



2017 NATIONAL SPORTS WING SOCCER RULES

1. ELIGIBILITY OF BRANCHES

1.1 Only active Sanatan Branches (local and overseas) that have paid their annual subscriptions for 2017 to SSDPS Fiji and National Sports wing. All participating branches should have conducted their 2017 AGM in order to be eligible to participate in the Sanatan BOG competition..

2. ENTRY FEE

2.1 Entry fee to participate in Sanatan BOG football is \$300.00. This has to be paid to the National Sports Wing by 19/11/17.

2.2 All Sanatan Veteran/Masters Soccer teams participating will be required to pay an entry fee of \$150.00 to the National Sports wing. Veteran's age will be 34 years and 1 month above, Masters age will be 40 years on wards. This should be paid by 19/11/17.

3. FORM OF COMPETITION

3.1 The Sanatan BOG soccer (open grade) shall be played in one division comprising of all eligible Sanatan branches (as stated in 1.1).

3.2 All participating teams will be drawn into pools.

3.3 Only 16 teams will be participating; these teams will be drawn into 4 pools of 4 teams each.

3.6 The Organising Committee reserves the right to change the number of teams per pool to suit the fixtures and on the availability of grounds and match officials.

4. DURATION OF MATCHES

4.1 Each soccer match (open grade) shall be played for 60 minutes duration with two spells of 30 minutes each. For Veterans (soccer) 40 minutes duration with two spells of 20 minutes each.

4.2 All matches shall commence at the scheduled time provided in the fixtures.

4.3 If any team fails to take the field within Ten (10) minutes of the scheduled time, then the match referee will blow the whistle at the end of ten (10) minutes from the time of entering the ground. The match shall terminate and the match report will be forwarded to the organising committee.

4.4 The Organising Committee shall have powers to award the game by default to the opposing team which had taken the field on time (3 points and 2 goals).

4.5 Further disciplinary action on the defaulting team will be taken; however, for special reasons which may be acceptable to the committee, it shall have powers to order a replay.

5. DEFAULT

5.1 When any participating Branch (soccer team) fails to attend and play at the scheduled time, it shall forfeit the points in favour of the opposing team and shall be liable for a fine of minimum of \$200.00. The team shall also be liable for further disciplinary action.

5.2 The Organising Committee shall have powers to award the game by default to the opposing team (3 points and 2 goals) which had taken the field in time and take further disciplinary action on the defaulting team; however, for exceptional reasons acceptable to the committee, it shall have powers to order the replay.

6. REFUSAL TO COMPLETE A MATCH

6.1 No team shall be allowed to walk out of field of play during playing time as a protest or otherwise. Any team failing to observe this rule shall be automatically fined \$300.00 and shall forfeit the point in favour of the opposing team.

6.2 The Organising Committee has powers to take further disciplinary action on the team.

7. MODE OF PLAY

7.1 The system of play will be league come knockout basis. Three (3) points will be awarded for a win, one (1) point for a draw and zero point (0) for a loss and the team scoring the highest point will be the pool winner.

7.2 The sequence of qualifying criteria in each group shall be as follows:

- (a) Number of points
- (b) Goal difference
- (c) Number of goal scored
- (d) Score of direct encounter

7.3 If applying the above criteria any two or more teams are still equal in every respect, and then the determination of placing of the teams shall be decided by pick from the hat.

7.4 The quarter finals, semi-finals and final shall be played on a knockout system. In the event of a match resulting in a draw at the end of the full time, the match shall be extended by a further period of 2 spells of 10 minutes each. However if, the match still ends in a draw at the end of extra time, then the winner shall be decided by taking Penalty kicks.

8. ELIMINATIONS

8.1 Quarterfinals

8.2 If teams are divided into 4 pools then the top two teams from each pool shall qualify for the quarter finals.

Quarter Final	Teams
1	Winner Pool 1 vs Runner up Pool 3
2	Winner Pool 3 vs Runner up Pool 1
3	Winner Pool 2 vs Runner up Pool 4
4	Winner Pool 4 vs Runner up Pool 2

8.5 Semi Finals

Semi Final	Teams
1	Winner QF 1 vs Winner QF 3
2	Winner QF 2 vs Winner QF 4

9. FLOODLIGHTING

9.1 No team shall refuse to play matches on the grounds that the match is scheduled to be played under floodlights. However the floodlights should have proper lights for visibility and the match officials should be satisfied with the lights performance.

10. QUALIFICATION OF PLAYERS

- 10.1 Each Branch (team) must register a minimum of 18 and maximum of 30 players. Due date for **Player registration 19th November, 2017** (this shall be the final player list for 2017 tournament, no alteration will be allowed thereafter)
- 10.2 All player registration should be on the Sports Wing prepared registration forms together with passport size photos and copy of birth certificate, voter registration card (any valid ID cards). Overseas teams can use the player's passports.
- 10.3 A branch can only seek transfer for **a maximum of three (3) players from three (3) different branches and can give transfer to a maximum of three (3) players to three (3) different branches**. All player transfers are closes on 19th November, 2017.
- 10.4 Any team found falsifying this registration will fine be \$500.00 per offence. The team remains suspended till such time the fine is cleared.
- 10.5 New branches formed this year can register the players from other branches provided these players reside in the locality from where the new branch is located.

11. SUBSTITUTES

- 11.1 Up to four (4) substitutes may be used in any one match. The substitution should be only on the list of 7 "substitute players" listed on the match report (team slip) and furnished to the match officials prior to the commencement of the match.

12. PROTEST

- 12.1 All protest shall be lodged in writing stating the grounds of protest with the Secretary of the Sports Wing within 60 minutes of the completion of the match to which it relates. All protest to be accompanied by a non-refundable fee of \$100.00
- 12.2 No protest against any decision of a Referee in respect of the laws of the game shall be entertained.
- 2.3 Protest once lodged shall not be allowed to be withdrawn.
- 12.4 When a protest is allowed, the results of the particular match shall be nullified. The protesting team provided it is the opposing team in the match shall be awarded the three (3) points and two (2) goals. However, if the opposing team had scored more than 2 goals it shall be allowed to count the actual goals scored.
- 12.5 Protest hearing will be held as soon as possible and the result will be given to the concerned parties before the next round of games.

12.6 Protesting team and the team against who the protest is lodged are to provide evidence why the protest should be allowed or disallowed.

12.6 No appeals will be entertained.

13. CAUTION/DISMISSALS

13.1 Where two (2) cautions are recorded against a player in separate matches, he shall deem to have committed an offence which will necessitate an automatic suspension for the match immediately following the second caution.

13.2 Where two yellow cards and a red card is flashed in one game the player will be suspended for the next match and a fine of \$50.00 should be paid to the treasurer of the sports wing before the player can play in any match.

13.3 A player who is sent off (Direct Red Card) the field of play by a referee shall be automatically be suspended for 2 matches and a fine of \$100.00 to be paid to the sports wing treasurer. The Sanatan Sport Wing and the disciplinary committee will sit and decide on the future participation of the red carded player depending on the seriousness of the offence committed.

13.4 Where a caution has been recorded against a player during the pool game the same caution shall not be carried into the elimination round (quarter finals, semi-finals and final). However a “sent off” will be dealt with as per 13.2 and 13.3above.

14. RESERVE BENCH

14.1 Up to eleven (11) people may sit on the reserve bench.

14.2 The branch will be responsible for the behaviour of the individuals sitting on their bench.

15. TEAM SLIP

15.1 Full and correct names are to be written on the team slip provided.

16. CHANNEL OF COMMUNICATION

16.1 Only team manager with ID card is allowed to communicate with the organising committee. All communication is to be in a very professional level.

17. DISCIPLINARY ACTION

17.1 Disciplinary committee will be set up to deal with protests and any other disciplinary issues during the sports. Members will be endorsed at the Sports executive meeting

17.1 Any team, or team official found to be swearing, punching or spitting on any player, match officials, team official or organising committee, the branch concerned will be fined \$1000.00 and remain suspended till such time this fine is cleared and are liable for further disciplinary action.

17.2 Any player found to be swearing, punching or spitting on any player, match officials, team officials or the organising committee, the player will be fined \$500.00 and remain suspended till such time this fine is cleared and is liable for further disciplinary action.

18. GENERAL

18.1 All participating Branch (team) are to fully observe and comply with above rules and decisions of the Organising Committee and/or Sports Wing.

18.2 Matters not provided under these rules shall be decided by the National Sanatan Sports Wing.

18.3 In all other aspects where there no specific provision under these rules, normal Fiji FA tournament rules will apply.

18.4 Any dispute in interpreting the above rules shall be resolved by the National Sports Wing.

18.5 All branch Sports wing members, team officials and players are to act and behave professionally at all times. Only branch Sports Wing officials will be allowed to bring up issues related to sports. There should be separation of representation from branch officials, branch Sports officials and team officials. It is mandatory for team officials (Coach & Manager) to carry ID cards.

18.6 First Aid personnel will be available at the grounds however sports teams are encouraged to keep their own first – aid kit as well.