



DEFINITIONS;

“Club”: means a football Club affiliated to the league administered by the Association or Member of the Football structure affiliated to the Association or its associate Member

“Statutes”: means these Articles of Association as amended from time to time

“FIFA”: means the Federation Internationale de Football Association;

“SAFA”: South African Football Association

“Member in good standing”: means a Club or associate member which has complied with all obligations imposed upon said members;

- Financial obligations – No fees / fines or any other monies outstanding.
- Disciplinary obligations – No current suspension of any sort imposed
- Where a club participates in higher leagues, the club has the same teams in the equivalent FAP age groups.

“TRFA”: means Tshwane Regional Football Association – previously named “SAFA Tshwane”

“FAP”: means Football Association of Pretoria

“Finance Committee”: means “Finance and Procurement Committee”

“Misconduct Committee” means “Legal, Status, and Dispute Committee”

“Disciplinary Committee”: means “Disciplinary and Misconduct Committee”

“President”: means Senior office bearer of the FAP

“Club member”: means; Player, Parent, Coach, Manager, Director or any other person associated with a specific club.

“Promotion League”: means; Highest league in the senior structure (For 2025 this may be known as the “Senior Super League”)

“Referee”: means; Appointed Official

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RULE 1: INTRODUCTION

These FAP Statute Part B Rules & Bye-Laws, hereafter referred to as “FAP Rules”, of the FAP shall be read in conjunction with and as if they were embodied in the FAP Local Statutes.

The Football Association of Pretoria hereafter referred to as FAP is the LFA associated with Tshwane Regional Football Association hereafter referred to as TRFA.

NB: These FAP Rules apply to Seniors and Juniors unless specifically stated to the contrary.

RULE 2: LAWS OF THE GAME

All games of association football played under the control and jurisdiction of the FAP shall be played in accordance with the laws of the game as defined in Article 6 of the FAP Local Statutes unless specifically stated to the contrary in this document in which case the rule will apply as stated in this document.

RULE 3: COMPETITION

RULE 3a - ENTRY

1. New Applications;

New clubs desirous of entering teams to compete in any competition organised by the FAP shall;

- a. Submit an application with supporting documentation as stipulated in the “Club Request for Affiliation” form on the FAP Website, to play in such competition(s).
 - a. The application must reach the Administration Officer of the FAP before the end of October immediately preceding the year in which the competition being applied for will take place
 - b. Required documentation is as stipulated in the above mentioned form.
- b. Accept liability for the competition entry fee at the prescribed rates, and provide proof of payment of the non-refundable deposit of R5000
 - a. This deposit will not cover any costs / fees incurred by the club.
- c. Accept without exception to abide by the Rules as set out in the FAP Local Statutes which as stated in Rule one above includes this document in its entirety.
- d. The club's whose applications are accepted by the Executive (only full completed applications submitted before the end of October will be considered) must attend the Annual Congress to present to the members their application for acceptance.

2. Affiliated Clubs – “Accepted New Clubs”;

Clubs affiliated to the FAP shall;

- a. Submit the club's Team entry form, to reach the Administration Officer of the FAP by the date set at the previous year's annual congress.
 - a. Required documentation is but not limited to; Fully completed entry form(s) (Junior and Senior separately) Proof of Payment of the fees (Full settlement of any outstanding plus new season's entry fees)
- b. Accept liability for the competition entry fee at the prescribed rates.
- c. Accept without exception to abide by the Rules as set out in the FAP Local Statutes which as stated in Rule one above includes this document in its entirety.
- d. Only clubs in good standing with the FAP may participate in any competition controlled by the FAP
- e. Where applicable; only clubs that satisfy the qualification criteria may participate in that competition / league.
 - a. The FAP qualification criteria will be explained where required in this document.
- f. Entry Level for new clubs is in the lowest league in the age group or lowest league in the senior structure.
 - a. This may differ based on team entries and therefore will be at the discretion of the FAP Competition's committee, however no new team may be entered in division 1 or higher.

3. General Requirements (All clubs)

- a. All clubs to have designated sport and liaison officer at the field on home match days.

- a. Problems of any nature must be reported to the sport and liaison officer on the day of the game, so that appropriate action may be taken where possible and the said matter resolved on site.
- b. Facilities at All Clubs should include;
 - a. Change rooms for home and visiting teams (UNLOCKED)
 - b. Ablution facilities for ladies.
 - c. Tuck shop or refreshment outlet.
 - d. Easy access to field and facilities.
 - e. First aid requirements (Club's responsibility) stretchers etc.
- c. Clash of colors (shirts and socks) – Away team must change – Bibs may be used.

RULE 3b - AUTHORITY OF EXECUTIVE

The Executive Committee of the FAP may, after due consideration;

- a. Accept or reject the application of any club to enter any competition played under the control of the FAP, provided that in the event of rejection the Executive committee may offer an explanation at the discretion of the President but shall not in any way be compelled to do so, or may
- b. Notify the club concerned that the entry can only be accepted into some league other than that for which application has been made, or may
- c. Impose any condition upon acceptance that the committee, at its discretion, may consider devisable or necessary.
- d. Introduce any mechanism to assist in the structure of any league(s) to enhance the football experience provided by the FAP – Any such mechanism must be approved by a majority vote of the executive committee.
- e. The Executive committee may waive the Automatic Disciplinary / Fines in cases where the committee may seem fit.

RULE 3c: STRUCTURE SENIORS

- a. League names
 - 1. Promotion league (Winner will represent the FAP in the LFA Promotional Play-offs)
 - 2. 1st Division
 - 3. 2nd Division
 - 4. 3rd Division
 - 5. Veterans
- b. Competition
 - 1. Promotion league; Promotion league will have 12 teams
 - i. Promotion and Relegation.
 - 1. Winner remains in Promotion league
 - 2. Bottom club is relegated to 1st Division
 - a. If the club exists in division 1 the club moves from division 1 to division 2
 - 3. No club may have more than 1 team in the promotion league.
 - 2. Division 1; The Number of Division 1 teams will depend on team entries (Will not exceed 12 teams) Placement will be at the discretion of the competitions committee.
 - i. Straight forward promotion / relegation
 - 1. Winner Division 1 moves to Promotion
 - a. If Winner already participates in Promotion, then 2nd place is promoted,
 - b. If 2nd place already participates in Promotion, then 3rd place is promoted
 - c. If 3rd place already participates in Promotion, then a play-off will take place between the bottom club in the promotion league and the highest placed 1st Division club that does not participate in the promotion league.
 - i. Any other scenario will be handled by the Competitions Committee
 - d. Bottom club of Division 1 moves to Division 2
 - 2. No club may have more than 1 team in Division 1 unless otherwise stipulated under the discretion of the Competitions Committee based on team entries.

3. Division 2 and Lower; The Number of teams will depend on team entries and will not exceed 12 teams per division

Placement will be at the discretion of the competitions committee.

- i. Straight forward promotion / relegation
 1. Winner moves up
 - a. If Winner already participates in higher division, then 2nd place is promoted,
 - b. If 2nd place already participates in higher division, then 3rd place is promoted
 - i. If 3rd place already participates in higher division placement will be at the discretion of the competitions committee.
 - c. Bottom club of Division moves down one division - Depending on entries.
 2. At the discretion of the competitions committee and based on team entries a club may have more than one team in any division 2 or lower.
4. **NOTE:** The 1st Division team winning promotion to the promotion league. Completes the 1st Division program in September and starts the Promotion League program in October the same year - NO BREAK

RULE 3d: STRUCTURE JUNIORS

- a. Age groups are under 9, under 11, under 13, under 15, under 17 and under 19
- b. No league will exceed 12 teams and will be governed by the team entries.
- c. Placement will be at the discretion of the competitions committee and will follow the following guide lines;
 1. The first priority is to have all the leagues with the same number of teams, obviously this is not always achievable and thus clubs will have teams playing at different venues.
 - i. Where achievable, this allows the teams to be placed so that they all play home games together and if the same opposition is in the other leagues the away games will be together as well.
 1. This helps to reduce the transport costs
 2. This helps in the allocation of officials.
 2. Team Placement
 - i. New clubs will be placed in the lowest league.
 - ii. Team placement will be based on the promotion / relegation format based on the previous year's log standings.

d. FAPDL Structure

1. Due to the newly created development league by the TRFA the FAP has followed suit by creating a development league itself being FAPDL.
2. There are only 3 age groups; Under 13, Under 15, and Under 17 that have FAPDL leagues and these are seen as the highest leagues in these three age groups. The under 19 age group is not included as the FAP clubs move under 19 players into their senior structure.
3. Criteria for inclusion in the FAPDL league
 - i. Where the FAPDL leagues are available the following qualification criteria must have been satisfied in the immediate previous season as well as the entries for the upcoming season.
 1. One Senior League team (Any league; Promotion, 1st Division, 2nd Division or 3rd Division (The veterans league does not qualify) and
 2. The Under 13, Under 15 and Under 17 leagues.
 - ii. Note; The Competitions Committee may invite clubs to either DL league but the invited clubs will not be considered for Route to TRDL

e. Junior League names per age group

1. Under Nine (9) League
 - i. The league will be named by colours (EG; U9 Green, U9Red etc.)
 - ii. The Under 9 League remains non-competitive
 1. Players do not have to produce a registration card to participate
2. The Under 9 Cup remains competitive
 - i. Players will be required to produce a registration card to participate
 - ii. Team returns will be required per match
3. Under Eleven (11) League and Cup – Competitive (cards and team returns required)
 - i. Under 11 Division 1 through to Under 11 Division 7 depending on team entries.
4. Under Thirteen (13) League and Cup – Competitive (cards and team returns required)
 - i. Under 13 DL (Development league) (FAPDL)
 - ii. Under 13 Division One through to Under 13 Division 5 depending on entries
5. Under Fifteen (15) League and Cup – Competitive (cards and team returns required)
 - i. Under 15 DL (Development league) (FAPDL)
 - ii. Under 15 Division One through to U15 Division 5 depending on entries

6. Under Seventeen (17) League and Cup – Competitive (cards and team returns required)
 - i. Under 17 DL (Development league) (FAPDL)
 - ii. Under 17 Division One through to Under 17 Division 4 depending on entries.
7. Under 19 League and Cup – Competitive (cards and team returns required)
 - i. The first round on the under 19 league will include all teams entered and play each once.
 - ii. After the first round the clubs will be given the opportunity to withdraw due to numbers, pressure from school exams etc.
 - iii. Depending on the number of clubs remaining the second round could be;
 1. A further single round (Remaining clubs)
 2. The remaining clubs split into 2 leagues.

f. League Competition

All leagues (where possible) will have 2 rounds of games, each team playing all the other teams in the league twice (once at home and once away)

Team returns must be completed for every game

League positions will be determined as per Rule 62.

g. Promotion / Relegation (Juniors)

1. Under 9s – no promotion / relegation is possible as there are no log tables.
2. Under 11s
 - i. The bottom club in all the divisions will be moved down one division.
 - ii. The winning club in each of the divisions (except division 1) will be moved up one Division.
 1. If in any division the winning club already exists in the division above, then the second placed club will be moved up.
 2. If in any division the winning club and the second place club already exists in the division above, then the third placed club will be moved up
 3. Any other scenarios will be resolved by the competitions Committee.

3. FAPDL Procedure for Promotion / Relegation; (Under 13s, Under 15s and Under 17s).

All FAPDL divisions promotion relegation will be based on the final log position of the u13, u15 and u/17 teams in the league.

Where a club does not participate in all 3 leagues the club will not be eligible for promotion, however the team's log position will be taken into account in respect of placement

NOTE; Should a club no longer participate in any of the FAP senior leagues that club will be relegated from all three FAPDL leagues.

For those clubs that participate in one of the senior leagues;

- i. A combined point system will determine the log position of the CLUB in the three FAPDL leagues for promotion / relegation purposes
 1. The Final log position of the individual CLUB per age group will carry a point value;

Under 13		Under 15		Under 17	
Team Pos	Points	Team Pos	Points	Team Pos	Points
1	12	1	12	1	12
2	11	2	11	2	11
3	10	3	10	3	10
4	9	4	9	4	9
5	8	5	8	5	8
6	7	6	7	6	7
7	6	7	6	7	6
8	5	8	5	8	5
9	4	9	4	9	4
10	3	10	3	10	3
11	2	11	2	11	2
12	1	12	1	12	1

2. The yellow CLUB ended up 5th in the u/13, 3rd in the u/15 and 10th in the U17 FAPDL leagues.
3. The yellow CLUB accumulated 21 points (8+10+3)
4. The Club accumulating the fewest accumulated points will be the club relegated to Division 1 in ALL three age groups.
5. Any club in the top 4 of the accumulated point standings will (on request) be provided by the the required endorsement letter to participate in the TRDL.
 - a. Note ANY club moving up to the TRDL must maintain the team entries in the FAP u/13, U15 and U/17 age groups for as long as the club participates in the higher league, in order to remain compliant and in good standing with the FAP

4. Division ONE Procedure for Promotion / Relegation; (Under 13s, Under 15s and Under 17s)

NOTE: Only Clubs with a senior team in any of the FAP senior leagues will be considered for promotion.

- i. A combined point system will determine the log position of the CLUB in the three Division One leagues for promotion / relegation purposes
 1. The Final log position of the individual CLUB per age group will carry a point value;

Under 13		Under 15		Under 17	
Team Pos	Points	Team Pos	Points	Team Pos	Points
1	12	1	12	1	12
2	11	2	11	2	11
3	10	3	10	3	10
4	9	4	9	4	9
5	8	5	8	5	8
6	7	6	7	6	7
7	6	7	6	7	6
8	5	8	5	8	5
9	4	9	4	9	4
10	3	10	3	10	3
11	2	11	2	11	2
12	1	12	1	12	1

2. The yellow CLUB ended up 5th in the u/13, 3rd in the u/15 and 10th in the U17 Division 1 leagues
3. The yellow CLUB accumulated 21 points (8+10+3)
4. The Club accumulating the fewest points will be the club relegated to Division 2 in ALL three age groups.
5. The CLUB accumulating the most points will be the club promoted to the FAPDL league

ii. Equal Points promotion (FAPDL and Division 1);

1. In the above scenarios should there be clubs with equal points;
 - a. The highest goal difference of the total goals For and Against across all three age groups will be used
 - b. If the goal difference is also equal the Total goals For will be used
 - c. If the total goals For is equal the highest placed Club in the under 17 age group will advance.

iii. Equal Points relegation (FAPDL and Division 1);

1. In the above scenarios should there be clubs with equal points;
 - a. The lowest goal difference of the total goals For and Against across all three age groups will be used
 - b. If the goal difference is also equal the Total goals Against will be used
 - c. If the total goals Against is equal the lowest placed Club in the under 17 age group will be relegated.

5. Division One and Division Two. (under 13s, Under 15s and Under 17s)

i. Relegation

1. One club will be relegated from Division 1 to division 2 across all 3 age groups.
 - a. If that club exists in division 2 in any age group that division 2 team will automatically be relegated to division 3, and the same scenario if the team exists in division 3 to 4, and 4 to 5 etc.
2. The bottom club in each age group's division 2 be relegated to division 3
 - a. If this club is to be promoted, then the second bottom team will be relegated.
 - b. If the relegated club exists in the lower division the rule in point 5.i.1.a applies.

- ii. Promotion
 - 1. All division 2 clubs with teams in all 3 age groups will be eligible for promotion to the 1st Division structure based on the accumulated points as per the FAPDL and First division accumulated point system.
 - a. The club with the highest points will be promoted.
 - 2. If there are no clubs in division 2 across all 3 age groups, then promotion to division one per age group will be at the discretion of the competitions committee.
- 6. Other Divisions (All at the discretion of the competitions Committee)
 - i. The team at the top of the log will be promoted
 - ii. The team at the bottom of the log will be relegated.
 - 1. Rules regarding existing clubs in the higher or lower leagues, and equal points etc. will apply to these promotions / relegations. (The accumulative point system will NOT be used in these leagues)
 - iii. NOTE: New clubs will start in the lowest division.

RULE 4a; JUNIOR ROUTE TO TRDL (CLUB)

The criteria for TRDL is the club must participate in u/13, U/15 and U/17.

- a. The club must be in good standing financially with the FAP
- b. The club must have no suspensions against the club or any of its members
- c. The club must be in the top 4 of the FAPDL point system standings,
 - 1. Based on the final log positions of the u13, u15 and u/17 teams in the FAPDL.
- d. The club must enter at least one team in each of the FAP age groups as they participate in higher leagues (U/13, U/15 and U/17)
- e. Maintaining TRDL Status
 - 1. The Club must remain in good standing financially with the FAP
 - 2. The club must have no suspensions against the club or any of its members
 - 3. Club must participate in the same age groups in the FAP leagues as they participate in the higher leagues to maintain good standing status
- f. TRDL / GDPL / GDL Notifications;
 - 1. The FAP is bound by the Statutes to notify to the above league administrations any club that is no longer in good standing and/or suspended for any reason by the FAP.
 - i. This could lead to the club losing its status in the higher league(s)

RULE 4b; RELEGATION FROM TRDL (CLUB)

As per point 4.d.3 above the club must participate in the same age groups in the FAP leagues as in the higher leagues – U13, U15, and U17 - Under 19 has been previously explained point 3d.d.2

Note; It is not mandatory for these teams to participate in the FAPDL league to maintain compliance.

Relegation from the TRDL or any higher league does not mean that the three teams will automatically be placed in the FAPDL league.

- a. The club relegated will be responsible for entering the teams in the FAP leagues and cater for their relegated teams.
- b. Placement will be based on the rules provided for team placement.
 - 1. Late entries, if accepted carry a late entry fee.
 - 2. FAP cards will be required.

RULE 5: TEAM WITHDRAWAL and LATE ENTRY

RULE 5a TEAM WITHDRAWAL

In the event of any club, or any team of any club withdrawing from any competition or league, the club will automatically be fined in accordance with the automatic fines with possible further disciplinary action.

- a. Withdrawal of a team within the first half of the season; all records of the club will be expunged from the league table
- b. Withdrawal of a team in the second half of the season; all outstanding games will be taken as a 2-0 walkover.
- c. Should a Club withdraw one or two teams from any of the development leagues;
 1. All three teams will be withdrawn from their respective development leagues and placed in a division where a space (Bye) is located.
 - i. If there are no byes in any of the divisions, the team will no longer participate for that season.
 - ii. All teams that do not continue participation will be seen as withdrawn in respect of fines and disciplinary.
- d. Should a club withdraw a team from a junior cup competition;
 1. Prior to any cup games being played;
 - i. The team will be removed from the lowest league in which that club participates in that age group.
 1. EG: If the club has 1 team in each of FAPDL, division 1, & division 3 and withdraws a team, the team in the lowest division will be withdrawn (in this example division 3 and the club will participate in the higher division's cup competition (in this example FAPDL and divisions 1.
 2. After a cup game has been played;
 - i. The team will be removed from the lowest division in which that club participates in that age group – see example in 5a.d.1. i.1
 - ii. In addition, those players who participated in the team that has been withdrawn will remain cup tied to that team and no longer participate in any cup competition for that season.

RULE 5b TEAM WITHDRAWAL

Where the Executive have agreed to allow the late entry, or where a team has been demoted due to the withdrawal of a team from the FAPDL or FAPDPL (point 5a.c above)

- a. Fines and/or Disciplinary action will be at the competition committee's discretion.
- b. The team will be placed in the league identified.
- c. All games prior to the entry will be recorded as a 2-0 win to the opposition
- d. If the first round of the cup has been played the team will not participate in the cup
- e. If the first round of the cup has not been played the competition's committee will decide whether to perform a re-draw to include this team or leave the team out of the cup.
 1. If any of the players have played in a previous cup, then they are cup tied to that team.

RULE 6: COMPETITION - ENTRY FORM and FEES

No application for entry into any competition will be considered unless;

- a. Taking into consideration any "Payment Plan" with deadlines for fees, as well as deadlines for entry forms approved by the Finance Committee – see Rule 65 Club Fees
 1. The agreed fees or portion thereof, along with the entry forms not submitted to the office by the said date will result in the Club not being scheduled to play in the upcoming League and Cup program.
 - i. This includes those clubs who are required to organize payment via their accounts department.

RULE 7: COMPETITION - OTHER LEAGUE / OTHER LFA

RULE 7a: OTHER LEAGUE

- a. Tshwane Regional Development League (TRDL).

1. See RULE 4; JUNIOR ROUTE TO TRDL (CLUB)
- b. Gauteng Development League (GDL) / Gauteng Development Promotion League (GDPL)

Promotion to the GDPL from the TRDL is by winning the leagues in TRDL.

Clubs must remain in good standing with the FAP in order to participate in the GDPL

Promotion to the GDL from the GDPL is by winning the leagues in GDPL.

Clubs must remain in good standing with the FAP in order to participate in the GDL

- c. The FAP shall not be bound to endorse any particular club, but shall, in its discretion be entitled to endorse only such clubs that meet the criteria as set in these statutes, and the club being in good standing with the FAP.
- d. The promotion criteria from FAPDL to TRDL has been set in these statutes.
- e. The decisions of the Executive committee shall be final in regard to all such entries and shall be binding on the clubs applying for entry to such competitions.
- f. Teams competing and the clubs to which such teams belong, shall be bound by the rules governing the competition in which they shall be competing as well as the FAP Rules except that in so far as there is a difference of meaning, interpretation, or fact between the competition rules of the committee and the FAP Rules the competing club shall be bound by such rules as has specific application to the competition in which it shall be competing.
- g. Any endorsement will require;
 1. The club to be in good standing financially with the FAP
 2. The club must participate in the FAP Development league (age group) for each league (age group) that the club enters in the "other" league for the same season. (U/13, U15 & U/17)
 - i. The club must be in the top 4 of the accumulated point system as explained in these statutes.
 3. The club will be "Not in good standing" should the club fail to fulfil the FAP fixture at any time during the season.

RULE 7b: OTHER LFA

Application for permission to enter any competition played under the control of another LFA shall be made, in the first instance, to the association and shall be subject to the following;

- a. No club may participate in a league competition in another LFA.
- b. Cup Competition;
 - The Executive committee shall not be bound to approve any application from any club to participate in any competition.
 - The decision of the Executive committee shall be final in regard to all such applications and shall be binding on the clubs applying for entry to such competitions.

RULE 7c: NOTIFICATION TO CONTROLLING BODY

Should the club participating in the "Other Leagues" or Other LFA be suspended for any reason or found to be not in good standing for any reason by the FAP, the FAP is bound by these statutes to forward a letter detailing the reason(s) for such suspension / found not in good standing to the "Other League's controlling body" / LFA.

RULE 8: CAPITATION FEE

The South African Football Association (SAFA) determines an annual capitation fee to be paid by each registered Club player in the FAP. The amount payable and the due dates for the payment of such amount is made known each year after the Annual Congress of (SAFA) The Treasurer or the President in the absence of the Treasurer of the FAP will submit the necessary accounts to Clubs for payment. All capitation fees received will be paid to SAFA by the FAP

RULE 9: REGISTRATION - GENERAL

No club affiliated to the FAP shall, under any circumstances whatever, permit or encourage the playing of any unregistered or improperly registered player, or a player that does not have a registration card legally produced and

distributed through the MySafa system by the FAP Administration Officer (NO CARD NO PLAY) in any of its teams in any competition controlled by the FAP, subject to the provisos that;

- a. Where such unregistered and / or improperly registered player shall be proved to have played in such competition, the result / outcome for such fixture shall be awarded automatically to the opposing club, and the defaulting club and / or player shall be subject to the automatic disciplinary / fine (Rule 67) however additional disciplinary action may be sanctioned as the Misconduct Committee shall see fit to rule, but
- b. Where the defaulting club can produce reasonable evidence to prove that application for registration was made in terms of the FAP rules, and that there was no justification for refusal to accept such registration and the club, acting in good faith, had in possession evidence leading it to believe that such player had been duly and properly registered, then the Misconduct Committee shall be empowered to make such special finding as it may deem fit and just in all the circumstances of the case.
- c. SAFA & FAP registration requirements are available at the FAP office.

RULE 10: REGISTRATION - PERIOD OF EFFECT

Any player registered as a member of a club affiliated to this or any other association must apply annually for re-registration.

A player's registration shall expire at the end of the season for which the player is registered, or within four (4) days of the team's last match of the season, whichever is the later

- a. Senior Promotion League – season end is 30th June
- b. All other leagues – season end is 31st December

After the expiry date the player shall be free to sign for another club for the following season after having obtained a clearance from the player's former existing club.

See Rule 17 below - REGISTRATION – PLAYER-PARENT / CLUB OBLIGATION

RULE 11 - REGISTRATION OF PLAYERS

All players will be registered on the MySafa system.

The MySafa system provides a player "Self-Registration" function as well as a "Club-Registration" function.

Documentation required for both registration functions;

- a. A correctly and fully completed SAFA application registration form (includes the photo)- (PDF)
- b. An ID size colour photo (head & Shoulders) with a clear blank background. (Jpeg or Ping) SAME PHOTO as on the form
- c. Confirmation of date of birth / age; (PDF)
 - a. A South African Birth Certificate (U17, U15, U13, U11, U9 and below)
 - b. A South African ID Document (U19 and Seniors)
 - c. A Valid South African Passport (Any age group)
 - d. Passport must be valid until the end of the season.
- d. Foreigners
 - a. Passport and Visa Page (Passport and Visa must be valid until the end of the season)

RULE 11a: SELF REGISTRATION

- a. Access must be provided by MySafa support
 - a. The player registers and uploads his / her own application
 - b. The application is forwarded to the Climb for approval
 - c. The Application is then sent to the FAP Administration Officer who will approve or reject as explained in the Club Registration process below.

RULE 11b: CLUB REGISTRATION PROCESS

- a. The Player / Parent will provide the club with the documentation in the correct format
- b. The Club will capture the registrations of the players into a Batch on the MySafa system and then submit the batch

- a. All batches submitted prior to 12h00 on Wednesday will be processed by the FAP Administration Officer.
- b. Any batches submitted after 12h00 on Wednesday will only be processed the following week.
- c. The FAP Administration Officer will approve or Reject each application within each batch.
 - a. Rejected Applications will be flagged as rejected and remain in the batch
 - i. It is the club's responsibility to check the batches for rejected applications, correct and re-submit the application – Neither the system nor the FAP Administration Officer will notify the club of a rejected application.
 - b. Cards for Approved Applications will be printed and available for collection on Friday at the office between 09h00 and 12h00.

RULE 12: REGISTRATION - PREVIOUSLY REGISTERED PLAYERS (NEW)

All players must be registered through the MySafa system and the registration card produced by the MySafa system clearly identifies the LFA, the CLUB, the LEAGUE/AGE GROUP that the player is registered for.

EG: FAP – CLUB.X – Under 13, or TRDL – CLUB.Y - Under 15 etc.

RULE 12a: PREVIOUSLY REGISTERED

These players are required to re-register for every new season.

- a. Documentation required;
 - a. A correctly and fully completed SAFA application registration form (includes the photo)- (PDF)
 - b. An ID size colour photo (head & Shoulders) with a clear blank background. (Jpeg or Ping) SAME PHOTO as on the registration application form
 - c. Confirmation of date of birth / age; (PDF)
 - d. A South African Birth Certificate If changed or moving up in age groups
 - e. A South African ID Document if changed
 - f. A Valid South African Passport (Any age group)
 - g. Passport must be valid until the end of the season.
- b. Foreigners
 - a. Passport and Visa Page (Passport and Visa must be valid until the end of the season)

RULE 12b: REGISTERING WITH FORMER CLUB

- a. The process is the same as the process in point 12a above.

RULE 12c: REGISTERING WITH A DIFFERENT CLUB

- a. Additional document required is the Clearance form (PDF) from the former club
- b. There is an extra step added to the process described in point 12a above
 - a. The MySafa system requests a clearance certificate to be uploaded.
 - b. Once uploaded the system submits a batch to the FAP Administration Officer to approve the clearance
- c. The Administration Officer checks the validity of the uploaded document and approves or rejects the clearance application
 - a. Approving the clearance allows the user to re-submit the application
 - b. Rejecting the application
 - c. The user will be required to obtain a valid clearance and re-submit the clearance.

RULE 12d: SUBMISSION OF CARDS (PLAYERS MOVING CLUBS)

Where a new card has been requested for a player who has already been issued with a card in the same season;

- a. No new card(s) will be provided unless the previously issued card(s) have been physically handed to the Administration Officer.
 - i. NOTE: Submission of this card is the responsibility of Player / Parent, or the clubs involved, it is not the responsibility of the FAP Administration Officer to ensure the current card is submitted.

RULE 13: REGISTRATION – CUT OFF (NEW)

Player “Registration Windows” are provided by TRFA for the Senior Promotion league.

The deadline for player registrations for all other leagues is the 15th August of the current year. The Administration Officer will not accept any registration documentation for other leagues after this date.

RULE 14: REGISTRATION - RE-REGISTRATION SAME CLUB

Players previously registered for a club affiliated to the FAP who resigned from such club, or whose registration has been cancelled by the club concerned for any reason whatever, and who now, not having registered for any other club anywhere in the interim wish to renew their registration as members of the same club for which they were previously registered shall be treated in every way as if they were players not previously registered for any club.

RULE 15: REGISTRATION - CLUB CANCELLATION/PLAYER RELEASE

Once registered with a club the player remains on the club list.

Transfer of players from one club to another is explained above through the registration process.

The MySafa system provides a “Player Release” function where a club may simply release a player currently on the club’s player’s list which will give the player a free agent status.

Free agent status on the system allows the player to register with another club without the system requesting a clearance certificate.

RULE 16: REGISTRATION - CLUB DISBANDING

All registrations in the name of any club that becomes defunct or that disbands voluntarily will be “Released” by the FAP Administration Officer

RULE 17: REGISTRATION / CLEARANCE – PLAYER-PARENT / CLUB OBLIGATION**RULE 17a: “CLUB REGISTRATION DOCUMENT”**

- a. On signing a “club” registration document, the player/parent is obligated to honour the contents of such document in full.
 - a. It is the responsibility of the club to ensure the player/parent is aware and understands such obligation(s) and it is the club’s responsibility to keep such signed document in safe keeping.
 - b. Should there be any dispute(s) arising between the club and the player/parent the FAP will in no way get involved.
- b. Also see Rule 22 (FAP Involvement with Club Forms)

RULE 17b: “CLEARANCE CERTIFICATE”

- a. Any clearance certificate request must be submitted by the player/parent and must be in writing, (letter, e-mail, screen print of message is acceptable)
 - a. A club, or a member of a club may not request a clearance on behalf of a player, however a club may assist the player with the process.
 - i. See Rule 20b for information on poaching players.
 - b. It is the responsibility of the club to ensure the player/parent is aware of this requirement.
- b. Financial Obligation
 - a. Any dispute / issue of a financial nature must be handled through the legal process as stipulated in the club registration document. (debt collector etc.)
 - b. A clearance for the player may not be withheld due to any financial obligation.
- c. No club may charge a player/parent a fee for providing a clearance.
- d. A Club has the right to simply refuse to supply a player with a clearance certificate.
 - a. In this case the club must within 5 days of receiving the request for the certificate, inform the player (in writing) that the club refuses to provide the player with the said certificate.
 - i. In the case of a club refusing to provide the player with a clearance certificate the FAP Executive may at its discretion provide the clearance.

RULE 18: REGISTRATION - PLAYER DOUBLE REGISTRATION; FAP / OTHER LEAGUE / ANOTHER LFA

RULE 18a FAP;

No currently registered player shall be entitled to sign a registration form requesting registration as a player for a club without first having complied with the condition requiring the player to resign from the club for which the player is currently registered. Any player committing a breach of this rule shall be deemed to be a registered member of the club for which the player is currently registered until such time as the player's clearance from the current club has been approved by the FAP Administration Officer and a registration card for the new club has been produced via the MySafa system and distributed by the FAP Administration Officer.

RULE 18b OTHER LEAGUE

The MySafa system will not allow a player to be registered in two leagues at the same time, example registered with the FAP and the Gauteng Development League (GDL) or with the FAP or GDL as well as Tshwane Regional Development League (TRDL) etc.

A player moving leagues will follow the same process as resigning from the club (Getting a clearance) even if the player will be registering with the same club in a different league.

The MySafa system restricts the number of movements by a single player to 2 movements in any one season.

Players moving from one league to another within the same club need to be "released" by the club from the current league EG; FAP U/15. (Clearance document is required for this action) and then registered by the club in the new league EG: TRDL U15.

Players moving from one league to another with a different club, need to follow the same process as resigning from the club (Getting a clearance)

The new club will submit the clearance request that the administrator of the new league will approve and the new club will register the player with the new club in the new league.

RULE 18c SUBMISSION OF CARDS (PLAYERS MOVING LEAGUES)

In addition to point 12d above;

The FAP Administration Officer does not approve the "Release" function on the MySafa system, NOR the approval of the clearance request for a non FAP league as per 12d above.

It is the Player's / Parents / Club's involved responsibility to ensure the physical submission, to the FAP administration officer, the current FAP registration card of any and every player that the club "releases" and/or clears from a FAP league.

- a. Failure to submit such a card will force the FAP to enforce the Rule 67 (Automatic fines)

RULE 18d ANOTHER LFA

No player may participate in leagues across LFAs.

RULE 19: REGISTRATION - ELIGIBILITY TO PLAY / LETTER

RULE 19a: REGISTRATION - ELIGIBILITY TO PLAY

- a. No player, whether a registered member of a club or not, shall be eligible to represent any club affiliated to the FAP in any fixture whatever played under the control of the FAP unless such player is in possession of his / her registration card legally produced and distributed through the MySafa system by the FAP Administration Officer (NO CARD NO PLAY)
- b. The card must be checked for confirmation;
 1. FAP (ensure correct LFA)
 2. Year (ensure correct season)
 3. Photograph (ensure correct player)
 4. Club (ensure correct club (opposition))
 5. Date of birth (ensure correct age group / league)
 - i. Note Girls are allowed to play one age group below her registered age group as well as her registered age group.

RULE 19b: ELIGIBILITY TO PLAY (LETTER) – Currently Under review and no letter will be provided.

- a. In special circumstances the FAP Administration Officer may provide a player with a letter confirming a player's registration as being correct.
 1. The player must provide valid identification to confirm the information on the letter.
- b. The letter will provide (possibly in the form of a print screen of the actual registration card);
 1. Player's Name (check against identification document at the field of play)
 2. Player's ID number – (check against identification document at the field of play)
 3. Player's Photograph (If available)
- c. Should the player not be in possession of any identification documentation at the field of play then the player is not eligible to play.
- d. If there is a dispute between the letter and the identification documentation.
 1. The player is allowed to play under the following guidelines;
 - i. A photo of the player should be taken
 1. If the player refuses;
 - a. 3 witnesses must be identified by the opposition.
 - i. These witnesses will be called to a Hearing to identify the player.
 - ii. A photo of the identification document should be taken
 1. If the player refuses;
 - a. 3 witnesses must be identified by the opposition.
 - i. These witnesses will be called to the Hearing to identify the player.
 - iii. Should the player refuse the witnesses review the documentation and/or his photograph then the player will not be eligible to play.
 2. The opposition play under protest (see rule 48)
 - i. The protest and the photographs must be submitted to the FAP for a final ruling.
 1. Should no photographs not be available then all parties including the witnesses will be called to a Hearing.

RULE 20: CLOSED SEASON – DEFINITION / POACHING OF PLAYERS

RULE 20a: CLOSED SEASON – DEFINITION

Due to the Promotion League and Other leagues not playing the same seasons there will be no "Closed Season" in respect of poaching of players. Determining a "closed" is not a manageable option mainly due to juniors participating in the senior leagues, and the movement of promotion league players to the senior division leagues. There is no period where there is no football.

RULE 20b: POACHING OF PLAYERS

A club member may not approach a player or a player's parent or approach players or player's parents whose child / children are registered with another club with the intent of luring such player(s) away from the player(s) current club, without first obtaining permission in writing from the player's current club.

Clubs whose members ignore this rule will be deemed as breaching the FAP Rules in terms of poaching players, as well as failing to control its members and the club and the member in questions will be dealt with through the Misconduct Committee.

Clubs are responsible for ensuring their members are aware of this rule.

Elected District Officials (Coaches/managers etc.) may under no circumstances approach players or parents with the intent of luring such player(s) away from the player(s) current club

Officials ignoring this rule will be deemed as breaching the FAP Rules in terms of poaching players and will be dealt with through the Misconduct Committee.

RULE 21: COMPETITION - CONTROL AND MANAGEMENT

The sole control and management of any competition conducted by the FAP shall be vested in the Executive committee of the FAP. This committee shall have jurisdiction over all friendly or other fixtures in which clubs affiliated to the FAP take part and shall have the power to deal summarily with affiliated clubs or registered players of the FAP in respect of any breach of the Local Statutes, or guilty of misconduct during or after matches on or off the field of play. This committee shall be empowered to delegate all or such portion of this authority to the Misconduct Committee or to any other sub-committee it may form and / or appoint for the purpose, if it wishes

RULE 22. FAP INVOLVMENT WITH CLUB REGISTRATION FORM

The FAP will not get involved with any internal affair of any club, with the new rule that clubs are no longer allowed to hold back a clearance due to outstanding fees, clubs may require to modify their Club Registration Form if they have such a form to assist in holding the parent/player responsible for any outstanding fee.

The FAP will not provide any advice or assistance in compiling such a form and any advice received from any affiliated member must not be seen as advice from the FAP.

RULE 23. RELEASE OF PLAYERS REGISTERED IN ANOTHER LFA

The FAP does not have any access rights to any other LFA and thus we will not be able to release any such registered player.

TRFA has advised that the club should contact the LFA in question directly.

The FAP will support any request by the club and suggests that all correspondence to and from the LFA should include the FAP Administration Officer as well as TRFA Secretary.

RULE 24: PROMOTION AND RELEGATION

The Promotion / Relegation process is detailed in the Competition section of Rule 3.c.b for seniors and rule 3.d.c for Juniors.

RULE 25: FRIENDLY MATCHES – GENERAL / SUSPENDED CLUBS

RULE 25a: FRIENDLY MATCHES – GENERAL

Clubs may arrange friendly matches at any time, and the agreement must be handled between the two clubs.

Once the agreement has been made the FAP must be notified by the club hosting the friendly.

No FAP officials are compelled to officiate any friendly.

RULE 25b: FRIENDLY MATCHES SUSPENDED CLUBS

No friendly matches are to be arranged with a club under suspension.

- a. Clubs who participate in friendly matches with suspended clubs will be seen as breaking the FAP rule and will be sanctioned accordingly (See Rule 67)

RULE 26: FRIENDLY MATCHES AS A RESULT OF GAME CALLED OFF.

Where a league or Cup fixture has been 'called off' for whatever reason(s) and the teams agree to play a friendly.

In this case;

Prior to kick-off of the friendly, the team returns completed for the league or cup game must state clearly the reasons for the league or cup game not been played.

Clubs should not submit any score for the league or cup game not played.

Match officials are not compelled to officiate any friendly.

RULE 27: CHARITY MATCHES

No club affiliated to the FAP shall arrange, conduct or take part in any match the whole proceeds or part proceeds of which are paid to or devoted to or for benefit of any charitable purpose, or for any player or person, without the prior consent of the FAP applied for in writing to the Administration Officer of the FAP and granted in writing by the President on the authorisation of the executive committee and / or the president in his / her discretion.

RULE 28: MATCHES AGAINST NON-AFFILIATED CLUBS

No club affiliated to the FAP shall arrange, conduct or take part in any football activity with any club not falling under the jurisdiction of and / or not affiliated to the FAP without the prior consent of the FAP. Application must be in writing to the FAP. Clubs participating in such activity without permission will be fined as per the automatic fines ("FANA")

RULE 29: TOURS OUTSIDE OF THE FAP'S JURISDICTION

No club affiliated to the FAP and no players registered with the FAP may arrange, conduct or take part in any tour outside the jurisdiction of the FAP without prior consent of the FAP, applied for in writing to the Administration Officer of the FAP.

Any approach to any club affiliated to the FAP by any other FAP club or other body, or such approach to any individual registered with the FAP shall first be referred to the FAP before any negotiations concerning any tour or fixture may be commenced or entered into.

Diction of the FAP in respect of all football played or conducted. On any day of the week, except Sundays unless under exceptional circumstances when a fixture shall have been arranged or authorised by the FAP to take place on a Sunday, during such season, wherever such fixture shall take place, and shall be subject to these Local Statutes of the FAP as if such fixture were organised and controlled by the FAP.

RULE 30: ACTION BY MISCONDUCT COMMITTEE

Any Club affiliated to the FAP breaking or failing to comply with the provisions of these rules shall be deemed to be guilty of misconduct and subject to such disciplinary action as may be decided suitable by the Misconduct Committee or the Disciplinary Committee, in its discretion. Any registered player of the FAP who knowingly takes part in any breach or failure to comply with the provisions of these rules shall also be deemed guilty of misconduct and subject to disciplinary action by the misconduct committee and/or the Disciplinary committee.

RULE 31: ARRANGEMENT OR PLAYING OF FIXTURES AGAINST ANY CLUB NOT FALLING UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE FAP

No Club affiliated to the FAP shall arrange, conduct or take part in any fixture against any Club not falling under the jurisdiction of and/or not affiliated to the FAP without the prior consent of the FAP, applied for in writing to the FAP, except in the event of such fixture having been arranged by the FAP.

RULE 32: PERMISSION TO TOUR OUTSIDE PRETORIA

No Club affiliated to the FAP or team of players registered with the FAP may

Arrange, conduct or take part in any tour outside the Pretoria area without the prior consent of the FAP, applied for in writing to the FAP. Any approach to any Club affiliated to the FAP by any other Association Club or other body, or any such approach to any individual registered with the FAP shall first be referred to the FAP before any negotiations concerning any tour or fixture may be commenced.

RULE 33: SPECIAL CHALLENGE / KNOCK OUT (KO) CUP RULES

The Competitions Committee of the FAP is empowered to make such special competition rules for the control of Challenge / Knock Out Cup Competitions as it may from time to time deem necessary or advisable, provided that no such competition rule shall be of any force or effect whatever in respect of the whole or any part of it that runs contrary to anything already contained in the Local Statutes, or that is contrary in meaning or interpretation from the spirit, meaning and interpretation of the Local Statutes, and provided further that no club affiliated to the FAP shall be bound by such special competition rules have been properly formulated, approved and circulated by the FAP to such Club

RULE 34: CLUB AND INDIVIDUAL RESPONSIBILITY IN THE EVENT OF A PLAYER BEING SELECTED TO REPRESENT THE FAP

Immediately on receipt of written notice from the appointed FAP coach / manager that a registered player(s) of such club has been officially selected to represent the FAP in any fixture whatever, the club receiving such written notification shall advise the player(s) named in the notice, and shall proceed to arrange for the player(s) appearance in terms of the instructions contained in the notification, provided that no notification shall be considered official under any circumstances what so ever until and unless it is received and/or confirmed in writing and no club shall take, or shall be bound to take any action until the written notice or confirmation is received.

RULE 35: UNAVAILABILITY OF SELECTED PLAYER

In the event of any such selected player being unable to play for any reason whatever the club to which the player belongs shall, immediately it becomes aware of this fact, advise the appointed FAP coach / manager telephonically stating the reason why such player will not be able to play, such telephonic communication to be confirmed in writing within 24 (twenty-four) hours. Any player who refuses to turn out in such fixture without good and sufficient reason, acceptable to the FAP, may be deemed to be guilty of misconduct, through the medium of the Misconduct Committee and sanctioned as may be deemed fit and proper.

RULE 36: AVAILABILITY TO PLAY IN COMPETITIONS INSTEAD OF IN REPRESENTATIVE MATCH

No player who has been notified of selection to represent the FAP in any fixture whatever in terms of Rule 32 above and who has notified the FAP, either directly or through player's club, of the players non-availability for such fixture, shall be entitled or permitted to take part in any Club fixture arranged to take place on the same day as the representative fixture for which the player was selected and not available, except where permission has been obtained in writing, prior to the Club fixture taking place, from the FAP for the player to do so.

Any club being found in breach of this rule will forfeit the said match and will be found guilty of misconduct through the medium of the Misconduct Committee.

RULE 37: APPEARANCES OF REGISTERED PLAYERS FOR CLUB TEAMS IN VARIOUS LEAGUE AND CUP MATCHES

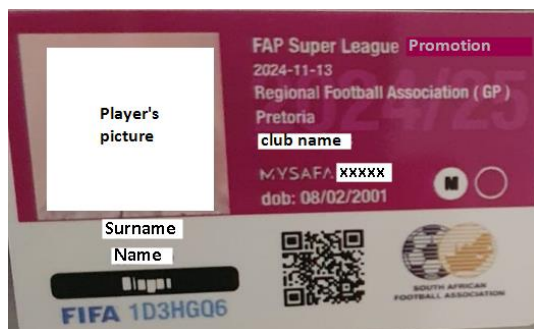
Note; 'Participation' indicates – Players name been noted on the team return regardless as to whether the player takes to the field or not.

The final structure of all leagues will ultimately be the responsibility of the Competitions Committee.

RULE 37a: SENIORS;

- a. League Names;
 - a. Promotion League 5 substitutes allowed
 - b. 1st Division 5 substitutes allowed
 - c. 2nd Division 5 substitutes allowed
 - d. 3rd Division 5 substitutes allowed
 - e. **Veteran league 5 Rolling substitutes allowed**
- b. League Status
 - a. The Promotion League is accepted as being the higher in status over the 1st Division, the 1st Division is accepted as being the higher in status over the 2nd Division, the 2nd Division is accepted as being the higher in status over the 3rd Division.
- c. Registrations per league
 - a. There are two leagues that a senior player may be registered in; The FAP Promotion league OR the FAP Senior league

FAP Promotion league;



FAP Senior League;



- d. Card Details;
 - a. Each card houses a Player's Picture, with Surname and Name under the picture
 - b. Each card identifies The league, The LFA, The Club name, the MySafa number, and the player's date of birth as well as other information.
 - c. Each card has as a "watermark" the season that the card is valid for EG: 2024/25
 - d. The colour of the card will change every season.

- e. Players Eligibility to play in a competition;
 - a. Any registered player shall be eligible to represent the club in the competition for which the player is registered in the books of the FAP and SAFA in any fixture whatever, provided that:
 - a. The player shall be in good standing with both the player's Club and the FAP
 - b. The player produces the correct card for which competition the player wishes to participate in.
 - c. The players card detail is correctly captured on the Team Return.
 - b. Restrictions;
 - i. League Matches;
 1. No match may take place without a team return being handed to the match official and the copies distributed as stipulated on the team return. "PRIOR TO THE COMMENCEMENT" of the match.
 2. Only players with Promotion League cards may participate the promotion league competitions (League and/or Cup)
 3. No player, senior or junior may participate in more than one senior league fixture in any one weekend.
 1. Both teams in which an offending player participates will be judged as guilty, fined and loss of points.
 2. The exception to this rule is any player with promotion league cards that participate in a lower league than the Promotion league may participate in the Promotion League on the same weekend.
 4. There is no limit to the number of Promotion League players allowed on the field at any one time in any lower senior leagues.
 - ii. Cup Matches;
 1. No cup match may take place without a team return being handed to the match official and the copies distributed as stipulated on the team return. "PRIOR TO THE COMMENCEMENT" of the match.
 2. No player junior or senior may participate in more than one senior team in the KO cup competition. The player is cup tied to the first team the player participates (name on team return) for.
 3. Should the team for which a player first plays be expelled from the league, or withdrawn from the league the player remains cup-tied and may NOT participate for another team.
 4. Should a player transfer from one club to another and the player has participated in a cup game for the original club, the player may not play in any cup game for the player's new club.
 5. A junior Player may participate in ONE senior cup team as well as ONE junior cup team.
 - iii. CUP Match team returns;
 1. All clubs must submit the team return, signed by the official, of every cup match with the result on the Monday following the day of the cup match. Where no official is available the clubs must state it clearly on the team return "No match Official"
 - a. Should a forfeit be claimed for any reason – BOTH clubs must submit a team return for the said match.
 - b. Teams that do not submit a team return following a cup match;
 - i. Will NOT be considered for the next round cup in that league.

- ii. Teams belonging to the same club where the club could possibly use the players from the team that did not submit a team return (other senior league) will NOT be considered for the next round of that team's cup competition.
- d. The Emergency Committee shall be the sole judge and authority for authorizing the appearance of any player, not in good standing, or for the granting of any reversion exemption in terms of this Rule, subject only to the inherent right of appeal of the player or Club concerned to the Executive Committee, and provided that the Emergency Committee shall not be bound to offer any reason for a refusal to authorize an appearance or to grant any reversion or exemption.
- e. No club may enter more than one team in the Promotion League or the senior First Division
- f. Competition Details
 - a. Team return – Every team must complete a team return and the process of checking and signing said team return must be followed as per these statutes prior to the commencement of ANY match.
 - b. Duration;

League	Duration	Half Time	Cup	Duration	Half Time	Extra Time	Penalties
Promotion	2 x 45 min	5 min	KO Cup	2 x 45 min	5 min	2 x 15 minutes	Penalties
Other leagues	2 x 40 min	5 min	KO Cup	2 x 40 min	5 min	2 x 10 minutes	Penalties

- c. All senior matches use a size 5 ball.
- g. Junior players in Senior Matches
 - a. A Junior player may participate in any senior league.
 - b. Specific rules governing players per competition will apply.

RULE 37b: VETERANS LEAGUE;

- a. Club Participation;
 - a. Only clubs with a home ground with floodlights will be accepted in the veteran's league.
 - i. The exception to this rule is the club may receive special permission by the President to participate and subject to;
 - 1. The club must be in good standing with the FAP
 - 2. The Club agrees to arrange its home games and subject to;
 - a. Agreement between both clubs
 - b. Details submitted to the FAP Technical Officer by 18h00 on the Monday prior to the match
 - 3. Failure to arrange the fixture and/or provide details as per above will mean that the Home team will forfeit said match.
- b. Age Restrictions

The players age is determined by the player's age on the day of the match, not by the year the player is born.

 - a. Restrictions for the 2026 season
 - i. Maximum of 4 players between the age of 34 and 35 allowed on the team sheet.
 - ii. Players here must have turned 34.
 - b. From 2027 onwards no player that has not turned 35 may participate.
- c. Player Registrations
 - a. All players must be registered for the current season and be able to present either a promotion league or Senior league card to participate in the veteran's league.
 - i. All rules (Rule 37a) apply to the veteran's league (especially the No Card No Play rule)
- d. Competition Details
 - a. Team return – Every team must complete a team return and the process of checking and signing said team return must be followed as per these statutes prior to the commencement of ANY match.

b. Duration;

League	Duration	Half Time	Cup	Duration	Half Time	Extra Time	Penalties
Vets	2 x 35 min	5 min	KO Cup	2 x 35 min	5 min	1 x 15 minutes	Penalties

RULE 37c: JUNIORS;

a. Age Groups

- a. Due to their limited numbers the FAP junior leagues allows a player depending on the player's age (see point 37c.b below) to participate in an age group for two seasons.
- b. The age groups for the FAP are the odd ages – u/9, u/11, u/13, u/15, u/17, u/19
- c. Criteria for a junior playing in a league is as follows;
 - i. The lowest age group that a player may participate in is determined by the age the player turns during the year of the season. The year of the season is from 1st January to 31st December.
 1. A player turning an odd number during the year of the season; 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, 19.
 - a. The lowest age group that this player may participate in is the same number of the age that the player is turning.
 - i. EG: player turning 15, the lowest age group that the player may participate in is the under 15 age group etc.
 2. A player turning an even number during the year of the season; 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18.
 - a. The lowest age group that this player may participate in is "turning age + 1"
 - i. EG: player turning 12
 1. Take the turning age; 12 and add 1 (12+1=13)
 2. The lowest age group this player may participate in is U/1313.

b. League Names; See Point 3d.e above

h. League Status

- a. The age groups are seen as follows,
 - i. The U/19 is accepted as being the higher in status over the u/17
 - ii. U/17 higher over u/15, U/15 higher over U/13, U/13 higher over U/11, U11 higher over U9
- b. Within the age groups
 - i. The FAPDL league is accepted as being the higher in status over the Division 1
 - ii. Division 1 higher over Division 2, Division 2 higher over Division 3
 - iii. Division 3 higher over Division 4, Division 4 higher over the Division 5 etc.
- c. Multiple teams within a Division.
 - i. Teams will be identified as "team name" followed by I, II, III or IV
 1. Team with no identification is accepted as being the higher in status over Team identified with "I"
 2. Team with "I" higher over "II", "II" higher over "III" etc.
- d. Higher League teams
 - i. Clubs who have junior teams that participate in the Gauteng Development League, Gauteng Development Promotional League or Tshwane Regional Development League are required to have specific cards for that league.
 - ii. Any player registered for a higher league will not be permitted to participate in ANY FAP competition.
- e. Submission of FAP cards
 - i. On registering a player in a higher league it is the responsibility of the player, the parent, and ultimately THE CLUB to ensure the player's original FAP card (if previously registered for any FAP league) is handed in to the FAP office prior to the player being registered in the higher league.

- ii. Any player registered for a higher league will not be permitted to participate in ANY FAP match.
 - iii. Any club found in breach of this rule will be suspended and reported to the higher league in which the player is now registered.
- i. Registrations per league
- a. Juniors are registered in a league based on the age group that the player fall under.
 - i. Players can be registered in Under 9, Under 11, Under 13, Under 15, Under 17, and Under 19
 - ii. The MySafa system will not allow a player to have a card with an age group less than what the age of the players determines.

Junior registration cards



- j. Card Details;
- a. Each card houses a Player's Picture, with Surname and Name under the picture
 - b. Each card identifies The LFA (FAP), the league which will show the age group (U11 league), The Club name, the MySafa number, and the player's date of birth as well as other information.
 - c. Each card has as a "watermark" the season that the card is valid for EG: 2024/25
 - d. The colour of the card will change every season.
- k. Players Eligibility to play in a competition;
- a. Any registered player shall be eligible to represent the club in the competition for which the player is registered in the books of the FAP and SAFA in any fixture whatever, provided that:
 - f. The player shall be in good standing with both the player's Club and the FAP
 - g. The player can produce the correct card for which competition the player wishes to participate in.
 - h. A player's registration details is correctly recorded on the team return which is checked prior to the commencement of any match.
 - b. Restrictions;
 - i. League Matches
 - 1. No match may take place without a team return being handed to the match official and the copies distributed as stipulated on the team return. "PRIOR TO THE COMMENCEMENT" of the match.
 - 2. Same age group participation
 - a. No player may participate in more than one match in the same age group on any one weekend. This rule applies to all divisions within the same age group (FAPDL, FAPDPL, Division 1, Division 2, Division 3 etc.) as well as where a club has more than one team in a league identified as I, II, III, IV etc.
 - i. The exception to this rule is where the competitions committee has

b. All teams in which an offending player participates will be judged as guilty, club will be fined and loss of points in both game that the player participates.

- a. A Junior player may participate in a second match on the same weekend provided the second match is NOT in the same age group as the player's first match on that day.

a. No Junior player may participate in more than two junior league games in any one weekend.

1. No match may take place without a team return being handed to the match official and the copies distributed as stipulated on the team return. "PRIOR TO THE COMMENCEMENT" of the match.

a. No junior player may participate in more than one senior team in the KO cup competition. The player is cup tied to the first senior team the player participates (name on team return) for.

3. Should the team for which a player first plays be expelled from the league, or withdrawn from the league the player remains cup-tied and may NOT participate for another team.

- Should a player transfer from one club to another and the player has participated in a cup game for the original club, the player may not play in any cup game for the player's new club.

- No junior player may participate in more than one junior team in the KO cup competition. The player is cup tied to the first JUNIOR team that the player participates (name on team return) for. This includes teams in a different age group.

a. If a u/15 player participates in a u/17 Cup match the U/15 is cup tied to that u/17 team and may not participate in any other team U/15, U/17 or U/19 team.

6. No player may participate in more than one cup match on any one weekend, or may play for 2 or more teams on other cup leagues.

- a. All teams in which an offending player participates will be judged as guilty, club will be fined and the game will be awarded to the opposition for each game in which the offending player participates.

1. All clubs must submit the team return of every cup match with the result on the Monday following the day of the cup match

a. Should a forfeit be claimed for any reason – BOTH clubs must submit a team return for the said match.

b. Teams that do not submit a team return following a cup match;

i. Will NOT be considered for the next round cup in that age group.

- ii. Teams belonging to the same club where the club could possibly use the players from the team that did not submit a team return (Same age group or higher) will NOT be considered the next round of their cup competition.

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l. Junior players in Senior Matches

- a. A Junior player may participate in any senior league.
- b. Specific rules governing players per competition will apply

m. Junior Competition Details

- a. Team return – Every team must complete a team return and the process of checking and signing said team return must be followed as per these statutes prior to the commencement of ANY match.
- b. Duration, Ball sizes and Field sizes;
 - i. Note rules for penalties apply to both league and cup

League	Duration Minutes	Half Time	Ball Size	Cup	Duration minutes	Half Time	Extra Time	Penalties	Field Size
u/9	2 x 20	5 min	Size 4	KO	2 x 20	5 min	1 x 5 min	No step	¼ normal field
u/11	2 x 20	5 min	Size 4	KO	2 x 20	5 min	1 x 5 min	No step	½ normal field
u/13	2 x 25	5 min	Size 4	KO	2 x 25	5 min	1 x 10 min	Normal run up	Normal size.
u/15	2 x 30	5 min	Size 5	KO	2 x 30	5 min	1 x 10 min	Normal run up	Normal size.
u/17	2 x 35	5 min	Size 5	KO	2 x 35	5 min	1 x 15 min	Normal run up	Normal size.
u/19	2 x 40	5 min	Size 5	KO	2 x 40	5 min	1 x 15min	Normal run up)	Normal size.

c. Substitutes

- i. Under 19 league 5 substitutes allowed
- ii. Under 17 league 5 substitutes allowed
- iii. Under 15 league 5 substitutes allowed
- iv. Under 13 league 5 substitutes allowed
- v. Under 11 league 5 Rolling substitutes allowed
- vi. Under 9 league 5 Rolling substitutes allowed

RULE 38: WEARING OF CLUB COLOURS (CLASHES)

With the exception of the goalkeeper, who shall be dressed differently from the rest of his / her team, all players in every team shall appear on the field of play in any fixture properly dressed in the registered colours of the Club they represent.

- a. Both clubs wearing their registered colour.
 - a. In the event of the Goal keepers kit clashing – The Goal Keeper must change (A bid is allowed)
 - b. In the event of the outfield players kit clashing – The away team must change (Bibs are allowed)
- b. Away team wearing non-registered colour.
 - a. In the event of the Goal keepers kit clashing – The Goal Keeper must change (A bid is allowed)
 - b. In the event of the outfield players kit clashing – The away team must change (Bibs are allowed)
- c. Home team wearing non-registered colour.
 - a. In the event of the Goal keepers kit clashing – The Goal Keeper must change (A bid is allowed)
 - b. In the event of the outfield players kit clashing – The home team must change (Bibs are allowed)

RULE 39: FAILURE OF A CLUB TO FULFIL ITS COMMITMENTS (GAMES / FINANCIAL)

RULE 39a: GAMES

In the event of any Club or any team of any Club, failing to fulfil its obligations to field proper teams in the competition(s) the Club will be automatically fined per failure.

In the Case of any Club failing to fulfil 3 fixtures collectively junior and senior teams, the club (All teams) may be suspended with immediate effect and requested to make representation to the Misconduct Committee. Walk-overs to the opposing teams will be considered to all matches missed whilst this suspension is in force.

RULE 39b: FINANCIAL

In the Case of any Club failing to fulfil its financial commitment to the FAP, the club (All teams) may be suspended with immediate effect and requested to make representation to the Finance Committee or be given a period in which to settle any agreed amount.

Walk-overs to the opposing teams will be considered to all matches missed whilst this suspension is in force.

Lifting of any suspension will at the discretion of the committee initiating the suspension.

- a. Finance Committee;
 - i. Once outstanding amount is settled
 - 1. Payment must be made by 12h00 midday on the Wednesday prior to the next game.
 - 2. Only the President may lift a suspension if the amount has not been settled.
- b. Misconduct Committee / Disciplinary Committee
 - i. Once the suspension period has been served
 - 1. Only the president may lift a suspension prior to the period been served.

RULE 40: PLAYING OF FIXTURES AS NOTIFIED IN OFFICIAL FIXTURE LISTS (BEING READY)

All matches played under the control of the FAP shall begin promptly at the time and venue shown in the official fixture list and according to the FAP Local Statutes, provided that:

- a. The FAP reserves the right to alter the time of starting and/or venue of any fixture prior to the start of the match, and if due and reasonable warning shall have been given to the competing clubs of the changed time and venue, subject to the fact that due and reasonable warning shall mean that the warning was actually received by the club Secretary (or his / her deputy) or nominated person of each of the clubs concerned not later than 24 (Twenty four) hours before the time and date of the original fixture, then the clubs concerned shall be bound to fulfil such fixture as if it had been included in the original fixture list at the changed starting time and venue: and
- b. The officially appointed official, at his / her own discretion, is entitled to delay the start of the match for the maximum of the grace period where a grace period is provided for, for any good and sufficient reason, provided that the official shall report having done so, together with his / her reasons for such action, in his / her sub-subsequent report on the match: and
- c. Any team not 'being ready' for kick-off at the scheduled starting time of the match may be refused permission by the referee or the opposing team to play the match.
 - a. 'Being ready' includes; having the team return completed in full, having at least 7 players legally kitted and on the field of play with their valid registration cards available for checking.
- d. In the case of Seniors there is no grace period – the game must start at the stipulated time.
- e. In the case of Juniors there is a 5-minute grace period.
- f. Should a match be delayed the match must be shortened with 2 equal halves being played and the match concluding in time so as not to interfere with the following fixture's start time.
- g. The official, whether, the fixture starts late or not at all shall report the full circumstances in his / her report.
 - a. The final decision as to what action should be taken, if any, shall rest with the Misconduct Committee.
- h. No officer or official of the FAP, with the single exception of the President who shall be entitled to act at his / her discretion, shall be authorized to give any instructions to the officiating referee or the team captains regarding any change of starting time or of venue, nor shall such officer or official of the FAP have the right to give any instructions regarding the curtailment of playing time in any match unless the official shall be acting on the direct instructions of the President.

RULE 41: POSTPONEMENT / CHANGE OF SCHEDULED FIXTURES

The final authority for the postponement / Change of a scheduled fixture shall be The FAP Competitions Committee. In an emergency the President of the FAP shall be empowered to order or consent to the postponement / change of any fixture without the prior consent of, knowledge of, or any reference to the Executive Committee.

RULE 41a: ALL FAP MATCHES (INCLUDING VETERANS)

A Club affiliated to the FAP may apply for a postponement or change, in writing by completing the request form on the website (A letter or E-mail will not be acceptable without the FAP form, of any scheduled fixture subject to;

- a. The requesting club must contact the opposition, and forward the request form with the request recorded on the form to the opposition.
- b. The opposition responds with a refusal or agreement (Stipulated on the request form) and returns the form to the requesting club.
 - a. A club has the right to refuse such request.
- c. Both clubs must agree on the new details of when the game will be played.
- d. The form is submitted, along with the R500 fee, to the FAP Administration Officer or the Technical Committee by 18h00 on the Monday prior to the original fixture.

Review of request (Competitions Committee / Technical Officer)

- e. The Competitions Committee or the Technical Officer or the President or any Vice President in the absences of the former officials will decide each case on its merit, having regard to the policy of the FAP as regards postponements / changes and outstanding fixtures at the time of the application, but neither the Competitions Committee or the Technical Officer or the President or any Vice President in the absences of the former officials shall be bound to accede to any such request or to offer any reason for refusal or rejection of the request.
- f. No postponement or change request will be considered without the FAP request form, submitted on time, signed and agreed upon (both clubs) to the Technical committee.
- g. A fee will be charged for any approved change (See automatic fines "ARF")
- h. Special consideration will be made where a team in the u/13 and higher age group has three or more players and/or coach representing the FAP on the same weekend that a cup or league match has been scheduled
 - a. This is not an automatic postponement / change and the above request submission process must be followed for such postponement / change.

RULE 41b: VETERANS TEAM(S) WITH NO HOME GROUND

A Club participating in the Vets league that does not have a home ground, it clearly states on the fixtures "To be arranged by "club name") – this club will be known as the requesting club.

- a. The requesting club must contact the opposition with
 - a. An arrangement of a venue.
 - i. The arrangement must be forwarded, in writing (Email is acceptable), to the FAP administration Officer and/or the Competitions Committee by 18h00 on the Monday prior to the original fixture.
 - ii. The venue must be an FAP accredited / accepted venue.
 1. Grounds committee will be the sole judge as to whether the ground is acceptable or not.
 - b. A Request to use the oppositions venue.
 - i. The Opposition must agree to the request.
 1. The opposition has the right to refuse a request to use their venue
 2. A club has the right to request compensation for lights and use of their venue.
 - ii. Both clubs must agree to the request
 - iii. The agreement with the details must be forwarded, in writing (email is acceptable), to the FAP administration Officer and/or the Competitions Committee by 18h00 on the Monday prior to the original fixture.
- b. Failure to secure a venue by the Monday deadline will require the Club to forfeit the match.

RULE 41c: ALLOCTAION OF REFEREES

- a. Referees will be allocated to Veteran's matches on the Tuesday immediately prior to the match
- b. Referees will be allocated to Weekend matches (Saturday / Friday) on the Thursday immediately prior to the weekend.
 - a. Where No referee is allocated OR the referee does not arrive – please see Rule 45 (45c)

RULE 41d: REPLACEMENT OF REFEREE

- a. No replacement of any official once the game has begun is permitted other than an injury to the original official where the game may be resumed with a second official.

RULE 42: ABANDONMENT OF ANY MATCH.**RULE 42a: ABANDONMENT.**

- a. No match shall be abandoned or shall be stopped after play has begun except on the direct instructions of the officiating referee.
 - a. Such instructions to be given by the official on the ground at the venue of the match.
 - b. The official giving such decision shall convey his / her reasons to the captains of the two teams concerned personally, both together at the same time.
 - c. The official shall later report his / her decision and his / her reasons to the FAP in writing.
 - i. Blue copy of the team return should be used.

RULE 42b: RESTART OF ABANDONED GAME

- a. No match, once abandoned may be resumed with a second official.
 - a. If such match is resumed the result shall nevertheless be null and void.
 - b. The Misconduct Committee will investigate the cause of the abandonment and determine any action required.

RULE 43: DECISION AS TO THE FITNESS OF THE PLAYING SURFACE OF ANY GROUND

It is the responsibility of the home team to ensure the ground is available timeously (grace periods to be adhered to, common sense is required for junior games overrunning the next match 's kick-off time) ready and fit for play ensuring safety of all players based on the surface of the ground as well as the following;

- a. Line markings – All Lines are painted, clearly marked and visible – cones are not acceptable.
- b. Corner flags – correct size etc. – Cones are not acceptable.
- c. The officially appointed referee shall be the sole judge as to whether or not the weather conditions have rendered the playing surface of any ground unfit for play to proceed.
 - a. If the referee considers the surface unfit for play the referee may order that the fixture shall not take place, or if play has already started the referee may order the abandonment of the fixture, in both cases the provisions of Rule 42a shall apply.

RULE 44: TEAM RETURNS AND CARDS TO APPOINTED REFEREE / CAPTAINS, COACHES AND REFEREES RESPONSIBILITIES / CARDS**10 (TEN) Minutes Prior to the kick-off time.****RULE 44a: CAPTAINS/COACHES/APPOINTED CLUB MEMBER**

The captain or coach of each team taking part in any fixture under the direct control of the FAP shall

- a. Hand the team return book with the fully and correctly completed team sheets to the appointed referee
 - a. The referee signs through all 4 copies (White, Blue, Pink and Yellow)
- b. Retrieve the team's team return book
- c. Retrieve the oppositions pink copy of their team return
 - a. Ensure the pink copy is clear and legible.
 - i. If not the Captain or Coach is entitled to take a photo of the Opponents White copy.
- d. Hand each player of the starting line-up – his/her card.

- e. Check each card of the opponent's starting players;
 - a. Photos against physical player
 - b. Validity of card – FAP, Year / Season, Age group / League
 - c. Captains / Coaches are to resolve any dispute, by means of photos, witnesses and inform the referee if the game is to be played under protest. Do not ask the referee for an opinion it is not fair on the official.
 - i. Protests must be noted on the white copy and initialled by opponents and referee.
 - ii. Refusal to initial protests must be noted on the appropriate team sheet.
- f. Provide the opponents with all the cards of your starting line-up recorded on the team sheet
- g. Retrieve the opponent's cards of all the players of the opponent's starting line-up recorded on their team sheet.
- h. ANY CLUB REFUSING TO PROVIDE CARDS FOR CHECKING will be seen as not having the cards available and the players will not be allowed on the field of play.
- i. Check each card against the pink copy (or photo)
 - a. Registration number, Name, Shirt #,
 - i. Again protests etc. must be resolved as per above – If the game has already started the protest may be recorded at half time.
- j. Return the opponents starting player's cards to their coach
- k. Retrieve the cards of your starting line-up
- l. At the time of a substitution the coach must check the card of the player entering the field of play, against the player as well as on the pink copy (or photo)
- m. Responsibility for the correctness of such Team Return shall rest and remain with the Club concerned and whoever signed the Return on behalf of the Club.
- n. The Club shall be deemed guilty of misconduct in the event of incorrect, fraudulent or otherwise erroneous information on the Team Return.
- o. The Team captain and coach shall likewise be guilty of misconduct if either or both knowingly hand to either the appointed referee and/or opposing team captain a Team Return which either or both know to be incorrect.
 - a. Each instance will be subject to the automatic disciplinary / Fines Rule (67) as well any other disciplinary punishment as deemed appropriate by the Misconduct Committee.

RULE 44b: REFEREES – 10 (TEN) Minutes prior to the kick-off time

The appointed referee shall;

- a. Sign the book (through all 4 copies)
 - a. Tears out the blue and pink copies
 - i. Hand the pink copies to the opposing captain / coach
 - ii. Keep the blue copies.
 - iii. Leaves the white and yellow copies in the book and hands the books back to the appropriate captain / coach.
- b. The appointed official referee may check, at his/her discretion, the cards against the team return for the starting players for both teams.
- c. It is not any of the official's responsibility to check the photos on the card against the player.
 - a. The referee must note any protest, complaint on his/her blue copy.
 - b. The referee must initial the protests on the white copies of both club's team returns.
- d. The appointed referee may not start a game without cards being checked nor without both Team returns signed by the referee.
- e. The appointed Referee cannot accept team returns after kick-off. **(EG. Half time or after the match)**
- f. The appointed Referee cannot allow a game to start later than the grace period provided (junior 5 minutes – Senior 0 (Zero) minutes. "Please use common sense here")
- g. Once the game has started the referee handles the match with the "Laws" of the game and without bias.
- h. A referee is not required to capture the score in team return book – he/she captures the score on his/her

blue copy.

- i. The appointed referee shall, on request from the FAP administration official responsible for forwarding the Blue copies obtained from the two captains, together with his / her report on any incidents occurring during the match to the FAP via the secretary of the FAP referee's association.

RULE 44c: CARDS (YELLOW AND RED)

- a. It is the responsibility of the club to ensure any player that receives a red card during a match sits out the following match.
 - a. Any club found guilty of not applying this rule will be dealt with by the Misconduct Committee with the possibility of a club and or player suspension, a fine, and or loss of game for all games the guilty player participates in without sitting out one week.
- b. Appointed referees must note all cards issued during the game on the blue copies of the team returns
 - a. The blue copies must be handed to the secretary of the FAP referees Association.

RULE 45 REFEREE, OFFICIALS / SAFETY, ABUSE / APPOINTMENT, PAYMENT / ABSENCE OF FAP OFFICIAL / NON FAP OFFICIAL APPOINTMENT

A referee and assistants is regarded as officials and need to be "appointed" prior to the commencement of any match. No match may commence without at least an appointed referee.

Once appointed the referee, regardless who the individual might be, is to be treated as per the rules and regulations of FIFA.

It is the club's responsibility to ensure its players, coaches, supporters treat the referee with such respect.

Clubs failing to control their members will be handled by the Misconduct Committee.

RULE 45a REFEREE, OFFICIAL SAFETY / ABUSE

- a. It is the home team's responsibility to ensure the safety of such appointed official(s) until all the officials have left the premises/ground
- b. Abuse of any kind, verbal and/or physical towards any appointed official(s) will not be tolerated and must be reported to the FAP Misconduct Committee in writing.

RULE 45b REFEREE APPOINTMENT & PAYMENT

- a. All FAP officials will be appointed by the FAP Referee's Association, and will cover all FAP leagues; Juniors and Seniors –
 - a. Appointed Referee / Officials must be at the ground and thirty (30) minutes prior to the kick-off of the match to which the official has been appointed.
- b. Officials appointed for games must be paid the official's fee as per the fee structure compiled by the FAP.
 - a. The home team is responsible for the payment of the Official's fees as set out by the FAP.
 - b. Fees are payable regardless of abandonment / walk-over (for any reason) and must be paid at the conclusion of the game – whether played or not.
 - c. Failing to pay the official's fees is a breach of these rules and will be subject to disciplinary action see Automatic Fines and Disciplinary (Rule 67)

RULE 45c ABSENCE OF FAP APPOINTED REFEREE (NON FAP OFFICIAL REFEREE APPOINTMENT)

- a. If there is no FAP appointed referee at the field 10 minutes prior to kick off;
 - a. The coaches / captains must discuss the options and availability of an appointment of a referee (assistants are not mandatory)
 - b. This appointed referee will be known as a "Non FAP Official Referee" and must be appointed as per the rule 45d.
- b. The game must commence at the starting time (5 minutes grace is allowed for Junior games – there is NO grace period for senior games).
- c. Once a non FAP official referee has been appointed, he / she is deemed an appointed referee and must

be awarded the respect and courtesy stipulated in these rules.

- d. It is both team's responsibility to ensure the appointed non FAP official referee is aware of the administrative tasks pertaining to checking cards, team returns, timing, reports etc. as detailed in these rules.

RULE 45d APPOINTMENT RULES PER LEAGUE AND COMPETITION

The Non FAP Official Referee appointed must have successfully completed the referee's course and / or be over the age of 19 with some footballing background.

- a. Junior League Matches;
 - a. In the case of All Junior League games (u/9 – u/19) **the games must be played.**
 - b. It is the responsibility of the HOME team to appoint a referee
 - i. If the Home team does not have a referee available, the away team may appoint a referee
 - ii. If neither team has a referee available, the home team coach must be the appointed referee.
- b. Senior Leagues other than Promotion league
 - a. In the case of the other senior league's (1st Division, 2nd Division and Vets) league fixtures –**the games must be played.**
 - b. Should a stale mate be reached on the appointment of a referee, the "AWAY" team will appoint a referee
 - c. If neither team has a referee the away team coach will be the appointed referee.
- c. All CUP matches and Senior Promotion league matches;
 - a. **No FAP official no play.**
 - i. However, should the teams come to a mutual agreement on a referee appointment, the game may be played.
 - 1. Such agreement must be noted on the team return of both clubs and signed by both clubs and the non FAP official referee.
 - 2. Once the game has commenced the game must be concluded.
 - a. If the game is not concluded both clubs will be guilty of breaching this rule.
 - 3. No protest will be considered for this game that was agreed to be played.

RULE 45e LATE ARRIVAL OF FAP OFFICIAL

Once a non FAP official referee has started the game this official must officiate the game to its end.

No other non FAP official referee may take over the game.

The exception to this rule is when the appointed FAP official arrives late in which case the following must be applied;

- a. If the game is still in the first half;
 - a. The clubs must agree to one of the following;
 - i. The FAP official will not take any part in officiating the game - OR
 - ii. The FAP official will take over immediately – OR
 - iii. The FAP official will take over at half time.
 - 1. In any situation where the FAP Official will take over the home team must agree to the fee that will be paid to the FAP official prior to the FAP official taking over the game.
- b. If the game is in the second half;
 - a. The FAP official may not take any part in officiating the game.

RULE 46: RESTRICTION OF PLAYERS IN THE CASE OF MATCHES ORDERED TO BE REPLAYED / CONCLUDED

In the case of matches that have been ordered to be replayed or concluded.

Only those players eligible to have played or on the team sheet for such teams on the date of the original fixture shall be eligible and allowed to play or entered on the team sheet for the match replay.

The executive may impose further restrictions on such games in order to avoid any team being advantaged or disadvantaged by the replay;

- a) Time of the replay may be reduced to the remaining period of the abandoned game.
- b) Score may be kept as was at the time of the abandonment
- c) Cautions (red cards) may be kept as was at the time of abandonment.
 - a. The status of the teams must be the same as at the time the original game was stopped.

RULE 47: RESULT SUBMISSION / RESULT AND LOG TABLES

RULE 47a: RESULT SUBMISSION

It shall be the responsibility of every Club participating in any / all match(s) under the control of the FAP, whether their team(s) shall have won, lost or drawn the fixture(s), to notify the Administration Officer of all the result(s) of that club's teams that played matches by 12h00 on the Monday following the match.

In the event of a postponed match the club must inform the administrator accordingly.

- a) The WHITE copies of all team returns must be available for perusal by the FAP Administration on request.
 - i. These white copies to be signed by the official / Referee.
- b) On submitting the result, the clubs must provide the Date, age group, the division, the home team the home team score, the away team, the away team score.

Example;

Date	age/div	Home team name	score	Away team name
21-Sep	U15 D1	Standard Bank	2 vs 2	Sun City Utd

Postponed:

Date	age/div	Home team name	score	Away team name
21-Sep	U15 D1	Standard Bank	P vs P	Sun City Utd

Non Submission (Club)

Any Club guilty of failure to comply with this requirement may be fined in respect of each such failure and shall be further liable to such other disciplinary action as may be awarded by the Misconduct Committee in its discretion, as well as;

- a. Any club having won or drawn such match may, at the discretion of the Misconduct Committee, be ordered to forfeit the points gained in the event of non-compliance.

RULE 47b: SUBMISSION ERRORS / QUERIES / RESULTS AND LOG TABLES

The Administration Officer will capture the 'received' results and upload the updated results and log tables to the website by COB Tuesday (latest COB Wednesday)

A result will be captured for every game, and the following process will be used to capture such results.

NOTE: The "NC" result indicates there was No Contest – with 1 game being added to the games played for each team and no points or goals allocated.

- a) Process for submitted results from the cubs;
 - a. Conflicting scores submitted by the 2 clubs – with same result (Winner / Draw)
 - i. If there are conflicting scores, the Administration Officer will contact the clubs and if necessary the referee, as well as request the signed white copy of the team sheet.
 - 1. The immediate capture of this result will be the first result received
 - 2. The 2 conflicting scores will be placed in the "note" column.
 - b. Conflicting scores submitted by the 2 clubs – with conflicting result (Winner / Draw)
 - i. If there are conflicting scores, the Administration Officer will contact the clubs and if necessary

the referee, as well as request the signed white copy of the team sheet.

1. The immediate capture of this result will be “NC”
2. The 2 conflicting scores will be placed in the “note” column.

c. Only one club submits a result.

i. If only one score is submitted that score will be captured.

1. A note will be placed in the “note” column.

ii. It is not the responsibility of the FAP Administrator to chase after any scores.

d. No results received – In addition to 47a Non Submission (Club)

i. When no result is received for a match the result will be captured as a No Contest (NC)

1. NC = No Contest - 1 game will be added to the games played for each team, no points or goals will be allocated.

ii. It is not the responsibility of the FAP Administrator to chase after any scores

e. Postponed matches;

i. If a game is postponed It is the club’s responsibility to inform the Administrator that there is no result as the game was postponed see example diagram in 47a (b) above.

1. The immediate capture of a result for postponed games will be “NC”
2. Once the game has been caught up and played the result will be changed accordingly.

b) Submission Query

a. Any club contesting a result must notify the FAP Administration Officer in writing accompanied with the relevant documentation (Team returns) within two (2) weeks of the result being published on the FAP website, (normally 2 and a half weeks from the date of the match)

i. No correspondence concerning ANY result will be entertained if this 2-week period has lapsed, or the query is submitted without the relevant documentation.

c) Website Update

a. Every match must have a result captured by the system administrator weekly.

i. Results will be captured as per the process above 47b (a) (a. through e.)

b. The “Results” program will automatically update the logs based on the captured results.

c. The Administration Officer will then post the new results and logs on the website (weekly)

RULE 48: PROTESTS / CARD CHECKING / COMPLAINTS (Relating to Breaches of the FAP Rules)

RULE 48a: PROTESTS

a) Once the game has started it is deemed all pre-match documentation is correct and all card checks have been done and there are no issues preventing the game to commence.

a. It is the responsibility of the teams’ / club’s representative at the game to ensure all the admin is done prior to the commencement of the game, and should any rule be by-passed and/or accepted as “done” by both teams there can be NO protest in respect of these rule after the match has started.

b) Any protest(s) alleging a breach of any rule stipulated in these Statutes/Competition rules governing the; participation of players, participation / appointment of officials, responsibilities/actions of players, managers, coaches, club officials, or any rule regarding starting times of matches, MUST be noted verbally to all concerned as well as in writing on all the available team returns, prior to the commencement of said match.

a. The protest must be noted on both team’s white copies of the team return by the referee and initialled by each team’s representative (Captain, Coach, club official)

RULE 48b: CARD CHECKING;

a. Starting line-up;

i. The opposing team/club must check the cards, not the referee, where there is a dispute on a

- player vs the card which cannot be resolved;
 1. A photo of the card must be taken (cell phone)
 2. A photo of the player should be taken
 - a. If the player refuses the photo, the opposing team should get 3 witnesses to identify the player.
 3. This identification (3 witnesses) will be permitted at a hearing if required.
- ii. The protest must be noted on the white copies of the team returns and the game is played 'Under Protest'
- b. Substitutes;
 - i. The opposing team/club must check the card of any substitute prior to the player entering the field of play.
 - ii. Check card vs player
 1. where there is a dispute on a player vs the card which cannot be resolved;
 - a. A photo of the card must be taken (cell phone)
 - b. A photo of the player should be taken
 - i. If the player refuses the photo, the opposing team should get 3 witnesses to identify the player.
 2. This identification (3 witnesses) will be permitted at a hearing if required.
 3. The protest must be noted on the white copies of the team returns and the game continues and is played 'Under Protest'
- c. Card vs Team return
 - i. Normally done by the referee, however a team captain, coach, or an appointed club member may request to perform the said check.
 1. Any discrepancy – The referee will not allow the player to enter the field of play.

RULE 48C: COMPLAINTS;

Any other protest / complaint alleging violation of the FAP Rules or any additional Competition Rules governing any competition organised and played under the direct control of the FAP shall be lodged as a complaint in writing with the Administration Officer of the FAP within three days (Sundays and official holidays excepted) of the date of the fixture or of the occurrence giving rise to the complaint.

Any such complaint when submitted shall contain full resume with details / evidence/ names of witnesses/ all details for the Misconduct committee to investigate the protest / complaint in full.

RULE 49: PROTEST / COMPLAINT DOCUMENTATION DISTRIBUTION.

The Administration Officer will forward such documentation to the Chairperson of the Misconduct Committee as per these FAP Statutes.

It shall be the responsibility of the Administration Officer of the FAP under the direction of the Misconduct Committee to furnish the club, against which or whom the protest / complaint is being lodged, with the duplicate copy of the protest / complaint documentation, and request such club for a report / response to such protest / complaint.

Any such response when submitted shall contain a resume with details / evidence/ names of witnesses/ for the Misconduct committee to continue the investigation in respect of the protest / complaint in full.

RULE 50: PROTEST / COMPLAINT (GROUND)

Any protest / complaint relating to the ground, goalposts or bars and/or other appurtenances of the ground on which the fixture is played or was played shall not be considered unless such protest / complaint was lodged verbally and in writing with the referee on the ground prior to the start of the match. When such protest / complaint has been lodged with the referee, the Club concerned shall be compelled to protest to the FAP and no such protest / complaint shall be withdrawn except by the written leave of the FAP. The referee receiving the protest / complaint shall include reference to it in his / her report after the match. Failure on the part of the Club concerned to follow up such protest / complaint shall be deemed a breach of the FAP Rules and shall render the Club liable to disciplinary action.

It must be noted that the appointed referee is the only person who may abandon a game due to any ground /

equipment related issues.

RULE 51: RESPONSIBILITY OF CLUBS IN RESPECT OF THE CLUB'S MEMBERS.

Every Club affiliated to the FAP shall be responsible at all times for the actions of its members (players, officials, and spectators) at its home ground or having travelled to an away ground.

The club is required to take all precautions to prevent such members threatening, abusing or assaulting officials, referees, assistants, players or supporters of the opposing team during or at the conclusion of any match.

The club is to take appropriate action against any officials or spectators using objectionable language at any time.

Failure to control members in terms of this paragraph shall render a Club liable to such disciplinary action, as the Misconduct committee or the FAP Senior Executives shall see fit.

RULE 52: REPORTING OF MISCONDUCT

It shall be the duty of officers of the FAP, delegates to the FAP Executive Committee, members of the Referees Association, No FAP appointed officials, as well as club officials to report, to the FAP any act of misconduct, bad sportsmanship, possible breach of these Rules and/or any other act likely to bring the FAP and the game of Association Football into disrepute that comes to their notice.

Such persons as are indicated above who witness such act(s) and who fail to report the matter to the FAP may themselves, in the discretion of the Misconduct Committee, be deemed guilty of misconduct.

All correspondence must be directed to the FAP and be delivered by the first Wednesday following the date of the incident through to the Administration Officer.

Such correspondence must be on a club's letter head and signed by a nominated club official. Clubs who correspond directly with other clubs be it as a copy or direct communication will be deemed guilty of misconduct and dealt with through the Misconduct Committee.

This applies to ALL correspondence.

The FAP is only obliged to respond to correspondence from clubs not individual players, parents etc.

RULE 53: PERSONS TO BE ALLOWED ON THE FIELD OF PLAY

No person, whatever his or her status or official position, shall be allowed on the field of play during any match except by the direct request of or with the direct permission of the appointed official in charge of the match, unless he / she be one of the players participating in such match.

Any person entering the field of play without the direct permission of the appointed official in charge of the match, shall be deemed as "invading the field of play" and may cause the abandonment of the game.

The Club to which this person belongs will be held responsible for the ensuing actions.

RULE 54: MISCONDUCT TOWARDS AN APPOINTED OFFICIAL OR PLAYER AWAY FROM THE FIELD OF PLAY

Any act of misconduct or discourtesy towards any appointed official, or player of the opposing team, committed off the field of play shall be deemed as much as an act of misconduct as if it had been committed on the field of play, and shall be treated as such.

RULE: 55 APPEALS AGAINST A REFEREE'S DECISION

No appeal against a referee's decision may be made except in respect of a question of interpretation of the rules, or, laws governing the game, provided further that even in the event of such protest the referee's decision shall be final and binding on the field of play and must be accepted and acted upon even though under protest.

In the event of a protest having been lodged, with the referee, at the time of the queried interpretation of the rules or laws of the game, the Club concerned shall have the right of appeal to the Misconduct Committee in terms of, and under the conditions outlined in Rules 56 - 59 both inclusive provided that the referee shall have the same rights as any Club protested against, and provided further that the fact that no protest was lodged with the referee at the time shall not invalidate the right of the Club concerned to appeal, except in the circumstances set out in Rule 50.

The FAP Referee's association welcomes reports and complaints in respect of its members.

RULE 56: POWER TO SUSPEND

In the event of any Club affiliated to the FAP, any player registered with the FAP, any member of the FAP, any Officer of the FAP, any member, spectator or official of any Club, any member of a FAP district or Sub affiliate of the FAP or of any Club affiliated to the FAP being proved guilty of any breach or violation of the Laws of the Game, and/or the FAP Statutes, and/or of any act of misconduct, to the satisfaction of the FAP, the FAP through the medium of the Misconduct Committee or the Executive Committee shall have the power to order the offending club / individual / member to be suspended for a stipulated or indefinite period or else to be dealt with in such manner as the FAP may consider fit.

The FAP shall further have the power to debar such club / individual / member from any football activities and /or admission to any ground under the control and jurisdiction of the FAP.

The FAP shall further require all clubs to debar such spectator or persons from any or all grounds under their control and/or jurisdiction.

The FAP Finance Committee will have the power to suspend any club for non-settlement of any overdue finance amounts.

Such suspensions will be indicated to the club(s) concerned with expected settlement dates etc.

Clubs will be required to settle amounts stipulated by midday on the Wednesday prior to the weekend for that club to be included in fixtures for that weekend.

The FAP reserves the right to suspend a club / team / player until the reason for the suspension has been resolved by the Misconduct Committee and/ Or the Disciplinary Committee or both.

RULE 57: RESTRICTION OF ACTION WHILE UNDER SUSPENSION (INDIVIDUAL)

No individual, while under suspension, shall be allowed to take part in any football activities whilst under suspension, and shall automatically be required to relinquish any or all appointments held by him / her in connection with the game.

Any individual found in breach of this rule shall be dealt with by the Misconduct Committee or the Executive Committee in the manner the committee sees fit.

RULE 58: RESTRICTION OF ACTION WHILE UNDER SUSPENSION (CLUB)

No CLUB while under suspension, shall be allowed to take part in any football activities whilst under suspension.

Any CLUB found in breach of this rule and shall be dealt with by the Misconduct Committee or the Executive Committee in the manner the committee sees fit.

NOTE: Any club found to be paying friendly games or any other football against a suspended club will be found in breach of this rule and shall be dealt with by the Misconduct Committee or the Executive Committee in the manner the committee sees fit.

RULE 59: ACTION ON PROOF OF COLLUSION TO VIOLATE ANY RULE OR LAW

If the Misconduct Committee, or the Executive Committee of the FAP should, as the result of any report, protest and/or investigation, find any two or more Clubs and/or players affiliated to or registered with the FAP guilty of the act or intention to violate by mutual agreement any of the FAP Rules, or laws of the game such Committee shall have the power to disqualify such Clubs as may be concerned from further participation in the competition in respect of which the offence has been proved, or shall have the power to order the match to be replayed and to deal with the offending Clubs and/or players as it may consider fit and appropriate.

RULE 60: PAYMENT OF EXPENSES IN EVENT OF A PROTEST AND/OR APPEAL

The Misconduct Committee and/or the Executive Committee shall have the authority to order the protesting or appealing Club and/or player and/or individual to pay all or any part of the expenses of the Club and/or individual person against whom a protest and/or appeal has been lodged if in the opinion of such Committee such action shall be just and reasonable and provided that such protest and/or appeal has not been upheld or sustained.

RULE 61: ACTION IN CONNECTION WITH TROPHIES

At the conclusion of any competition for which a trophy shall have been offered by the FAP the FAP shall present such trophy to the winning Club, either privately or by public presentation as the FAP shall decide appropriate at the time, the Club receiving such trophy shall be entitled to have photographs etc. taken with the trophy at such presentation returning the trophy to the FAP's representative immediately thereafter.

The FAP may with the advice from the competitions committee present the winners of said competition with a trophy without the club having to return the trophy.

RULE 62: LEAGUE WINNERS

- a. The league shall be run on a home and away basis, or as stipulated by the competitions committee at the time of compiling the leagues, with three points being allocated for a win, one point for a draw and no points for a loss.
 - a. In the case of a walk-over (Only the President / Any Vice President the Misconduct Committee may award a walk-over) being awarded, the Administration Officer will record a 2 goals to nil result in favour of the team being awarded the walk-over.
- b. Should two (2) or more teams heading the log be equal on points, goal difference (i.e. goals scored FOR minus goals scored AGAINST) shall be used to determine relative position.
 - a. Where teams have equal goal difference, the number of goals scored FOR, shall be used to determine the relevant position.
 - b. Where teams have equal number of goals scored FOR, the aggregate of the direct results between the tied teams shall be used to determine relative positions.
 - c. Where the aggregate of direct results between the tied teams is a draw, the results of the two teams concerned shall be considered before a play-off at a neutral venue is determined.
- c. The final log standings, as having been declared by the President shall not in any way whatsoever be changed.

RULE 63: ENGRAVING OF TROPHIES

Any engraving on any trophy will be at the discretion and cost of the FAP.

RULE 64: PROVISION FOR MATTERS NOT OTHERWISE COVERED IN THESE FAP RULES

Any matter concerning the conduct of competitions held under the direct control of the FAP not provided for in these FAP Rules shall be dealt with by the Executive Committee of the FAP in such manner as it shall consider fit until a suitable addition and/or amendment to the FAP Rules shall have been drafted and approved.

The Executive Committee may at its discretion refer to the TRFA Statutes, SAFA Constitution, and/or FIFA Constitution as reference.

RULE 65: CLUB FEES

Fee's structure, and Payment of club fees per season will be approved at the Annual Congress Meeting of the previous season. Fees will be recorded on the new season's "Entry / Affiliation form"

Method of payments is by EFT or Cash deposit by the Club, it is not acceptable that players pay their club fees directly into the FAP account.

At the discretion of the Finance Committee;

- a. Settlement of club fees to the FAP will be determined and approved to the Annual Congress.
 - a. Clubs not adhering to the settlement criteria will not be fixtured for the year.
- b. Clubs will receive an Invoice (On request) for the calculated amount.

RULE 66: ALTERATION AND/OR AMENDMENTS TO THE FAP RULES

The Executive Committee of the FAP shall have the power to alter, add to or amend the FAP Rules

Alterations to the FAP Rules may stem from proposals made and approved by the majority of clubs attending the Annual Congress, Special Congress, FAP Executive meeting or a club's meeting.

Changes must be noted and ratified by the Executive committee prior to being implemented.

RULE 67: GUIDE TO AUTOMATIC FINES LIST / AND SANCTIONS

NB: These fines are over and above the normal affiliation fees paid to the FAP, and may be adjusted through appealing to the Finance Committee.

ABBREV.	FINE	OFFENCE, ADDITIONAL DISCIPLINARY AND LIMIT ON FINE
NACM	R500.00	Not attending General CLUB Meeting
NACM	R500.00	Not attending any Congress called (Annual or Special)
NIN	R500.00	Not informing the FAP of change of Club data
NAF	R1000.00	Not arriving for fixture- plus game awarded to opposition
WFL	R1000.00	Withdrawing a team from League after acceptance
LEL	R1000.00	Late entry to League (if accepted)
FNP	R1000.00	Fielding non registered players - plus game awarded opposition
FIP	R1000.00	Fielding illegal player (other leagues) - plus game awarded opposition
RFWA	R1000.00	Rescheduling fixture without approval - Result "No Contest"
ARF	R500.00	Approved Rescheduling / Change of a fixture.
NPR	R250.00	Not phoning/faxing a result by 10h00 on Monday following match
DAF	R500.00	Dispute Appeal Fee (Per case not per sanction) DC to be called.
NADC	R1000.00	Not attending a Disciplinary Hearing
RLC	R50.00	Replacement of lost card.
WRN	R250.00	Wrong player registration number stated on card. (Per error)
Y5	R1000.00	5th Yellow card offence – 2 Match Suspension (Unless DC required)
R1	R1000.00	1st Red card offence – 2 Match Suspension (Unless DC required)
R2	R1500.00	2nd Red card offence – 3 Match Suspension (Unless DC required)
RNP	R1000.00	Not Paying Match Referee – plus Referee's match fee.
GNP	R500.00	Game Not Played; team "Not Ready" - Game awarded to opposition.
NSC	R500.00	Not Submitting Card on deregistering / clearing a player.
FANA	R500.00	Any football activity with non FAP affiliated club / organization
PFSC	R1000.00	Playing a friendly against a suspended club / suspension plus fine per match played.

NOTE:

1. The FAP will inform clubs when player has 5th yellow card.
2. The FAP will advise clubs of fines imposed.
3. Any offences not listed above will be dealt with via the Misconduct Committee, and fines as well as other sanctions will be imposed.

Tabled and accepted by FAP members at the Annual Congress Meeting held at Pretoria University on Wednesday 27th November 2024



A G Ferreira
Acting President and Congress Chairperson

AMENDMENT HISTORY;

November 2024; version 4 & 5

Changes based on the revised FAP Statutes due to the TRFA 4X4 Compliance program.

Tabled at the Executive Meeting 2026 – approved by members; July 2026 version 6

Rule 47 – addition of Postponed matches

Rule 67 - Fines increased and fielding Illegal player added – higher leagues

Rule 3 – addition of deposit and new form “new clubs”

Rule 37 – Cup Match Team returns.

Rule 3 & 4 – New promotion / relegation / team placement.