

BYE-LAWS OF GAMES

1. **Laws of the Games:** The Guwahati Sports Association shall observe and follow the laws of the games as laid down and observed by the State Unit of the particular discipline.

2. **Arrangements:** The Sports Discipline Committees shall make all arrangements necessary to conduct competitions for various games under the Association and the concerned Discipline Secretary shall be entirely responsible for all the arrangements.

3. **Games and Competitions:** Format of the competitions of the various Sports Disciplines shall be notified in advance to the teams. All the competitions of various sports disciplines shall be run under the League or Knockout format, according to the decisions of the respective Sports Discipline Committee, with the exception of the provisions laid down in the bye laws.

All Sports Discipline Committees will form various sub-committees like Tournament, Clearance and Registration sub-committee etc to conduct the games of their Discipline.

4. **Eligibility:** Only the affiliated member units of the Guwahati Sports Association will be eligible to take part in any kind of competition organized by GSA, with the exceptions of the provisions laid down in the bye laws. The Executive Committee may also give wild card entry to the team /teams which are not the members of GSA in certain tournaments.

5. **Fixtures:** The Fixtures for the relevant competition shall be drawn up by the tournament committee of each Sports in presence of the representatives of the participating teams.

Discipline specifying the dates on which games are to be held.

6. **Notices:** Notice for a game to be played, specifying time and field of play shall be sent minimum of 72(seventy two) clear hours before the time scheduled for the commencement of the game, except in the case of rescheduled game when notice given before 12 (twelve) clear hours shall be sufficient.

7. **Abandoned Match:** In case a team or a player do not turn up till (15) fifteen minutes after the scheduled time, the referees/umpires can abandon the game and report to the concerned sports secretary for necessary actions.

8. **Caution:** When a player is cautioned or given marching order by the referee/umpire with connection with a game in any discipline, the matter must be reported to the concerned Sports Secretary by the concerned Referee/Umpire immediately after the completion of the match.

9. **Bonafide Player:** In order to be eligible to participate in games and sports organized by the GSA, the affiliated clubs shall have to register the name of each player as a bonafide player of the GSA. The application for registration shall be submitted in a prescribed proforma to the concerned Sports Secretary of the GSA within a specified date to be fixed by the concerned Sports Secretary,

in consultation with the General Secretary. The Executive Committee may allow extension of last date of registration on special cases with or without late fee or fine.

9 (b) In case of an educational Institution/Institution, a bonafide student/employee of that particular unit shall be considered to be members of that unit as far as the institutional competitions are concerned. Such players must be certified by the concerned head of the organization.

9 (c) A player registering his/her name as a member of the affiliated unit shall be considered as a bonafide player of that unit and he/she cannot play for any other unit in any section except provided in the GSA rules (see the Clause 11 of the Bye-laws of Games). The concerned affiliated units shall be fully responsible for all declarations given by them in the registration Form of the GSA. For any incorrect declaration the unit will be liable for any action as per the rules of the Constitution.

10. Transfer in one Season: Any player who once played any game for a club in one season and registered his/her name for that club or played for an educational institution or institution club shall not be allowed to play any game for any other clubs or educational institution or institution in that season except on valid grounds and which shall only apply to educational institution/offices, only for the purpose of institutional tournaments. Participation for other Institution/offices in the same season will be considered to be valid only in case of his/her official transfer to other organizations, subject to submission of certificate duly signed by the head of the organization.

11. Clearance: Any player registered for one club in one season shall not be allowed to play for any other club next season unless he/she obtain clearance.

11 (a) If a club does not renew affiliation within the specified date, its players shall be at liberty to play for only other club with prior permission of the concerned Sporting Discipline Committee to be obtained within a specified date on submission of proper application for registration of the name in GSA's prescribed proforma.

11 (b) In order to obtain a clearance certificate, a player shall obtain triplicate copies of the clearance application Forms from the concerned Sports Secretary of the GSA on payment of Rs. 10.00 (Rupees ten) only (Non refundable) as transfer fee. He /she then has to sign in front of the members of the clearance committee appointed by the concerned sports discipline committee. One of these shall be sent by the Sports Secretary to the Secretary of the Club from which clearance is sought. One copy shall be given to the player concerned and one copy shall be retained by the Sports Secretary.

11 (c) The commencing and closing date for receiving clearance application forms by the Sports Secretary of the GSA shall be fixed by the respective Sports committee.

11 (d) Before applying for clearance from a club a player must clear all dues connected with sports. A club shall not be able to stop a player from clearance for any other reason, if the player desires and is permitted by the Association to do so. A player is eligible to apply for clearance only once in a season and also withdraw once only (In case of Football, the GSA shall follow the

transfer/clearance rules set by All India Football Federation which advises to preserve the sports integrity).

11 (e) After receiving his copy for the clearance application, the Sectional Secretary, GSA shall wait upto the last dated fixed by the concerned sports committee for a reply from the Secretary of the Club concerned who shall state his agreement to the proposed clearance or his objections if any. In the absence of any reply by the last date, the GSA shall proceed without the consent of the Club.

11 (f) It is provided that after applying for clearance, a player may withdraw his application by the last date fixed by the concerned sports committee, in which case he automatically remains with his original club..

12. Doubt of Bonafide status of a player: If the concerned Sports Committee have any doubt about the bonafide status of a player, it shall have the power to ask the club concerned to prove the bonafide status of the player to the satisfaction of the Committee. The Committee shall take appropriate steps against the club and or the player, if the club concerned fails to prove bonafide status of the player.

13. Participation in Tournament by Players:

13 (a) Any club or player registered with GSA shall not participate in any tournament or Exhibition match (not organized by the Guwahati Sports Association) inside or outside the jurisdiction of GSA without prior permission from the General Secretary or Sports Secretary. Similarly no club or player from outside the jurisdiction of the GSA shall participate in any tournament or exhibition matches organized by the GSA without prior permission of the General Secretary/Sports Secretary.

13 (b) The Executive Committee may, at the request of the State Level Association, allow a representative team of the State Association to participate in a tournament organized/managed by GSA, provided that in such a representative team, no registered player of the GSA shall be included.

14. Non-Participation: Any Team not playing two consecutive matches without information in written to the General Secretary or Sports Secretary at least 6 hours in advance and in case of rescheduled game, 6 hours before the commencement of the game, shall be considered as having withdrawn and the status of such club shall be governed according to rules under clause ? of the bye laws.

15. Suspension of a player: A club may suspend a player registered under it for infringement of the rules and disciplines as laid down in their constitution, subject to the condition that it has to serve a show-cause notice to the player concerned within thirty days of the infringement with a copy of that show-cause notice forwarded to the Hony. General Secretary of the GSA. In any case the suspension order of the club if issued has to be served within sixty days of the date of infringement and a copy of the suspension order must be forwarded to the Hony. General

Secretary, GSA. No action taken by the club regarding a player will come under the purview of the GSA unless the club fulfills the above mentioned conditions. The suspended player may however lodge an appeal to the concerned Sports Secretary for a review of the suspension order. The concerned Sports Committee will take necessary action on such appeal.

16. Unregistered player: If the registration of a player is not renewed by the club or Institution in a year, or in the case of any player not registering his/her name for any club/institution of the GSA in the year, the unregistered players will be at liberty to obtain permission for registering his/her name for any other affiliated club/institution of GSA in the same year and the condition/rules of Inter-Club Clearance of the constitution/by-law will not be made applicable in his/her case. But he/she will be required to obtain permission for registration of his/her name in favour of any other affiliated club/institution through a written application to be signed by the applicant in front of the concerned Sports Secretary, GSA within the specified date to be fixed by the Sports Secretary in consultation with the General secretary. But the date fixed for such registration must not be later than 30 (thirty) days after the last date of registration of players for the particular Division in that season and such clearance will be allowed after scrutiny of the application by the concerned Sports Committee.

17. Withdrawal: Any club/educational institution/institution deciding to withdraw from any league or competition for any cause whatsoever during the league or competition, the games that they may already have played shall be treated as cancelled and the points gained by any other club in playing such game against that withdrawing unit shall not be counted.

18. Clubs affiliated to the GSA may invite outside teams and play Exhibition matches in order to augment their own finance, with the permission of the Executive Committee. In all such games or tournaments, a fee shall have to be paid by the club to the GSA as determined by the Executive committee.

(A) FOOTBALL

GSA will have following Football Leagues under its administration following the rules and regulations of the All India Football Federation as well as the FIFA:

- 1) **Men:** For Men's, there will be A Division, B Division and C Division Football League.
 - a) There will be 8 clubs in each division namely A, B and C Division.
 - b) A Division will be the top division of the Men's League.
 - c) A Division matches will be played in Round Robin League format and thereafter, top four teams will play for the Championship and the bottom four will play to avoid relegation.
 - d) In A Division Football League the teams will carry their respective full points and goals scored and against by them from the first leg to the Championship and Relegation Round.

e) The top two teams of the A Division will qualify for the Guwahati Premier Football League (GPFL) whereas the bottom two teams shall be relegated to B Division.

f) Champions of the A Division will qualify for the respective State Level League of the Assam Football Association.

g) The 8 (Eight) teams in each of the B and C Division will be divided in 2 (Two) groups by draw of lots, each group having 4 (four) teams to play league for the first round.

h) The top 2 (two) teams of each group will play the knockout round to decide the champions of the respective league. The two bottom teams of each group will play one relegation round to avoid relegation to the lowest Division.

i) **Qualifying Round:** In order for teams to be qualified for the C Division, new teams have to play a Qualifying Round in League cum Knockout or Knockout format. Two Teams will be promoted to the C Division for the next season.

j) Only affiliated clubs of the Men's Division will be eligible to participate in all the Football tournaments conducted by the GSA. The Executive Committee of GSA shall have the right to allow reputed football team to participate in the tournament as a facility of wild card entry.

k) No clubs will be allowed to field any foreign or guest player in their team.

l) A Club eligible to register a maximum of 30 nos. of players for each season.

m) Regulations of football on the status and transfer of players 2023-24 of All India Football Federation will be followed in the process of transfer and registration of players.

2) **Guwahati Premier Football League:** GSA shall organize the Guwahati Premiere Football League (GPFL) as a flagship tournament and season finale event of Football.

a) The League shall be participated by the corporate, government and business entities having professional Football team and operating under the jurisdiction of the GSA. Executive Committee will have the right to give wild card entry to a team/teams on special consideration for the enhancement of the tournament.

b) The top two teams of the A Division of the season qualify to participate in the GPFL.

c) The number of teams shall be 16 (sixteen). 14 (fourteen) will be corporate, government and business entities. 2 (two) will be from the A Division.

d) The league will be competed in group cum knockout format. 16 teams shall be divided into 2 (two) groups and top two of each group shall compete in the Semi Final.

e) Teams will eligible to include 3 nos. of guest player may be National or International level.

f) There will be a separate rules and regulations for GPFL.

3) **Senior Women:** The General Senior Women's Football League of the GSA will be played in an one tier league structure and will be known as GSA Women's League (GWL). The competition shall be participate by only affiliated clubs of the GSA.

- a) There will be 8 teams in the league.
- b) The league format will be group cum knockout with 8 teams divided in 2 (Two) groups by draw of lots, each group having 4 (four) teams to play league on one round.
- c) The top 2 (two) teams of each group will play the final round to decide the champions of the league. The Football Committee will reserve the right to alter the competition format as per the demands arising out of the given situation.
- d) The Champions shall qualify to compete in the State Women's League organized by the Assam Football Association.

4) **Youth Leagues:** The GSA will organize Youth Leagues for various age categories. The competition shall be participated by only affiliated clubs of the GSA.

- a) The Youth (Boys) League of the GSA shall be conducted in U13, U15, U17 age categories and will be termed as GSA Youth Leagues (GYL).
- b) Each age category will have 8 (eight) teams which will be played in either group cum knockout or in league format, as decided by the Football Committee.
- c) The Champions of each age group shall qualify to compete in the respective age category state youth league conducted by the Assam Football Association.

5) **A Club wish to put more than one team/teams will be eligible in Senior Women and Youth League.**

6) **Grassroots League:** The GSA shall organize Grassroots Football League to provide competitive platform to 4 to 12 year old kids.

- a) The league will be a mixed gender league, where both boys and girls shall play together.
- b) The league will be known as GSA Grassroots League and will be conducted under the rules and regulations of the All India Football Federation's Blue Cubs League.
- c) The league format and rules will be decided as per the directions given by the All India Football Federation time to time.
- d) The league will be open to all the legal entities falling under the jurisdiction of the GSA.

7) **School Tournament:** The GSA will organize a Football tournament for affiliated educational institutions.

- a) The school tournament shall be conducted for U16 boys and girls.

- b) Number of teams and the format of the competition shall be decided by the Football Committee.
- 8) In all the league and tournaments, three points shall be awarded in case of a win and one point to each team in case of a draw.
- 9) In case of a walkover, the match shall be awarded to the opponent with three points and 3-0 goal advantage.
- 10) In case of parity of points between two or more teams on the conclusion of a league, the position will be decided on the basis of goal average. Goal average is the difference of goals scored, for and against by a team in the entire League/Tournament.
- 11) If tie still remains, the team having scored more will be declared the winner and if the tie is still unbroken, it will be decided by lot.
- 12) In the case of draw of lots, one representative from each team concerned should be invited to witness the draw of lots.
12. (a) In case, the required number of teams do not join the leagues or in case any team/teams withdraw from the league before the commencement of the competition, only one team will be relegated to the next lower division.
- 12 (b) If the required number of teams do not join the B and C Division Football League, the relegation round of the league as mentioned in clause 1 (h) will not be applicable.
12. (c) There will be a fresh round of league amongst the 3 teams and the teams in the bottom will be relegated.
- 13) Notices for the game to be played, specifying time and venue of match shall be sent minimum of 30 (thirty) clear hours before the time scheduled for the tournament of the game, except in the cases of replay or drawn or reschedule games when notice given before 12 (twelve) clear hours shall be sufficient.
- 14) **Bonafide Player:** In order to be eligible to participate in Football competitions organized by the GSA, the affiliated club shall have to register the name of each player as a bonafide player of the GSA. The application for registration shall be submitted in a prescribed proforma to the Sports Secretary (Football) of the GSA within a specified date to be fixed by the Sports Secretary (Football) in consultation with the Hony General Secretary along with the registration fee as notified. The executive committee may allow the extension of last date of registration on special cases with or without late fee or fine. In case of an educational institution/institution, a bonafide student/employee of that particular unit shall be considered to be a member of those units in so far as the institutional competitions (as the case may be) are concerned. Such players must be certified by the concerned head of the organization. A player register
- 15) **Walkover:** Any team giving walkover should not be allowed to compete in any further matches of the tournament and will be relegated to the next lower division in the next season.

- 16) If any affiliated club intends to conduct any Football tournament, the concerned club must take a prior permission from the GSA by paying a fee fixed by the Executive Committee of GSA.
- 17) If any affiliated club intends to play any recognized tournament outside the jurisdiction of the GSA, the concerned club must take prior permission from the GSA and submit the registered players list for the tournament which will also be subject to approval.
- 18) New clubs must take the membership of the GSA before playing the Qualifying Round for the C Division Football League.
- 19) In case of any dispute arising in a match the decision of the appointed Referee will be final.