

ALL INDIA FOOTBALL FEDERATION

AIFF Football House, Sector 19, Dwarka, New Delhi

THE 62nd NATIONAL FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP ***FOR*** **SANTOSH TROPHY – 2007-2008**

R E G U L A T I O N S

PREAMBLE

The 62nd NATIONAL FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP for the SANTOSH TROPHY is a Championship of the All India Football Federation.

It is played in the following manner:

1. Preliminary qualifying league.
2. Pre-Quarter Final Knock out round.
3. Quarter Final League.
4. Semi-finals: knock out.
5. Finals.

The AIFF Executive Committee has designated the Jammu & Kashmir Football Association as the organizing Association for the 62nd National Football Championship for Santosh Trophy 2007-2008.

The Jammu Kashmir Football Association shall set up an Organizing Committee for the conduct of this tournament.

The Organising Association and the Organising Committee for the 62nd National Football Championship for the Santosh Trophy is subject to the control and supervision of AIFF, which has the last word on all matters relevant to this Championship.

Working relations between the AIFF and the Organising Committee are regulated by these regulations and by agreements and/or correspondence regarding this Championship between the AIFF and Jammu & Kashmir Football Association.

The AIFF, the Jammu & Kashmir Football Association and the Organising Committee will enter a separate agreement regarding the financial terms for the organization of this Championship.

The AIFF may at its discretion prefix the name of the Championship with the name of its sponsor.

These Regulations and the current Constitution and Regulations of the AIFF, regulate the rights, duties and responsibilities of the organising Association, the participating teams, the concerned State Associations and parties involved in the preparation, organization and hosting of the 62nd National Football Championship for the Santosh Trophy.

The 62nd National Football Championship for Santosh Trophy will be played at Jammu and Srinagar in Jammu & Kashmir from 25th of May 2008.

ART. 1: PARTICIPANTS

1. All the affiliated Member Associations are eligible to take part in this Championship.
2. Participation of all affiliated Member Associations is mandatory.

ART. 2: MODE OF COMPETITION

1. PRELIMINARY ROUND & PRE QUARTER FINALS:

The teams that reached the semi-finals of the 61st National Football Championship for the Santosh Trophy will be seeded directly to the Quarter Final League Round of the 62nd National Football Championship for the Santosh Trophy. The remaining member Associations, who have submitted their entries within the due date, will be divided in to eight groups, with the winners of each group qualifying for the Pre quarter finals knock-out round of the Championship. The winner of the pre-quarter final knock-out round matches will qualify for the quarter-final league round.

2. Quarter Finals

Four teams qualified from the pre-quarter-final knock-out round and the four semifinalist of the 61st National Football Championship for the Santosh Trophy, namely Punjab, IFA (West Bengal), WIFA (Maharashtra) and Kerala will be divided into two groups of four teams each.

The Champions, Punjab and semifinalist Kerala team in the 61st National Football Championship for the Santosh Trophy will be placed in group A and the Runners Up, West Bengal and semifinalist Maharashtra team will be placed in group B. Four teams qualified from the pre quarter final knock-out round matches will be divided into two groups, with the two teams going to Group A and two teams to Group B. The placing of the teams will be decided by draw of lots.

ART. 3: COMPETITION SCHEDULE

1. The date of first match of the team in the Championship will be informed **AT LEAST TWENTY (20)** days before the commencement of the Championship.
2. The detailed fixtures will be informed **AT LEAST Seven (07)** days before the start of the Championship.

ART. 4: ELIGIBILITY OF PLAYERS

1. (a) **Players shall be bonafide permanent residents or shall be born within the jurisdiction of the State Association which they represent in the National Football Championship for the Santosh Trophy.**

Alternately

- (b) **A Player whose services are not required by the State Association of which he is a permanent resident or in which, he is born, may play for the State Association for which, he is registered at the time of the Championship.**
2. **Whilst requisitioning and utilizing the services of players for the 62nd National Football Championship for the Santosh Trophy, provisions under Chapter XII, Art. 33 to 38 shall apply**

ART. 5: REGISTRATION OF PLAYERS & OFFICIALS

1. Each team participating in the Championship shall register twenty (20) players and three (3) officials.
2. Duly filled up registration forms shall be submitted to the organisers, as soon as the team arrives at the venue of the Championship.
3. Recent photographs, preferably in colour shall be affixed to the forms.
4. One extra photo for each player shall be submitted to the organisers for affixing on the participation/merit certificate to be issued by the All India Football Federation.
5. If extra photos are not provided, the local organisers will take the photos and the cost will be debited to the concerned team's account during the settlement.
6. A team shall register only 20 players on arrival at the venue of the Championship and only these players shall be eligible to play. Extra players even if they are brought at the cost of the participating teams, will not be allowed to be registered.

7. Players who are disqualified from participating shall not be replaced by any other player or players.
8. The third official accompanying the team shall be a qualified Doctor or a qualified Physiotherapist. If a qualified Doctor or Physiotherapist does not accompany the team, the AIFF will reimburse travel and other allowances for only two officials.
9. The Secretary of the respective Association shall countersign the registration forms.

ART. 6: REGISTRATION OF PLAYERS & OFFICIALS FOR MATCHES

1. Participating teams shall submit names of the first 11 players and nine substitutes to the organising committee at least six hours before their match.
2. Nine substitutes and three (3) officials (provided one is a Doctor or a Physiotherapist) will be allowed to occupy the reserve bench.

ART. 7: SUBSTITUTION

1. Not more than three (3) players may be substituted during a match, from all the remaining reserve players, who must be declared before the commencement of the match.
2. Any player substituted cannot re-enter the game.

ART. 8: DURATION OF THE MATCHES

1. Matches will be of ninety (90) minutes duration, consisting of two periods of forty-five (45) minutes with an interval of 15 minutes in between.
2. The duration of the interval will be from whistle to whistle.

ART. 9: POINTS IN LEAGUE MATCHES AND SYSTEM TO BREAK A TIE

1. In the league stage of the Championship, three (3) points will be awarded for a win, one (1) for a draw and no points for a defeat.
2. The classification will be determined based on following order.
 - a) higher number of points obtained.
 - b) If points are equal, the team having a higher goal difference will be placed higher.
 - c) If the goal difference is the same, the team with the higher number of goals scored will be placed higher.
 - d) If two or more teams are equal on the basis of above criteria, then by the greater number of points obtained in the group matches between the teams concerned. i.e. "with the team winning the match placed higher"

- e) If still the winner cannot be decided, then the classification will be decided by taking lots.

ART. 10: KNOCK OUT STAGE

- a) In the knock out stage, if at the end of the match the score remains tied, thirty (30) minutes extra time will be played, consisting of two (2) periods of fifteen (15) minutes each. If still the match remains tied, at the end of extra time, penalty kicks shall be taken to determine the winner.
- b) If the kicks from the penalty mark cannot be taken or completed then the result will be decided by toss of coin.

ART. 11: ABANDONED MATCHES

- 1. If a match has to be suspended as a result of incidents such as, walkout by the team, lack of order, spectators invading the ground the Championship Disciplinary Committee shall determine the action to be taken within twenty-four (24) hours of such incidents. All decisions taken in this regard by the Tournament Disciplinary Committee shall be final and shall not be subjected to appeal.
- 2. If a match is abandoned due to natural conditions like bad weather, heavy rains or other conditions beyond the control of the Organisers, the match shall be replayed in full on the day following the abandoned match. The local organisers in consultation with the Match Commissioner and the AIFF shall decide the time and venue of this match.

ART. 12: LAWS OF THE GAME

- 1. All matches shall be played in accordance with the Laws of the Game laid down by the International Football Association Board and published by FIFA.

ART. 13: PLAYERS OUTFITS

- 1. The basic compulsory outfits of a player shall consist of a jersey or shirts, shorts, stockings, shinguards and footwear. Shinguards, which must be covered entirely by the stockings shall be made of a suitable material (rubber, plastic, polyurethane or similar substance) and shall afford a reasonable degree of protection.
- 2. A player shall not wear anything, which is dangerous to another player.
- 3. If under shorts are used, they shall be the same colour as the main colour of the shorts. If under garments are worn, the colour of the sleeve should be the same main colour as the sleeve of the jersey or shirt.

ART. 14: TEAM COLOURS/NUMBERS

- 1. Teams must declare their first and second colours during the Manager's meeting and use these colours for all matches.
- 2. Teams are obliged to bring along their first and second playing outfits. These Outfits shall be in contrasting colours.

3. Players shall wear registered numbers on their jersey (back and front) and shorts. Number on jerseys, in contrasting colours shall be twenty five (25) cm high at the back and ten (10) cm high in front. The number on the shorts (below right) shall be ten (10) cm high in contrasting colours. The numbers on the jerseys and shorts shall be clearly visible. Goalkeepers shall wear colours contrasting with those of the two teams and the referee.
4. Any team found guilty of allowing players to play in jerseys with numbers other than those registered shall be subject to disciplinary action, including fines.
5. Numbers should range from 1 to 30 in figures universally used with the first goalkeeper's number being one (1)
6. In the event of clash of colours, lots shall be taken to decide which team shall wear their alternate set of jerseys. In this matter the Referees decision shall be final.

ART. 15: PROTESTS

1. Protest, if any shall be lodged in writing with the Match Commissioner, within two (2) hours after the end of the match.
2. Protest shall be accompanied by a protest fee of rupees five hundred (Rs. 500/-)
3. No protest shall be lodged against the decision on points of facts taken by the Referees on the field of play
4. Protest lodged on points of facts taken by the referee on the field of play, shall not be accepted
5. If the protest is upheld the fee shall be refunded.

ART. 16: DISCIPLINARY MATTERS

1. DISCIPLINE

- a) Participating teams, players and officials are bound by the AIFF Disciplinary Regulations.
- b) Infringement of any of these regulations or any other regulations of the AIFF shall be referred to the Disciplinary Committee of the AIFF.
- c) In deciding upon disciplinary measures to be taken, the Disciplinary Committee shall be guided by the provision of the AIFF Disciplinary Regulations.

2. CAUTIONS AND EXPULSIONS

- a) A player who receives two (2) cautions (yellow cards) during the tournament shall automatically be suspended for the match following the match in which he receives the second caution.

- b) Cautions issued in the preliminary or pre quarter final league matches will not be carried over to the quarter final round. However any suspension which is as a result of expulsion (red card or two yellow cards in the same or different matches) of a player will be carried to the quarter final round.
- c) A player expelled from the field of play by the Referee shall be suspended for the next match unless otherwise determined by the Disciplinary Committee, which shall meet within twenty-four (24) hours of the match concerned.

ART. 17: DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE

- 1. The tournament disciplinary committee shall consist of the following:
 - a) Chairman or Dy. Chairman of the AIFF Disciplinary Committee or their representative.
 - b) The Match Commissioner.
 - c) The Referees Instructor.
- 2. The Disciplinary Committee shall deal with all the matters related to the discipline on and off the field of play
- 3. When taking decisions, the Disciplinary Committee shall refer to the report of the Referee, Assistant Referee, Fourth official, Match Commissioner and Referees Inspector.
- 4. The Disciplinary Committee shall base its decisions on the AIFF Disciplinary Regulations.
- 5. The Disciplinary Committee shall meet within twenty-four (24) hours of lodging of a protest and shall decide on the same if necessary by hearing all the concerned parties..

ART. 18: APPEAL COMMITTEE

- 1. The Appeal Committee shall consist of the President and Secretary of the All India Football Federation or their nominees.
- 2. The Appeal Committee shall hear appeals lodged against decisions passed by the Disciplinary Committee, except in the cases mentioned in Art 16 above or in suspensions for less than three matches and fines of less than Rs. 10,000.00
- 3. The Appeal Committee shall reach its decisions on the basis of the documents and other means of evidence contained in the Disciplinary Committee's file. However the Appeal Committee may, if necessary, also resort to any further evidence (including television and video recording etc.), which it considers relevant.
- 4. The appeal Committee shall meet within twenty-four (24) hours of lodgment of an appeal and shall decide the appeal.

ART. 19: MATCH OFFICIALS

1. REFEREES

Sufficient number of Referees shall be posted for supervision of the matches.

2. MATCH COMMISSIONER

A Match Commissioner shall be posted at each venue of the Championship, who shall be the guiding factor for all the matters connected with the championship and shall submit a report to the Federation with proposals and suggestions for improvement, if any. He shall advise the Referees Inspector in any matter connected with Referees affairs, if considered necessary.

3. REFEREES INSPECTOR

A Referees Inspector, if posted, shall be responsible for all matters relating to the management of Referees including day-to day posting, conduct of physical fitness test, pre-match discussions, match analysis of pervious day's officiating etc.

- N.B:**
1. The Match Officials so appointed shall report at the venue of the Championship at least three (3) days before the start of the Championship.
 2. The Referees shall not be given assignment for the matches, when their home State/Board team plays.

ART. 20: FACILITIES TO BE PROVIDED BY THE LOCAL ORGANISING COMMITTEE

1. Free Local transport from Railway/Bus station to the place of lodging and back.
2. Free local transport for matches and practice sessions.
3. Practice ground facilities.
4. Potable drinking water at place of accommodation and at the venue of the matches.
5. Free medical assistance, including hospitalization and cost of medicines. (only prescriptions and hospital authorized by the organisers will be considered)
6. Personal accident policy to all players, officials and match officials during their stay at the venue.

ART. 21: FINANCIAL REGULATIONS

1. TEAMS

- (a) Teams shall be reimbursed ordinary sleeper class rail fare (on concessional basis) for twenty three (23) persons (20 players and 3 officials), plus railway reservation charges and bus fare, where bus journey is involved on production of actual tickets and reservation slip. (concession forms will be issued by AIFF) If for some reasons only nineteen (19) persons are allowed to travel on concessional bases, to and fro 2nd class sleeper rail fare will be reimbursed for the remaining four (4) persons only. If a doctor or a physiotherapist does not accompanies team, than the allowances shall be paid to 20 players and 2 officials only.

- (b) Rail fare/bus fare reimbursement shall be paid only for the actual number of players and officials accompanying the team, subject to a maximum of twenty-three/twenty-two persons. (twenty players and three/two officials)
- (c) Allowances of rupees one hundred and twenty five (Rs.125/-) per person per day shall be paid during train/bus journey. For journey of less than twelve (12) hours, rupees seventy five (Rs. 75/-) only shall be paid.
- (d) Teams will be paid an allowance of rupees four hundred and fifty (Rs. 450/-) per person per day, towards their boarding and lodging, starting two days before the teams first match and ending one day after their last match in the competition.

2. MATCH OFFICIALS AND OTHER AIFF OFFICIALS

- a) AC 3-tier rail fare to and fro.
- b) Rs. 200/- during journey, per day
- c) Rs. 600/- daily allowance.
- d) Rs. 500/- incidental charges, lump sum.
- e) Free decent accommodation different from the players and team officials.
- f) Free medical facilities.
- d) Appropriate internal transport for the duration of the tournament.

- NOTE:**
- 1. Local Referees deputed by the AIFF shall be paid Rupees six hundred (Rs.600/-) per day, only on the days they officiate the matches.
 - 2. **The duration of the benefits for players and officials of the teams as stipulated above are limited to two (2) days before the team first match and one (1) day after their last match. For match officials and other AIFF officials the benefits are limited to three (3) days before the start of the tournament and one (1) day after, provided the officials arrive/stay till the end of the Championship.**
 - 3. The teams and other officials shall have to make its own arrangements for stay beyond these days. All the teams shall travel by the shortest routes.

3. ORGANISERS

- A) AIFF or the Organisers will look after the expenses incurred under the following heads:
 - i) Travel of teams.
 - ii) Accommodation and food allowance for teams
 - iii) Accommodation, travel and allowance for Referees and other AIFF Officials

- iv) Prize Money
- v) Local transport for teams and Match/AIFF Officials
- vi) Cost of security, gate keeping and ticket sellers
- vii) Medical expenses.
- viii) Other expenses involving the organization of the Championship.

Art. 22: ORGANISING COMMITTEE FOR THE 62nd NATIONAL FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP AND ITS RESPONSIBILITIES

1. The organising committee for the 62nd National Football Championship for the Santosh Trophy shall be appointed by the AIFF in consultation with the host Association.
2. The organising committee shall be responsible for organising the tournament in accordance with the AIFF Constitution and these regulations.
3. The AIFF or the organising committee for the **62nd National Football Championship** may if necessary appoint one or more sub-committees to deal with various organizational matters.
4. The organising committee shall supervise all the arrangements for the **62nd National Football Championship**.
5. The organising committee shall entirely responsible for the safety and security of the players, officials, media and spectators.
6. The organising committee shall conduct periodical safety checks on the stadium and shall provide the AIFF with a safety certificate at least 15 days before the Championship starts.
7. The organising committee shall guarantee law and order as well as safety in the stadium, equipment belonging to the AIFF, its agents, media, etc, in collaboration with the relevant authorities.
8. The organising committee shall provide adequate insurance cover to all the players, teams, match officials and spectators.
9. The organising committee shall provide all the necessary medical facilities, including fully equipped ambulances, at the venue and in hospitals situated at a distance of less than 5 kms from the match venue. The organising committee shall be fully responsible for all medical arrangements during the Championship.
10. The organising committee shall assist the teams in securing accommodation at the venue of the Championship.
11. The organising committee shall provide the stadium, the facility areas, corridors, staircases free from all advertisements.
12. The AIFF appointed agents, broadcasters, sponsors, shall have unhindered access to display, sell and promote their products, in a manner that they deem fit.

13. The organising committee shall give free of cost to the AIFF and participating teams the following complimentary tickets/passes:
 - A) For Participating MA's
 - i) Four VVIP passes and 30 best category tickets. (on the day of their match only).
 - B) For AIFF/Sponsors
 - i) 35% of the VVIP passes.
 - ii) 50 VIP passes
 - iii) 300 passes for best category seats.
 - iv) 150 passes for other category seats.
 - C) Car passes as required.

Art. 23: DUTIES AND OBLIGATIONS OF THE PARTICIPATING TEAMS

1. On entering the competition the participating teams automatically undertake:
 - a) To observe these Regulations
 - b) To abide by the rules and regulations of the AIFF and the **62nd National Football Championship** and by the decisions of the AIFF Executive Committee (including that of using and wearing the playing and practice kits whenever these are supplied by the AIFF or its sponsors and or use of Championship sponsor Logo's on the players outfits of the team) and the **62nd National Football Championship** organising committee.
 - c) To accept all administrative, disciplinary and refereeing matters connected with the **62nd National Football Championship**.
 - d) To accept all arrangements regarding the local Organisation made by the local organising committee.
 - e) To accept the use, records and broadcast of the images of teams, players and officials that may appear or be generated in connection with the participation of the teams in the **62nd National Football Championship for the Santosh Trophy**.
 - f) The AIFF right to use and/or sub-license, names and images of teams, its players and officials shall be exclusive in respect of, or in connection with, the filming, recording, broadcasting and any other forms of transmission, broadcast in connection with this Championship.

Art. 24: RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PARTICIPATING MA's

1. All participating MA's shall provide ample insurance cover to their players and officials, including injury, accident and health during the Championship and teams travel.

2. The participating MA's shall also be responsible for the behavior of the members of its delegation (officials and players) and any person carrying out duties on behalf of the team or any office bearer of the team (club).
3. To give a certificate before the start of the Championship from a qualified doctor that all their players are fit to play competitive football.
4. Manager/Coach, of the team shall compulsorily attend the managers meeting, press conferences as and when called and also the post match press conference.

Art. 25: COMMERCIAL & MARKETING RIGHTS

1. All the Commercial, Wireless, Broadcast, Interactive, Advertisement & Marketing rights related to the Championship including the title, gate decoration, decoration of stage for prize distribution, are the property of the AIFF
2. All the perimeter boards, advertising areas at ground, first, second tier levels area are also the property of the AIFF or its marketing agent.
3. Advertisement rights on the match tickets belong solely to the AIFF. The ticket design will be given by AIFF.
4. The television, Internet rights and other media rights belong solely to the AIFF.
5. All the revenue from exploration of television and commercial rights for the 62nd National Football Championship for the Santosh Trophy matches belongs to the AIFF.

ART. 26: MISCELLANEOUS

- a. The AIFF reserves the right to alter, amend, remove from and/or add to these rules as and when necessary.
- b. In the event of any dispute regarding interpretation of these regulations the decision of the AIFF shall be final and binding.
- c. The J & K Football Association and the Organising Committee shall be entirely responsible for any financial losses or damages suffered by them during the conduct of the championship

For **All India Football Federation**

(Alberto Colaco)
General Secretary