



Metropolitan Premier Cup 2015

Round-Robin

Rules & Format

1. Eligibility

- a) Only players born in the years **between 1 January 1996 and 31 December 1999** will be eligible to play in the round-robin stage of the play-offs.
- b) Only bona fide members of SAFA and their respective Provincial bodies are eligible for participation.
- c) All players must be registered for the 2014/2015 season with their participating club. No player will be allowed to play without a SAFA/SAFA CT, National First Division, National Second Division, or PSL registration card.
 - i. All players must have their **Identity Document** or valid **Passport** available for the purpose of registration and identification.
 - ii. If a player is not able to produce proof of identification, such player will be deemed to be ineligible and will not be allowed to play in the round-robin.
 - iii. **No birth certificates or proof of application form will be accepted as proof identity.**
 - iv. Clubs will be allowed to register twenty (20) players of which (5) can be guest players for the round-robin.
 - v. **Conditions for the use of guest players:** The guest players must provide the committee with a **letter of consent** from their club with whom they are registered, accompanied with their **player's registration card**. The letter must be on a club letterhead.
- d) All players/teams must be registered with the Premier Cup Committee before the end of their first game.
 - i. Should a team fail to do so they will be disqualified.
 - ii. Any team fielding an ineligible player will be disqualified from the competition.

2. Format

- a) Twenty-eight (28) teams divided into seven (7) groups (A to G) of four (4) teams each will contest the round-robin stage.



- b) The four (4) teams play each other once in their group, and a league table of results is drawn up.
- c) The two (2) top teams in each group, after all matches have been played, will progress to the **Metropolitan Premier Cup 2015 Tournament Proper**.
- d) In the event of two (2) teams ending with the same number of points in their group, the team with the superior goal difference will be declared the higher finisher.
- e) If teams cannot be separated by goal difference (refer to point above: 2.d), the team that scored the highest number of goals will then be declared the higher group finisher.
- f) If the teams cannot be separated by the highest number of goals scored, the corresponding result between the teams in the round-robin stage will be considered.
- g) If the teams are still tied (having referred to points above: 2.d-f), kicks from the penalty mark shall be taken (ass per FIFA guidelines)
- h) The penalty shootout for the above is only to determine the higher group finisher.
- i) The third placed team in each group (A-G), seven (7) teams in total, will be placed on standby, for the tournament proper qualification, in no particular order.

3. Points System

- a) The following points system is applicable to the qualifying league round only:
 - i. Three (3) points for a win
 - ii. Two (2) points for a score draw
 - iii. One (1) point for a goalless draw
 - iv. Zero (0) points for a loss

4. Match Duration

- a) Each league round-robin match will consist of two (2) halves of 25 minutes each with no extra time.

5. General Rules of the Competition

- a) Clubs are reminded to be in time for their matches: a grace period of fifteen (15) minutes will be allowed should a team arrive late. **(To be ready on field of play)**
- b) If a team is not ready to play after the grace period allocated, such a club will be deemed to have defaulted. **(Team managers are responsible to obtain the times of their fixtures)**
- c) The opponents of the defaulting team will be awarded **three (3) points and three (3) goals**.
- d) Teams will be allowed to use five (5) substitutes per match.



- e) **Any player(s) sent off shall be suspended for one (1) match.**
- f) If a team starts with less than eleven players, such a team will only be allowed to fill the team to eleven players and no substitutions will be allowed.
- g) The committee reserves the right to do random checks on any team's players.
- h) **Managers are reminded to be present when referees check player's cards.**
- i) In the event of a clash of colours, the team mentioned second on the fixture shall affect the change of strip.
- j) Participation in the play-offs is free but but the entrance fee to the ground will be R5.00 per adult or player, R5.00 per vehicle, and R1.00 per junior.
- k) Clubs are responsible for the behaviour of their players, spectators, and supporters.
- l) The committee will not tolerate any misbehaviour towards match officials during the competition. The committee will have the right to report any club/player/team official found guilty of any misconduct.
- m) **No protest** will be allowed throughout the round-robin stage.
- n) Managers are to ask the referee to note any concern on the match sheet. The committee will follow up if requested to do so. **(No game will be stopped or canceled because of the above process.)**
- o) The committee and/or the Sponsor and Partners shall not be held responsible for any **loss or damage of property, or injuries sustained** during or after the match.

THE PREMIER CUP COMMITTEE WILL ARBITRATE ANY MATTER NOT COVERED BY THE RULES