game starts.
  - l) Teams must notify the league administrator of all friendly games by no later than 72 hours before the fixture is proposed to take place.





## **RUSTLERS Colleges and Universities Football League RULES 2019 – 2020**

### **11. Clubs Failing to Play**

- a) Any club refusing or failing to play against the club which it has been drawn, on the date fixed by the Committee and without sufficient reasons for so doing, may be adjudged to have lost the match by a score of 3-0.
- b) For failing to play a game, without sufficient reasons, the club shall incur a fine of €200.
- c) Depending on circumstances a further three-point deduction may apply.
- d) Second and subsequent offences shall double the fine and deduction of points.
- e) The Committee may suspend the team in question from competing in the current and next CUFL competition that the team in question would otherwise have been eligible to play in.

### **12. Duration of a Match**

- a) The duration of each match shall be ninety minutes. The match must be started at the appointed time, but no protest will be upheld for late starting, unless the Committee is satisfied that the result of the match was affected thereby.
- b) In all knockout matches extra time will apply if the match finishes level after ninety minutes. Extra time will consist of two ten minute periods. If the match is still level kicks from the penalty mark will be used to determine the winning team.

### **13. Teamsheet and Substitutions**

- a) The Home Team shall provide the referee a copy of the Official Teamsheet. Teamsheets of other competitions are not permitted.
- b) An Authorised Official of each contesting team shall prior to the commencement of the match, fill in the teamsheet showing the first name and surname of the players and substitutes participating in the match. Only players whose names were submitted on the teamsheet prior to the start of the match are permitted to take part in the match.
- c) A club may nominate up to seven substitutes on the teamsheet.
- d) A club may nominate up to five officials and a doctor to sit in the technical area
- e) Five substitute players can be used at any time during a match and any period of extra time, except to replace a player who has been suspended from the game by the referee.
- f) Players may not re-enter the game after being substituted.

### **14. Results**

- a) All results must be sent by text message to the League Administrator +353 83 1701793 directly after the game by the home club with scorers of both teams.
- b) The home team must send a clear scan or photo of the completed teamsheet (both Home and Away teams) to the email address [cufl@fai.ie](mailto:cufl@fai.ie) or the number +353 83 1701793 within 5 hours after the scheduled kick-off of the match.
- c) Non receipt of a teamsheet within the time period stated in 14. b) will result in a €25 fine for the home team.





## **RUSTLERS Colleges and Universities Football League RULES 2019 – 2020**

- d) The Home Team must inform the League Administrator within 5 hours after the scheduled kick-off of the match if the referee has maintained possession of the teamsheets.

### **15. Match Venues**

- a) All match venues must have separate dressing rooms for each team and a separate dressing room for match officials. All match venues must have shower facilities for both teams and for the match officials.
- b) In Final matches the match venue shall be chosen by the Committee. In addition to arranging the venue at which the Finals shall be played, the Committee shall decide the date and day of the week on which the Finals shall be played.
- c) Matches under the jurisdiction of the CUFL may be played on artificial turf surface and under artificial lighting provided that the installed product complies with the FIFA competition standards.

### **16. Match Kit**

- a) Players in each competing team must wear the registered colours of the club for which they are playing. This includes jersey, shorts and socks.
- b) When both teams first choice kit are similar colours it is the responsibility of the home club to change to their alternative kit.
- c) All jerseys must have a number which corresponds with the number listed for the players on the match card.
- d) A goalkeeper must wear a jersey of a different colour, provided that said jersey is of a colour distinctive from that of the opponents.
- e) Referees shall have the power to instruct a team to change jerseys if they consider the colours are not sufficiently distinctive from that of the opponents.
- f) In the event that match kit is supplied for finals, it shall carry the logo of the competition sponsor and must be worn by both teams.

### **17. Match Officials**

- a) In all matches only FAI/IFA registered Referees and Assistant Referees shall be appointed through the official referee observer in your area.
- b) The match referee or their representative shall have the sole responsibility for the inspection of the playing surface and shall decide on the playability of same.
- c) Three match officials (a referee and two assistants) shall be appointed to all Premier Division games and knockout games in all Divisions.
- d) Referees and Assistant Referees appointed to act in CUFL Matches are entitled to fees and expenses as laid down in the FAI Referees Fees & Expenses Agreement 2018-21, Colleges and Universities section, page 4.

### **18. Suspensions**



## **RUSTLERS Colleges and Universities Football League RULES 2019 – 2020**

- a) In each competition an accumulation of three yellow cards will result in a player being suspended for the next game in the same competition.
- b) In the league all yellow cards will be cleared after the group stage games and will not carry over to the knockout stages.
- c) A player receiving a red card in the CUFL shall receive an automatic one match ban which shall be served in the next game in the next game of equivalent standard in a CUFL, CFAI, IUFU or WSCAI competition.
- d) On review of the referees report the disciplinary committee may enforce additional bans as deemed appropriate.
- e) Any club that receives a red card to a player/official shall incur a fine of €25. Clubs will be invoiced for the total red cards received in a semester following the final game of the semester.

### **19. Trophies**

- a) The CUFL shall present the trophy to the winning Club in each competition on the day it is won.
- b) The holders of the trophy shall be responsible for its return to the CUFL before January 17<sup>th</sup> each year. The trophy shall be returned engraved, cleaned and in good order and condition.
- c) Should the trophy be destroyed or damaged by fire or other accident whilst under the care or in custody of the Club, the Club shall refund to the CUFL the amount of its replacement value or the cost of thorough repair.
- d) Should the trophy be lost or destroyed from any other cause whilst under the care or in the custody of the Club, the Club shall, in addition to any other penalty which the CUFL may impose, pay to the CUFL a sum which, in the opinion of the Committee accurately reflects the full reinstatement value of the said Trophy.

### **20. Medals**

- a) In addition to the Trophy, the CUFL shall present twenty-three medals to the winners of each competition.
- b) The CUFL shall also present twenty-three Medals to the runners-up.
- c) The cost of medals shall be borne by the CUFL. A club has the option to purchase any further medals required.

### **21. Decision of Disciplinary Committee:**

All the questions of eligibility or qualification of competitors or of application of these Rules or the Laws of the Game shall be referred to the Committee, whose decision shall be final, always subject to the right of appeal and they shall have power to withhold the Trophy and Medals.

### **22. Protests**

#### **22.1 Process of Submitting a Protest**



## **RUSTLERS Colleges and Universities Football League RULES 2019 – 2020**

### **e) Registration Queries**

1. Any club shall have the right to query the registration of another team.
2. Any query must be requested by electronic mail within forty-eight (48) hours of the conclusion of a match to the League Administrator.
3. Any query must be accompanied by an Electronic Funds Transfer confirmation for the fee of €50, which will be refunded if the query highlights actionable registration discrepancies, or will be retained if the query is unsuccessful.

### **f) Protests**

1. Protests must be made by electronic email within forty-eight (48) hours of an incident to the League Administrator.
2. Protests must be accompanied by an Electronic Funds Transfer Confirmation for the Protest Fee of €50, to be refunded if the protest is upheld, or retained if the protest is turned down.
3. An exact copy of the protest submission to the CUFL shall be simultaneously sent by electronic mail where the appeal involves another club.

### **g) The Protest Hearing**

1. The Disciplinary Committee of not less than three persons shall be formed by the CUFL Committee.
2. This Committee will decide on all protests within forty-eight (48) hours.
3. The parties concerned shall be notified by electronic mail of such decision within twenty-four (24) hours of the decision being taken.

## **23. Appeals**

### **23.1 General Rules**

- a) The Disciplinary Committee is authorised to sanction any breach of the rules of the CUFL, the FAI and its competitions which do not come under the jurisdiction of another body.
- b) The Disciplinary Committee is responsible for:
  1. Sanctioning offences recorded in all Match Officials and Match Delegate reports not otherwise automatically dealt with;
  2. Sanctioning all breaches of these Rules not under the jurisdiction of any other body;
  3. Sanctioning serious infringements which have escaped the Match Officials' attention;
  4. Imposing additional sanctions, such as additional suspensions or fines or other sanctions.
- c) An appeal may be lodged to the CUFL Appeal Committee against a decision of the Disciplinary Committee subject to other applicable rules.
- d) No appeal may be lodged in respect of the following:



**RUSTLERS Colleges and Universities Football League**  
**RULES 2019 – 2020**

1. a warning;
  2. a reprimand;
  3. a match caution;
  4. an automatic suspension;
  5. a mandatory suspension;
  6. the appointment of Referees, Assistant Referees or Fourth Officials to matches;
  7. the scheduling or rescheduling of fixtures and re-arranged matches;
  8. Any other matter where these Rules preclude an appeal.
- e) An appeal may be ruled out of order by an Appeal Committee and appeal fees shall be returned in such cases if:
1. it is a matter not subject to appeal under these Rules;
  2. it is clear that such appeal was legitimately ruled “out of order” when a protest/complaint was lodged not in compliance with these Rules;
  3. If it is not filed correctly in accordance with the provisions of 23.2.a-c.
- f) No appeal can be lodged against the decision of the Appeal Committee to rule an appeal out of order under Rule 23.1.c and such decision is final and binding.
- g) Clubs may appeal against decisions sanctioning their members and Participants, unless the person concerned submits a written objection to this. All appeals must be made by the Club Secretary unless permitted by the Appeal Committee in exceptional circumstances.
- h) All parties in an appeal shall be notified by the CUFL committee within forty-eight (48) hours, by electronic mail of the decision of the Appeals Committee. In urgent matters, the Chairperson may issue or direct the CUFL to issue an oral decision in advance of written notification.

**23.2 General Appeals Procedure**

- a) Appeals must be sent by electronic mail within forty-eight (48) hours of the time that the decision being appealed against was received by the appellant. Appeals must be addressed to the CUFL committee. The initial appeal documents must include a copy of the decision being appealed against, the grounds for the appeal, the Appeal Fee in accordance with Rule 23.2.c, it must indicate the date upon which such decision was received by the appellant, it must confirm that an exact copy of the submission of appeal has been sent in accordance with Rule 23.2.b, if applicable, and all additional documentation, submissions and/or evidence upon which the Appellant intends to rely at the Appeal Committee hearing. The CUFL shall copy all parties with all documentation, submissions and/or evidence as soon as possible. (Email needs to be issued advising of appeal and relevant procedure).
- b) An exact copy of the appeal submission to the CUFL shall be simultaneously sent by electronic mail where the appeal involves another club.



**RUSTLERS Colleges and Universities Football League  
RULES 2019 – 2020**

- c) Appeals must be accompanied by an Electronic Funds Transfer Confirmation for the Appeal Fee of €200, made payable to the CUFL. This fee shall be refunded only if the appeal is fully successful at CUFL level.
- d) The Disciplinary Committee must send to the League Administrator, by electronic mail, within forty-eight (48) hours following receipt of notification of the appeal from the CUFL, a true copy of the minutes of the meeting in which the decision being appealed against was made and any proof of notification or delivery of such decision to the appellant. Such Committee shall also send any requested documentation or other documentation relevant to the appeal, and all additional documentation, submissions and/or evidence upon which it intends to rely at the Appeal Committee hearing. The CUFL shall copy all parties with all documentation, submissions and/or evidence as soon as possible.
- e) Any other party to the appeal (i.e. not the Appellant) must send to the CUFL committee, by electronic mail, within forty-eight (48) hours following receipt of notification of the appeal from the CUFL, any documentation, submissions and/or evidence upon which it intends to rely at the Appeal Committee hearing. The CUFL committee shall copy all parties with all documentation, submissions and/or evidence as soon as possible.
- f) Any documentation or submissions sent by email are only confirmed as being received once confirmation of receipt has been issued by the CUFL by email. Confirmation of receipt is only an acknowledgement that the email has been received.
- g) All appeal hearings shall commence within forty-eight (48) hours of receipt of the appeal by the CUFL unless there are exceptional circumstances which require an extension of this time period. The CUFL shall inform all parties to the appeal of the venue, date and time of the Appeal Committee hearing, if one is requested by the appellant.
- h) The Appeal Committee, once appointed, can issue directions to the parties in respect of the hearing prior to proceedings commencing.
- i) All parties involved in the appeal must, at least eighteen (18) hours before the hearing, confirm by email to the CUFL the name and the role within, or relationship to the party, of all persons who will be attending the hearing on their behalf, or at their request. The Appeal Committee shall have discretion to permit the attendance of any persons not confirmed within the stated deadlines.
- j) Any party involved in the appeal that fails to attend an Appeal hearing, if requested to do so by the Appeal Committee, may be subject to disciplinary action.
- k) In cases of urgency, the Appeal Committee, or if the Appeal Committee has not yet been appointed, the CUFL, may amend the time limits indicated above, with the exception of the time limit to file an appeal, in order to facilitate an expedited appeals process.

**23.3 Remit of the Appeal Committee**

- a) The Appeal Committee shall re-hear the case in question.
- b) The Appeal Committee shall consider all evidence that it deems relevant to the case.
- c) The Appeal Committee shall have the power to uphold or reject the appeal and/or to replace or vary the decision of the Disciplinary Committee, provided the decision of the



## **RUSTLERS Colleges and Universities Football League RULES 2019 – 2020**

Appeal Committee is not in conflict with any of these rules, or the FAI rules, which shall take precedence at all times.

- d)** The Appeal Committee may adjourn or suspend proceedings for further deliberation or to seek further or additional evidence or expert advice or where it is otherwise considered necessary to do so, provided an adjournment does not unduly prejudice any party. Following an adjournment, the Appeal Committee must reconvene within ten days unless there are exceptional circumstances which require an extension of this time period.

### **23.4 Hearings**

- a)** Appeal committee hearings are deemed to be valid if a minimum of three selected members are in attendance or available pursuant to Rule 22.4.c below.
- b)** Hearings shall be arranged by the CUFL League Administrator.
- c)** If the circumstances so require, the CUFL committee may arrange for oral submissions, the consideration of submissions, deliberations and decision-making to be conducted via telephone conference, videoconference or any other similar method.
- d)** All attendees must sign an attendance form as requested. Any refusal to do so may result in an attendee being refused the right to attend the hearing at the discretion of the Appeal Committee.
- e)** The Appeal Committee may request the attendance of any persons at a hearing. Failure to comply with any reasonable request may result in disciplinary action if deemed appropriate in the circumstances

### **23.5 Majority**

- a)** The Appeal Committee shall decide by simple majority. In the event of a tied vote the Chairman's casting vote will decide the outcome.

### **23.6 CUFL League Administrator**

- a)** The CUFL provides the Disciplinary and Appeal Committee with a League Administrator.
- b)** The CUFL designates a League Administrator for every hearing.
- c)** All communication from the CUFL shall be conducted through the League Administrator, or similar position, of the relevant party only. All communications from a Player or an Official to the CUFL must be sent by the Secretary of the Player's/Official's team unless the Player/Official is no longer registered with a team.

### **23.7 Obvious Errors**

- a)** The Appeal Committee may, at its discretion, rectify any error or omission contained in its decision. Any request by a party for such a rectification must be submitted to the CUFL League Administrator within five days of receipt of the decision in question.

### **23.8 Representation**

- a)** The parties may arrange to be assisted by a third party.



**RUSTLERS Colleges and Universities Football League**  
**RULES 2019 – 2020**

- b) Parties may be represented at a hearing by a third party but should appear personally where requested to do so by the Appeal Committee.
- c) The parties are free to choose their own assistance and representation.

**23.9 Costs and Expenses**

- a) All parties shall bear their own costs.

**23.10 Notification of decisions**

- a) The CUFL shall notify a copy of each decision to all parties to the procedure.
- b) Decisions shall be communicated by fax and/or electronic mail and/or by registered post. A fax or electronic delivery report or registered post receipt is sufficient evidence that a decision has been properly notified.
- c) Except where otherwise provided for, time limits referred to in these rules shall begin from the day after receipt of notification.

**23.11 Enforcement of Decisions**

- a) Decisions come into force as per the terms of the decision.

**23.12 Form and Content of the Decision**

The decision contains:

- a) the composition of the Appeal Committee;
- b) the name of the parties;
- c) the terms of the decision, including the date of coming into force;
- d) notice of channels of appeal;
- e) where appropriate a summary of the facts and reasons for the decision;

**23.13 Failure to Respect Decisions**

- a) It shall be an offence not to comply with a decision of the Appeal Committee, and any party that fails to respect such a decision may be fined.
- b) In addition to imposing a fine, the Appeal Committee may grant a final deadline in which the party must comply with the decision. If the party does not comply with the decision within the final deadline, the Appeal Committee may impose a further sanction, including an additional fine, deduction of points, relegation to a lower division, a transfer ban, or a ban on any football-related activity.

**24. Alteration of Rules**

The Committee shall have power to alter the CUFL rules, but in no case shall they do so until after the Final match in any competition has been played.

**25. Unforeseen Circumstances**

The Committee shall have the power to deal with situations that occur which are not covered by the CUFL rules.