



**RULES GOVERNING THE METHOD TO
BE USED TO PROMOTE AND
RELEGATE CLUBS
TO AND FROM DIFFERENT LEAGUES
FOR THE
2017 FOOTBALL SEASON**

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RULES GOVERNING THE METHOD TO BE USED TO PROMOTE AND RELEGATE CLUBS TO AND FROM DIFFERENT LEAGUES

PREAMBLE

Whereas

The NFA Rules and Regulations requires from the Executive Committee of the Association to decide upon the method, which is to be used to determine the promotion and relegation of clubs to and from the different leagues.

And Whereas

The Executive Committee resolved that for the 2017 Football Season the Namibia Premier League shall consist of sixteen (16) clubs, and that at the end of the Season the club ending in the position fourteen (14), fifteen (15) and sixteen (16) on the final log standing, will be automatically relegated to one of the streams of the league lower to the Namibia Premier League (NPL). The geographical location of the relegated team will be a deciding factor regarding to which of the three leagues the team will be relegated to.

The league lower to the NPL, which is NWFD will consist of three streams, namely Northeast, Northwest and Southern stream which will be composed as follows:

- **Southern Stream First Division** - 12 clubs or the number of clubs agreed for by the NFA. The Regions forming this Division are Khomas, Omaheke, Hardap, Karas and Erongo.
- **Northwest Stream First Division** - 12 clubs or the number of clubs agreed for by the NFA. The Regions forming this division are Otjozondjupa, Kunene, Oshana, Omusati
- **Northeast Stream First Division** - 12 clubs or the number of clubs agreed for by the NFA. The Regions forming this division are Oshikoto, Ohangwena, Kavango West, Kavango East and Zambezi.

The 14 Regional Second Division Leagues shall each consist of 12 (twelve) or the number of clubs agreed by the NFA.

In accordance with Article 18.3 of the NFA Statutes "no natural or legal person (including holding companies and subsidiaries) shall exercise control over more than one club or group whenever the integrity of any match or competition could be jeopardized".

Now therefore the NFA Executive Committee instituted a clause in these Regulations to protect the integrity of the Association's matches and competitions.

The Executive Committee of the Association announced its decision on the Promotion and Relegation of clubs to and from the different leagues for the 2017 season on the 6th February 2017.

NOW THEREFORE THE NAMIBIA FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION HAS MADE THE FOLLOWING RULES:

RULE 1

RELEGATION OF CLUBS FROM ANY GIVEN LEAGUE

1.1 Namibia Premier league (NPL)

1.1.1 This league shall consist of no more than sixteen (16) clubs. The club which, at the end of the 2017 soccer season, is placed number fourteen (14), fifteen (15) and sixteen (16) on the final log standing of the Namibia Premier League (NPL) shall be automatically relegated to the league below the NPL, which is one of the three streams of the NWFD, which shall have jurisdiction over the club relegated in terms of this Rule.

1.1.2 The three clubs that has won their respective First Division Streams will automatically be promoted to the Namibia Premier League.

1.2 League below the NPL (NWFD)

1.2.1 For the 2017 season this league will consist of three streams consisting of no more than twelve (12) clubs each. No more than twelve (12) for the Southern Stream First Division, no more than twelve (12) for North Western Stream First Division and no more than twelve (12) for North Eastern First Division or any number of clubs that are deemed necessary by the NFA Executive Committee. The clubs which at the end of the 2017 football season are placed eleven and below on the final log-standing of the various First Divisions shall be automatically relegated to the league below the 1st Division which shall have jurisdiction over the clubs relegated in terms of this rule.

1.2.2 Should any of the Streams, as a result of the relegation of more than the expected member of NPL clubs, stand the chance to consist of more than twelve (12) clubs during the 2017 season or other a given season the sufficient number of clubs will be relegated before the kickoff to arrive at the regulated twelve (12) clubs for the subsequent season.

1.3 Relegation to the Second Division Leagues

- 1.3.1 These leagues will consist of not more than twelve (12) clubs including those relegated from the 1st Division at the end of 2017 Season.
- 1.3.2 The teams relegated from the 1st Division shall enjoy preference and the 2nd Division clubs occupying the top number of positions equal to the available positions after those relegated from the NWFD had taken their seats will be accommodated in these leagues. The teams that cannot as a result of the method explained here-above, be part of a Second Division League shall be accommodated in a social league. In regions where no social leagues exist such teams shall cease to exist.
- 1.3.3 In a case where there are no teams relegated from the two stream of NWFD leagues as a result of the methods explaining here above the teams occupying positions 11, 12 and lower, in the case where social leagues are functional and registered as associated members of the particular Region, play-off matches between the teams occupying those positions and the winners of such social leagues shall decide the teams that will occupy position 11 and 12 for the 2018 season in a particular Regional League. The NFA Competitions Committee shall decide the method of such play offs.
- 1.3.4 When two or more clubs participating in the same league, belong or is under the control of one owner and in contravention of Article 18.3 of the NFA Statutes, regardless of whether that league is the NPL, NWFD or any of the Regional Second Divisions, the club that ends the season below the other, from those seen to be owned in contravention of Article 18.3 of the NFA Statutes, shall be one of the clubs to be relegated at the end of the season even if that club did not end the season in positions 11 and 12.
- 1.3.5 Should the situation as explained in 1.3.4 above arise the co-owned team ending below the others will be relegated together with the team placed 12 at the end of the season until each NFA league has only one team owned by one owner and no league is in contravention of Article 18.3 of the NFA Statutes.
- 1.3.6 No team that has the potential to create contravention of Article 18.3 of the NFA Statutes in a higher league will be promoted or participate in promotion play-offs to be promoted to that higher league.

- 1.3.7 If a team is relegated to a lower league in which another team, owned by the same owner as the relegated team, the team which was already in the lower league shall be relegated to the league below the one in which it was and in the case where no other league below that one exists then the team which was previously in the lower league will cease to exist.

RULE 2

PROMOTION OF CLUBS FROM ONE LEAGUE TO ANOTHER

2.1 NWFD to NPL

- 2.1.1 The promotion of clubs from the NWFD to the NPL will be governed in accordance with Rule 1.1 of these Regulations.

2.2 REGIONAL SECOND DIVISIONS TO THE FIRST DIVISIONS

- 2.2.1 The Clubs which are crowned the Regional Second Division Champions shall be engaged in zonal promotion play-offs at a date to be announced by the Association. The clubs which are declared winners of the second division leagues in each zone will engage in a play-off competition to decide the teams to be promoted to the First Divisions.

RULE 3

THE RULES APPLICABLE TO THE PLAY-OFFS

- 3.1 The play-offs, to determine the clubs or clubs that has or have to be promoted, shall be played within the zone and the NFA Rules and Regulations shall with the necessary changes and adaptation apply to the play-offs.
- 3.2 The Organizing and Competitions Committee of the Association must at least two weeks before the date of the play-offs inform the clubs in writing of the format, date and venue where the play-offs games are to be played.
- 3.3 During the period over which the play-offs are played, the Organizing and Competitions Committee shall act as the Disciplinary Committee and shall handle all Disciplinary cases in accordance with the NFA Rules and Regulations and any appeal shall be heard and handled by the Executive Committee or a Committee established for that purpose by the Executive Committee of the Association whose decision shall be final.

RULE 4

MISCELLANEOUS

- 4.1 Where a Member fails to complete a league or the first or second leg of the league, the clubs that are affiliated to such Member, shall not be considered for the promotion play-offs.
- 4.2 Any matter relating to the promotion or relegation of a club to or from one league to another and for which no provision is made herein shall be decided by the Executive Committee of the Association whose decision shall be final.
- 4.3 No Member or League shall amend or change the format of the promotion or relegation of clubs as contained in these regulations.
- 4.4 A member or league which contravenes the provisions of these Rules commits an act of misconduct.


Barry Rukoto
SECRETARY GENERAL

Date: 10 FEBRUARY 2017

