

PUBLIC OFFICERS' WELFARE COUNCIL
POWC SILVER JUBILEE FOOTBALL TOURNAMENTS
RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. The POWC Silver Jubilee Football Tournaments shall be open to **Public Officers** only.
2. The Tournaments will comprise two categories as follows:
 - **Civil Service Football Tournament (Ministries/Departments); and**
 - **Disciplined Forces Football Tournament.**

Both Tournaments will be played on a **Knock Out Plate System**.

3. The official matches will be played as from 1400 hours during weekdays. Participating teams should make their own arrangements for transport facilities and release of players/officials from their respective Ministry/Department for training purposes and official matches.

General Notes

4. **System of Play**
 - a) All participating teams shall, after the drawing of lots, be placed on a compass draw;
 - b) After playing their first match, the winning teams will be qualified for the following rounds until they reach the final;
 - c) The losing teams of the first round will play on a consolatory compass draw until they reach the consolatory final; and
 - d) All participating teams of both Tournaments will be required to play a minimum of two matches.
5. The Tournaments will, in principle, be governed by standard football rules and regulations and those of the Mauritius Football Association (MFA) with the exception of substitutions which will be a maximum of five players in a single match.
6. All decisions regarding planning, organisation, execution and award of trophies and prizes will rest with the Sports and Keep-Fit Sub-Committee of the Public Officers' Welfare Council, hereinafter referred to as the Committee.
7. Each team shall consist of a manager, a coach and a minimum of eleven and a maximum of twenty five players. **However, any player who has been a first or second division player at the National Level and at the Mauritius Professional Football League for last year shall not play in any match of the Tournaments.** The Team Manager shall be answerable to the Committee for any matter relating to the Tournaments.
8. The participation form should contain the seal of the participating Ministry/Department and be duly certified by its Supervising Officer and its Human Resource Section.
9. Two Ministries/Departments with restricted number of players will be allowed to present a combined/common team provided that none of them participates in the Tournaments separately.
10. The matches, as far as possible, shall be conducted in accordance with the fixtures established by the Committee. Postponement of matches will not be accepted except in cases of unforeseen circumstances.
11. The Committee shall appoint a Commissioner for each match.
12. Matches shall be officiated by MFA referees and assistant referees. In the absence of appointed referees, the Match Commissioner will have the right to take appropriate action.

13. (i) All protests relating to any match of the Tournaments shall be lodged in written with the Organising Secretary of the Committee within 48 hours after the end of the match. A refundable fee of Rs.500 is required to enter a protest. This sum will not be refunded if the protest is based on unreasonable/flimsy ground.
- (ii) All protests relating to any aspect of the Tournaments shall be lodged in written with the Organising Secretary of the Committee. A refundable fee of Rs.500 is required to enter a protest. This sum will not be refunded if the protest is based on unreasonable/flimsy ground.
- (iii) Representation (if any) relating to the conduct and organisation of the matches should be made solely to the Committee.
- (iv) The decision of the Committee shall be final and binding.
14. All participating teams shall undertake in writing to comply with the Rules and Regulations of the Tournament, including the following which apply specifically to the actual Tournaments:
- (i) All matches will be of eighty minutes' duration (2 x 40 minutes). In case of a draw after the expiry of the regulation time of a match, the referee will directly have recourse to kicks from penalty mark to decide the winner.
- (ii) Teams shall be present on the football pitch at least fifteen minutes before kick off.
- (iii) Kick off shall be in accordance with the established fixtures.
- (iv) Team Managers/Players reported by the Referees/Match Commissioners for serious misconduct or any misbehaviour shall be liable to disciplinary actions.
- (v) During the course of a match, any action taken against a player or players by the referee on the point of facts shall be final.
- (vi) Each player should be in possession of a valid license card issued by the Committee which shall bear his name and other relevant particulars. Cases of personation shall be severely dealt with.
- (vii) Each team manager shall produce to the Committee a factsheet about its team. This shall indicate the relevant particulars of the manager, the coach and the twenty-five players.
- (viii) As soon as the Tournaments will start, no changes in the participation form of any team shall be accepted, except in unforeseen circumstances upon the approval of the Committee.
- (ix) Each team shall specify the colour of the jerseys to be worn by its players. The jerseys should be numbered.
- (x) During matches, players should wear their respective colours except if the Committee decides for reasons of convenience and practicability to impose other colours.
- (xi) Any team that does not present itself on the field at least fifteen minutes after the scheduled time shall be deemed to have lost the match by walk over. It may be liable to disciplinary action and refund of any financial assistance granted by the Public Officers' Welfare Council.
- (xii) Any team that withdraws from the Tournaments without valid reason or has been expelled shall have to account to the Committee for any financial support and other assistance from which it has benefitted.
- (xiii) Each participating team, after having played all their matches, will be entitled to a grant of Rs 3000 which will be credited to its Staff Welfare Association as long as it operates a valid bank account.
- (xiv) The choice of playgrounds will rest on the Committee.
- (xv) Players forming part of a team at the time of registration shall be allowed to play for the same team during the Tournaments, irrespective of their transfer to another Ministry/Department.

- (xvi) Officers of Parastatal Bodies and Contract officers will not be allowed to play in the Tournaments. Officers of the Disciplined Forces will not be allowed to play for any Civil Service Team and vice versa. Officers on interdiction will also not be allowed to play in the Tournaments.
15. Team Managers should ensure that all their players are physically fit to participate in the Tournaments.
16. Players injured during the Tournaments shall be covered by insurance. However, the following conditions shall apply:
- The injured player/manager/coach shall immediately report any case to the Match Commissioner/Referee.
 - The Match Commissioner/Referee shall report the case to the Organising Secretary of the POWC.
 - A medical certificate, a photocopy of a recent payslip and an accident report form (available at the POWC) should be filled in and submitted to the Organising Secretary of the Council within one month.
17. The Committee will not be liable for any injuries sustained by any player during training sessions.
18. The Committee reserves the right to propose any amendment to the present rules and regulations that might be necessary in the best interest of the Tournaments.