



Season/Year	2023
Phase	Group Stages

Rules: HiFL 2023 Qualifiers

Kindly note that institutions will be responsible for the transportation, accommodation and other accompanying logistics of their institutions in the qualifiers.

The following rules refer;

1. FORMAT

I. In the Qualifiers phase, the ranking in each group is determined as follows:

- A. greatest number of points obtained in all group matches;
- B. goal difference in all group matches;
- C. greatest number of goals scored in all group matches.

II. If two or more teams are equal on the basis of the above three criteria, their rankings shall be determined as follows:

- A. greatest number of points obtained in the group matches between the teams concerned;
- B. goal difference resulting from the group matches between the teams concerned;
- C. greater number of goals scored in all group matches between the teams concerned;
- D. the goals scored away from home count double between the teams concerned (if the tie is only between two teams).
- E. fair play points system in which the number of yellow and red cards in all group matches is considered according to the following deductions:
 - first yellow card: minus 1 point
 - second yellow card/indirect red card: minus 3 points
 - direct red card: minus 4 points
 - yellow card and direct red card: minus 5 points
 - drawing of lots by the NUGA Technical Committee.

III. 12 teams qualify from all groups;

Sahel:

- A. ATBU or BUK Zone: Top 3 qualifies
- B. KSU Zone: Top 2 qualifies
- One (1) wild card

Coastal:

- C. UNILAG Zone: Top 2 qualifies
- D. UNICAL or UNIBEN Zone: Top 3 qualifies.
- One (1) wild card.



2. DURATION:

- I. Games across the coastal region (south zones) will play 35 minutes each half, with a 10 minutes break.
- II. Games in the Sahel region (North zones) will play full regulation time of 90 minutes.

3. KIT

- I. Teams **must** adorn a league approved bib on their jerseys for all matches in the qualifiers
- II. The approved kits must be well maintained and in good condition before every game.
- III. The kits used at all the games in the competition must be the ones supplied by HiFL as approved by the Main Organising Committee except otherwise stated in writing by the Main Organising Committee.

4. PROTESTS

- I. Participating teams are entitled to protest against the validity of a match result within 24 hours of the end of the match in question in writing to the NUGA Technical Committee stating reason(s) with the attachment of evidence where applicable.
- II. Submission must be made by hand to the Match Commissioner in charge of the match in question with an acknowledgement copy signed by the Match Commissioner and returned to the protesting party.
- III. As stated in 2I, protests shall only be considered after the payment of the sum of N100,000 (One Hundred Thousand Naira only) with evidence of payment of the stated amount to NUGA in not more than 48 hours after the match in question. This amount shall be refunded if the protest in its entirety is declared valid.
- IV. The NUGA Technical Committee shall meet and communicate the verdict to the affected parties in not more than 48 hours after 2I – 2III have been satisfied.
- V. The verdict of the NUGA Technical Committee remains binding on all parties involved.
- VI. This process does not overrule the NUGA Technical Committee's right to independent inquiry and enforcement of decisions.

5. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

- I. If there is any discrepancy in the interpretation of these rules, NUGA's verdict prevails.
- II. Any matters not provided for in these rules, including cases of force majeure, shall be decided by the NUGA Technical Committee. Such decisions are final.

