



UAE RUGBY FEDERATION

and

EMIRATES

Gulf Rugby Management

Competition Regulations



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GULF RUGBY MANAGEMENT

COMPETITION REGULATIONS

1. Definitions

1.1. For the purposes of the Union's Competition Regulations, the following definitions will apply:

1.1.1. WR means World Rugby

1.1.2. AR means Asia Rugby;

1.1.3. UAERF means United Arab Emirates Rugby Federation;

1.1.4. Board of Directors means the current board of directors of the UAERF;

1.1.5. GRM means Gulf Rugby Management appointed representatives of Emirates Airline;

1.1.6. Club means a club or school represented by a team participating in any UAERF sanctioned competition / tournament;

1.1.7. Competition means any rugby union competition or fixture sanctioned or co-sanctioned by the UAERF and organised or administered by GRM, including, but not limited to, the UAE Rugby Premiership, UAE Rugby Division 1, UAE Rugby Division 2, West Asia Championship, UAE Women's Series, Mini & Youth Leagues & Schools rugby; All names of competitions may be amended to include the name of a Title sponsor

1.1.8. WAC means the West Asia Championship;

1.1.9. UAE Women's Series means the series of tournaments/rounds culminating in a series table which determines the final standings;

1.1.10. Match Officials means any official appointed by GRM to manage or officiate a Match including but not limited to Match Manager, Match Referee and Assistant Referee;

1.1.11. Match Manager is appointed by GRM or the home team and is responsible for the completion of Match Registration Forms, pre-match facility check, and managing the playing enclosure;

1.1.12. Assistant Match Manager is appointed by the home team for UAE Premiership or West Asia Championship Matches, or any play-off or final matches in any competition;

1.1.13. Tournament Manager means the person(s) appointed by the Host Club to manage the tournament in line with these regulations along with any tournament specific dispensations or variations;

1.1.14. Match Referee means a Referee registered with the UAERF officially appointed by GRM;



- 1.1.15. Assistant Referee means an Assistant Referee officiating in a Match, registered with the UAERF, officially appointed by GRM;
- 1.1.16. Season means the period 7 days before the 1st Match and the 7 days after the last Match as published by GRM in the form of the Season Schedule and the Match Fixtures as approved by the UAERF and the participating Clubs;
- 1.1.17. Player means a player holding Effective Registration with a Club and UAERF;
- 1.1.18. Effective Registration is as the definition in Regulation [3] of these Competition Regulations;
- 1.1.19. Player Registration Form means the online registration form to register Players with the UAERF and give them Effective Registration;
- 1.1.20. Trained Front Row player means a Player who, in the reasonable belief of the relevant Club or school, is competent and able to play in the front row of a scrum at the level of the relevant Match;
- 1.1.21. Forfeit or Forfeiture means the sanctions set forth in relevant Specific Competition Rules for Forfeiting a Match which shall be applied;
- 1.1.22. In writing means a signed letter either
- i) posted or sent by courier to the relevant address or
 - ii) sent as an e mail to the relevant address;
- 1.1.23. WR Clearance means the requirement under WR Regulations 4: Player Status, Player Contracts and Player Movement. A copy of the form required for such clearance is appended to these Competition Regulations as Schedule 1.
- 1.1.24. Laws of the Game means the WR laws governing the playing of rugby union, as amended from time to time;
- 1.1.25. Match/Squad Registration Form means the registration form filled out by each team for each Match/Competition;
- 1.1.26. An Adult player is a player who is 18 years old at the time of play;
- 1.1.27. Specific Competition Rules means the rules issued by the UAERF and GRM from time to time regarding each Competition;
- 1.1.28. DHA means the Dubai Health Authority
- 1.1.29. HAAD mean the Health Authority of Abu Dhabi
- 1.1.30. MOH means the Ministry Of Health
- 1.2. Words in the singular include the plural and vice versa; a reference to a gender includes the other gender. Where the provisions of any Specific Competition Rules conflict with the provisions herein the Specific Competition Rules shall apply.



2 Competitions

- 2.1. UAERF is responsible for sanctioning the Competitions;
- 2.2. GRM is responsible for organising and administering the Competitions.
- 2.3. GRM will manage all UAERF sanctioned competitions and will be responsible for administering and interpreting the Competition Regulations and any appropriate sanctions.
- 2.4. For all matches, (including friendly or non-league), GRM will appoint Match Officials. Home clubs must continue to comply with section 11.1 and 11.3 of these Regulations.
- 2.5. If any provision of these Competition Regulations is held by any court or competent authority to be illegal, void or unenforceable in whole or in part these Competition Regulations shall continue to be valid as to the other provisions thereof and the remainder of any affected Competition Regulations.
- 2.6. Variations to Competition Regulation are noted in section 17.

3 Effective Registration

- 3.1. A club may not select a player for a match that is not registered with the Club and UAERF.
- 3.2. A Player must be registered electronically by the club in the UAERF database. The player will only be effectively registered after confirmation email from UAERF to GRM and the player's club. During the season (up to 28th February), the deadline for registering a player is 72 hours before kick-off.
- 3.3. The final deadline for registering new players/transfers/loans is 28th February. After this date, registration will be closed.
- 3.4. UAERF shall only permit the Effective Registration of a player where such a player has submitted their online Player Registration Form with the following documents:
 - 3.4.1 For a player new to the UAE and where that player has played in competitions under another Union the player must have WR Clearance from that Union; and
 - 3.4.2 The following documents must be submitted electronically:
 - i. A UAE Residency Visa number.
 - ii. Passport Number
 - iii. Date of Birth
 - iv. Email Address

In the case of newly arrived players, clubs must also provide documentary evidence that the player's residency is under process. A letter must be provided by the Club Chairman (Schedule 1). The player will only be effectively registered for 4 weeks and at the conclusion of the 4 weeks, the club will need to provide the finalised visa for the player to continue



playing. In the case of the visa being still actively under process the club will have the right to apply for an extension from UAERF and GRM.

- 3.5. A Player may not hold Effective Registration with more than one UAE Club at any time.
- 3.6. A Senior Player (Men and Women) may apply to change the Club for whom they are registered during the transfer windows which are 1st June to 31st August & 9th December to 31st December each year.
- 3.7. If a player wishes to change Clubs (from whom they are registered) during the current season this may only be done during the transfer windows, the player wishing to transfer to a new Club cannot play for the new Club until he/she has approval in writing from UAERF and GRM.
- 3.8. Where a Club's team has been represented in any Match by a Player or replacement Player who is ineligible or selected in breach of Regulation 3.1 through to 3.7 the team shall be treated as having forfeited that Match and all relevant forfeiture penalties will apply, and a penalty of five competition points per illegal player will be deducted from the team's competition points.
- 3.9. For any team/club that is not registered with UAERF, such as Bahrain, it will be the responsibility of Asia Rugby to manage their Player Registration process and compliance with Player Insurance.

4 Loss of Effective Registration

- 4.1. A Player will cease to have Effective Registration with a Club:
 - a. Upon having Effective Registration cancelled or suspended by UAERF and GRM for any reason; or
 - b. The conclusion of the four weeks grace period in the case of having no residency when registered;
 - c. Where Effective Registration is invalidated pursuant to Regulation [5] below;
 - d. Subject to the discretion of UAERF and GRM, where a player is registered for a club/team in or under the jurisdiction of another WR or AR Union, other than the UAERF; or
 - e. From the date upon which another WR or AR Union, with whom a Player is currently registered and to whom a Club had applied for consent to register the Player, advises UAERF/GRM that any consent or clearance is refused or withdrawn or delayed.

5 False or Misleading Information

- 5.1 Where during the process of Effective Registration of a Player, a Club or Player supplies incorrect or misleading information to UAERF and/or GRM in any e mail, document or Player



Registration Form, or any signature on the Player Registration Form or other document is not the original signature of the person purporting to have signed the document, the application for Effective Registration will be void and any Effective Registration will be invalidated from the date such Effective Registration would have come into effect but for the incorrect, false or misleading information, and each Match in which the Player participated shall be considered Forfeited, and the relevant penalties shall be levied against the offending Club.

6 Competition Regulations

- 6.1 All teams are required to submit a completed Match Registration Form to the Match Manager, the opposition and the Match referee, naming the Match-day squad, 60 minutes before kick-off. The Match Registration Form shall clearly indicate those Players who are nominated as Trained Front Row Players/replacements.
- 6.2 Team managers shall be responsible to forward their team/s fully completed match registration form to the GRM office by 12.00pm on the Sunday following completion of the respective match. Penalties to apply for late or no submission. See section 16.

7 Number of players

- 7.1 The maximum match squad size is 22 players including five trained front row players, or as set forth in Law 3.8 in the Laws of the Game as published by WR.
- 7.2 All teams must be able to start a Match and contest the first scrum using Trained Front Row Players.
- 7.3 A team shall forfeit the Match where it fails to fulfil the requirements of Regulation 7.1 or 7.2.
- 7.4 In the spirit of Rugby, smaller squad sizes and rolling subs are permitted in the UAE Rugby Division 2 League only. See section 17.2 for guidance.

8 Restriction on playing in lower divisions

- 8.1 For any Player, to qualify to play a Second or subsequent team semi-final and/or final, they must have started Four (4) or more matches for the team they wish to represent in the semi-final and/or final. Should a player be new to UAE Rugby then they must have played all matches for the team (or for a lower division team) that they wish to represent in any final.
- 8.2 A team which has been represented by a Player or replacement Player who is ineligible or selected in breach of Regulation [9.2] shall be treated as having forfeited that Match and the relevant penalties shall be levied against the offending team.



9 Postponement of Matches

- 9.1 Subject to Regulations [9.2 and 9.3], a Club must fulfil its Competition fixture obligations in respect of any Match on the date and at the time appointed for such fixture.
- 9.2 A Match may be rearranged in the following circumstances:
- 9.2.1 Where the Match Manager or the Referee decides a Match should not be played or should be abandoned because of weather conditions or for any other reason. The decision shall be final. If a Match is abandoned before or during halftime, the Match must be replayed. If the Match is abandoned after halftime, then the score at the moment of abandonment shall stand and be deemed the final score in the Match; or
- 9.2.2 If a home Club has any concerns that safety, weather or any other conditions may prevent a Match being played, the Club seeking to rearrange the Match must notify the GRM office and their scheduled opponents of all concerns regarding the proposed postponement as soon as possible prior to the scheduled fixture date. GRM will make a binding decision on the fixture progressing as scheduled or a postponement being authorised.
- 9.3 In the event that a Match is to be rearranged in accordance with Regulation [9.2], the fixture will be re-scheduled for a time, date and venue either as both teams shall agree, or in the absence of agreement as determined by the GRM office in its absolute discretion.
- Any Club wishing to postpone a match due to a situation outside the control of that Club (but excluding the situation as noted in 9.2. above) must contact their opposition by 9.00am (latest) on the Tuesday prior to the scheduled fixture date to discuss and agree a position. If the fixture change is agreed by both clubs the subject club must contact GRM in writing (with cc to opposition club) with details of the agreement to postpone the subject fixture.
- 9.4 GRM to reserve the right to make the final decision. The decision if confirmed as a match postponement must then be advised to the opposition Club by the Club requesting the fixture change, by 5.00pm on the same day. GRM will confirm any changes to the Match Officials.
- 9.5 The teams involved in a postponed fixture shall then notify GRM in writing, no later than 12.00pm on the following Monday a preferred replacement date and time, (plus an alternative), for the playing of the postponed match. GRM will discuss with match officials etc. and confirm a selected date.
- 9.6 If a Club is late advising their opponents of the necessity to postpone a League match (as noted above) then the opposition Club has the right, through the GRM office (on receipt of supporting documentation) to require the Club postponing the match to cover any/all costs



incurred. This includes (but not limited to) air travel, facility hire, transport and catering. The standard match forfeiting penalties to also apply, including suspension from any future matches until the payments are completed. For penalties refer to section 16.

9.7 Where GRM is of the view that a Club has unjustifiably failed to fulfil its Competition fixture obligations, GRM will consider such action as Match Forfeiture.

10 Appeals

10.1 An appeal against any GRM decision under these Competition Regulations must be made in writing by the Club's Chairman or Club's Secretary to the GRM office within 72 hours of receiving the specific GRM decision in writing. GRM must advise Club of the receipt of such appeal in writing. The club must then, within 48 hours from GRM's confirmation of receipt of written appeal notice present their outline evidence to GRM, with an amount of 1,000 AED deposit.

10.2 Conditional on the appeal outline evidence and deposit payment being received by GRM within the above period, GRM will assemble a suitable panel to review the appeal. All decisions of the appeal panel are non-negotiable and final.

10.3 If the Club's appeal is successful, GRM will refund the full deposit, less any expenses incurred by the Judicial committee.

11 General Competition Rules

11.1 Requested change to Kick-off day and time:

11.1.1 Should a Club(s) wish to change the official scheduled kick off time, the scheduled home Club must apply in writing to GRM no later than 10 days prior to the match scheduled time, outlining the reasons why the change is requested. The application must include correspondence from the visiting Club confirming their approval of the change. GRM will advise the clubs within five days of receipt of the application if their request to change the fixture start time is or is not granted.

11.1.2 Should a Club(s) wish to change the official scheduled match date or venue, the scheduled home Club must apply in writing to GRM no later than 21 days prior to the match scheduled time, outlining the reasons why the change is requested. The application must include correspondence from the visiting Club confirming their approval of the change. GRM will advise the clubs within five days of receipt of the application if their request to change the fixture venue is or is not granted.



11.2 Medical Cover:

11.2.1 It is the duty of every Club to have their own qualified first response and first aid personnel/facilities pitch side. First aid personnel who will have a responsibility for first response or first aid should hold a current relevant qualification which is recognised by the DHA/HAAD/MOH or an equivalent qualification from a nationally recognised Awarding Body in addition to a World Rugby Level 1 First Aid in Rugby (L1 FAIR).

Home Clubs must provide at pitch side for any/all stand-alone match/s for all divisions.

- A spinal board
- Head blocks
- Spider straps
- Have immediate access to an Automatic Electronic Defibrillator (AED).

If a Home Club cannot provide the above set equipment, a Government registered ambulance should be present with clear and quick access to the pitch where the match is being played. This does not negate the responsibility of the Home Club as in 11.2.1 above.

In the case of the ambulance, first responder or the medical equipment having to leave the pitch side, the Referee and Match Managers in consultation with both team managers have the right to abandon the Match.

11.2.2 Home Clubs must comply with 11.2.1 for every Premiership, Division 1 and Division 2 Match. This applies to competition & friendly fixtures.

11.2.3 For Tournaments, Mini & Youth & Schools competitions, the total amount of equipment listed in 11.2.1 must be adequate to cover the pitches being used and located at a visible and easily accessible central location between pitches. In addition the number of qualified medics should be a minimum of 1 per pitch with an additional person available

11.2.4 The Match Manager and/or the Referee is within their right not to start the game if there is no qualified medical presence, or they believe in their absolute discretion that the medical presence does not meet the minimum requirement, or is inadequate.

11.2.5 Where there is a requirement during a match for medical assistance and a qualified person responsible for first aid cover is present, the Referee should do no more than allow the injured Player to leave the field to receive treatment, or allow the first aid person onto the field to administer treatment. The first aid person may enter the field



of play to administer treatment without notice in the case where a Player appears to be seriously injured and play is continuing.

11.3 If for any reason the home or host Club is in breach of Regulation 11.1, that Club is liable to sanctioning from the GRM office.

11.4 The above listed criteria in regulation 11.2.1 may be amended at any time due to a change in guidance received by UAERF/World Rugby or by any UAE Government body. Should any changes be implemented GRM will issue a notice advising of any such changes and all clubs will be obliged to immediately comply with any such advice by the date of implementation.

11.5 Match Management:

11.4.1 The playing Enclosure

The playing enclosure includes the playing surface and the safety parameter around the playing surface. Refer to WR Law 1: The ground.

11.4.2 A GRM Match Manager, with assistance from the home Club appointed Assistant Match Manager, will be mandatory at all Premiership matches. He/she will have full responsibility to ensure, before authorising the Match Officials to start the match, and during the match that:

- The playing enclosure is correctly marked and safety compliant, as per the pitch design detail issued by GRM.
- The spectator barrier/s are in place and managed.
- The medical presence, on and off the pitch is as per regulation 11.2,
- Both teams' responsibility re documentation and side-line behaviour is compliant with the UAERF, GRM, and WR rules and regulations.

11.4.2.1 A GRM appointed Match Manager will also be assigned wherever possible to manage Division 1 and Division 2 League matches, senior School matches and Mini and Youth fixtures.

11.4.2.2 The Club operating a Women's League tournament will be responsible to appoint a Tournament Manager who will be required to follow the regular duties of the Match Manager.

11.4.2.3 Where a GRM Match Manager cannot be appointed due to availability of personnel, the home Club or home School must appoint a Match Manager who will assume the total responsibilities of a Match Manager.

11.4.2.4 Home Clubs/Schools must advise the GRM office the details of their appointed Match Manager or Assistant Match Manager, within 48 hours prior to the commencement of any/all fixtures.



- 11.4.3 Spectators (including Club officials not assigned as a team member) are not allowed within the playing enclosure. The playing enclosure must be physically marked (barriers, ropes or equivalent). The distance between the playing surface and the barrier should not be less than three (3) metres wide but is recommended to be five (5) metres wide where practical. If the distance from the touchline or any other physical object (Building/Footpath) is less than three (3) metres then the width of the pitch needs to be reduced to accommodate a safe and adequate 'run off' area. If the distance from the touchline to the barrier is less than 3.5 meters then all team benches/ medical table/sin bin must be located behind the barrier.
- 11.4.4 The Match Manager and the Referee are within their rights to not start the match or to stop the match if they have any concerns with regards to the playing surface and playing enclosure and/or if team players, coaches or officials move outside their designated zone and/or if there are unauthorised persons within the playing enclosure.
- 11.4.5 It is the responsibility of all Clubs to manage the behaviour of their management, players and spectators. Behaviour which is considered to be 'not in the best interests of the game' should be reported to UAERF and GRM. Should such behaviours be excessive the Match Manager and/or the appointed Match Officials are within their rights to require the offending person/s to vacate the area before re-starting the match or stop the Match, in which instance the offending Club will be subject to relevant disciplinary actions as decided by the UAERF and GRM.
- 11.4.6 Club/s failing to enforce any of Regulations 11 may be considered to be in breach of UAERF and GRM Regulations. Any such failure may in the first instance be dealt with through the Club Chairmen or Schools Managers but should this not produce a satisfactory response the UAERF and GRM will commence disciplinary proceedings against the offending Club or School, its management and its players or spectators.
- 11.4.7 Any team/club that wishes to kick off any match after 4pm must have floodlights that are capable of illuminating the playing area to a safe level. The minimum lux level for all matches is 300 lux. All teams/clubs when requested must be able to produce records to show that the lights for the particular ground and/or pitch have been tested within the last 36 months and have the required lux level. All tests must have been carried out by a recognised 3rd party company. GRM to have authority to postpone/cancel any matches due to insufficient pitch lighting. Any/all costs (including opposition team costs) to be the responsibility of and to be paid by the home team.



11.6 Team Kit:

11.5.1 Clubs must inform the GRM office of the colours of their team uniform/s; jersey, shorts and socks. Jerseys shall be numbered with a minimum number size of 250mm, so as to be easily discernible.

11.5.2 No two players in the same team should display the same number at the same time during any Match.

11.5.3 In the event that any shirt number changes, (after the match registration has been declared), the Match Manager needs to be officially informed of the change. The Match Manager must officially note that in their report.

11.5.4 In the event of a colour clash, the away Club has the right to wear their first choice kit.

12 Duration of Matches

12.1 The duration of matches shall be as set forth in the relevant Specific Competition Rules.

13 Drawn Matches

13.1 If there is a draw in any knockout competition:

13.1.1 Extra time of two halves of ten minutes shall be played. The Referee will conduct a toss to determine the right to kick off or choice of direction of play. "Golden Points" will apply - the first team to score any points wins, and the match finishes.

13.1.2 If after extra time there is still a draw then the team having scored the most tries during the normal Match playing time will be declared the winner. If the Match is still drawn then the team that scored the first points during the normal Match playing time will be declared the winner.

14 Match Officials

14.1 For a Premiership match, a team of three Match Officials shall be appointed by GRM. In the event of the appointed match Referee not attending within 15 minutes before the time at which the Match is scheduled to commence, then the appointed Assistant Referee shall referee the Match. It is then the responsibility of the Home Club to provide a Touch Judge to replace the Assistant Referee.

14.2 For a Division 1 or a Division 2 Match, where only one Match Referee is appointed, and he/she fails to arrive within 15 minutes prior to the time at which the Match is scheduled to commence, then WR Law 6.1 shall apply. but;



Where there is no GRM appointed Referee available, the clubs must accept that a Club selected Referee will not be covered by any GRM Insurance. This circumstance will also hold if a GRM appointed Referee has to leave the field for any reason and is replaced by a Club selected person.

14.3 Upon the captains of the opposing Clubs agreeing, a person who is not the designated Referee and is refereeing a Match may be replaced by a GRM appointed Referee at any time during the progress of the Match.

15 Under-age players

15.1 To play in any senior/adult competition a player must be 17 years old or above, with a fully completed dispensation form, submitted through GRM for approval by the UAERF. (Schedule 3).

15.1.1 A Player may appeal in writing outlining grounds for appeal to the UAERF (with copy to the GRM office), who will consider and decide any appeal. Their decision will be final in all cases.

15.2 No team/club may select a player to play front row that is under the age of 18 years.

15.3 If an under-age Player plays adult rugby without completing the above process and obtaining the UAERF approval, the Player and the Club for which he/she represented will forfeit any/all such matches and may be liable for other sanction(s) as determined by the GRM office.

16 Penalties and Sanctions

Breach	Sanction
Forfeit of Match - but, match played as a friendly	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Forfeiting team to receive nil competition points and receive no match points.• Non forfeiting side awarded five championship points along with 30 match points. To be adjusted if relevant at the end of the season to reflect the forfeiting teams average performance against the top three (3) teams in the league table.• GRM reserve the right to levy a financial penalty (maximum AED2,000 per offence) against any team participating in the Premiership or Division 1 competitions that are found to have unjustifiably defaulted any match/s.

Forfeit of match - no friendly match played	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Forfeiting team to receive nil competition points and receive a deduction of two championship points Forfeiting team to pay opposition team expenses as mentioned in Section 9.3. GRM reserve the right to levy a financial penalty (maximum AED2,000 per offence) against any team participating in the Premiership or Division 1 competitions that are found to have unjustifiably defaulted any match/s.
Playing a non-registered player	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Forfeiture to apply, with penalties, plus deduction of five (5) championship points.
Late submission of Match Result, Team Squad Declaration Form	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> First Offence - official warning in writing. Second & subsequent Offences - deduction of three (3) competition points per occasion
Medical Cover	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any lack of provision of adequate medical cover will result in the home Club forfeiting the Match and receiving the relevant above noted forfeiture penalties.
Failure to notify GRM of Match &/or Assistant Match Manager or Tournament Manager	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> First Offence - official warning in writing. Second & Subsequent Offences - deduction of three (3) competition points per occasion

If a Club fails to pay the fine within seven days of receiving the GRM invoice, the Club will be suspended from all future matches until the fine is paid in full. Suspension from matches will be treated as a forfeit and will attract the same financial penalty for each forfeit. All fines exclude VAT.

17 Competition Rules

These Specific Competition Rules for the **West Asia Championship**, the **UAE Premiership**, the **UAE Division One**, the **UAE Division 2**, the **UAE Women's League**, where relevant the **UAE Mini and Youth Leagues** and to also cover the **UAE Schools Competition** (the "Specific Competition Rules") and any terms used but not defined herein, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the Competition Regulations.



In order for any Club to participate in any Rugby Competitions they will be required to sign the “Club Participation Agreement” with GRM.

17.1 UAE Premiership and UAE Division 1

The competitions shall be known as the UAE Premiership and the UAE Division 1 (the “Competitions”). The competition name may be amended or changed to incorporate any title sponsor.

17.1.1 Both competitions are organised in a league format with points being awarded as set out below;

17.1.1.1 The teams play each as per the published fixture list;

17.1.1.2 The Premiership competition is played as one section.

17.1.1.3 The top two (2) Premiership teams will compete in the final.

17.1.1.4 There will be semi-finals for the top 4 teams in Division 1 with the winners progressing to the Final (subject to change).

17.1.2 Points

In the league format of the Competition, points shall be awarded as follows:

- i. Four (4) competition points for a win;
- ii. Two (2) competition points for a draw;
- iii. Zero (0) competition points for a loss;
- iv. One (1) bonus point for a loss by 7 match points or less;
- v. One (1) bonus point for scoring 4 tries or more;
- vi. Five (5) competition points will be awarded to a team that gains a forfeiture;
- vii. No competition points will be awarded for a loss by more than 7 match points.
- viii. In the event of two or more teams being on equal points at the completion of the league competition, the teams’ ranking will be decided according to the following:
 - a) The team that has the lowest number of forfeits
 - b) If that is equal, then the team with the highest points difference
 - c) If that is equal, then most points for;
 - d) If that is equal, then least points against;
 - e) If that is equal, then a coin toss.

17.1.3 Forfeiture

17.1.3.1 A club indicating that they do not have the required number of players to commence a Premiership or Division 1 Match should first promote players from a lower team.



- a) In the instance of promoted Props, the match will commence with fully contested scrums but will revert to uncontested scrums on the sole decision of the Match Referee/Match Manager, should the scrums become dangerous at any time during the match.
 - b) There will be no penalty allocated against the team using promoted Props, should uncontested scrums be required at any time during the match.
- 17.1.3.2 A Club forfeiting a Match, i.e. not participating in the Match shall:
- a) Receive loss of championship points and/or be liable for a financial penalty as outlined in Regulation 16
 - b) Lose the right to any subsequent match against the non-offending team being scheduled as a 'home' fixture.
- 17.1.3.3 A Club forfeiting a match, but agreeing to participate in a 'friendly' fixture (to give players the opportunity to 'play the game'), using e.g. 'uncontested scrums':
- a) Shall receive no financial penalty.
 - b) This will also apply when a Club has promoted players to a higher graded team which may or may not result in an uncontested scrums match, to allow the higher graded match to proceed (as in 17.1.3.2 above).
- 17.1.3.4 The non-offending team in above instances shall receive:
- a) Five (5) competition points.
 - b) A minimum of 30 match points (6 tries) for and nil match points against, or an average of points scored against the offending team by the top three (3) teams at the completion of the specific League fixtures, whichever is the greater.
 - c) Final League points table to be adjusted to suit these changes covering match forfeiture/s.
- 17.1.3.5 Forfeiture of three or more Matches. Any team which forfeits three or more Matches in the same Competition shall, in addition to any other penalty and at the discretion of the GRM office, be liable to disqualification from that Competition and will be deemed to have completed the season as the bottom team in the table.
- 17.1.3.6 If a team is late in advising their intention to forfeit a game then regulation 9.6 will apply in relation to any costs incurred by the non-offending team.



17.1.4 Promotion & Relegation between UAE Premiership & Division 1

17.1.4.5 There will be no relegation from the UAE Premiership unless a team due to their playing strength apply with supporting detail to GRM for relegation or in the view of GRM the club is no longer capable of continuing in the UAE Premiership.

17.1.4.6 The club that wins the UAE Division One final, can within 14 days of the final apply to GRM to be promoted to the UAE Premiership. This application will then be considered by GRM and the Clubs' committee

17.2 *West Asia Championship*

The competition shall be known as the West Asia Championship (the “**Competition**”). The competition name may be amended or changed to incorporate any title sponsor.

This competition is co-sanctioned by UAERF and AR. All matches will be managed by GRM in line with these regulations (section 1-18 inclusive). For the avoidance of doubt all matches will be played in accordance with UAE Premiership regulations except for the following exceptions. UAE Clubs travelling to Bahrain will receive a travel subsidy of AED17,000 per trip.

17.2.1 The top two (2) teams at the end of the second round of Matches will play a Final to decide the winner.

17.2.2 The highest finishing team at the completion of the league programme shall be the ‘home’ team for the final.

17.3 *UAE Division 2*

The 2019-2020 competition shall be known as the UAE Division 2 League (the “**Competition**”). The competition name may be amended or changed to incorporate any title sponsor.

17.3.1 Competitions Format

The competition is organised in a league format with points being awarded as per regulation 17.1.2. the competing teams playing each other once home or away. The two teams who finish top of the League will play a final to decide the winner of the competition. For the avoidance of doubt all matches will be played in accordance with the same regulations as the UAE Premiership (Regulation 17.1) except for the following exceptions



17.3.2 Number of Players and Substitutions

17.3.3.1 With the exception of the final all Division 2 Teams are allowed to have less players than indicated in regulation 7. See Section 17.3.4 for further guidance.

17.3.3.2 Rolling substitutions will be permitted, using players who are registered on the official submitted team sheet.

17.3.3 Forfeiture

17.3.4.1 A club indicating that they do not have the required number of players to commence a match must first inform the opposition and agree to play the Match with less numbers and/or uncontested scrums. The opposition Club in the spirit of the league may offer to lend players in order for a friendly Match to go ahead.

17.3.4.2 Once both clubs have agreed, the home Club must officially inform GRM and the appointed Match Referee.

17.3.4.3 In the case of both Clubs failing to reach an agreement, both Clubs must contact GRM outlining the situation. GRM will try to find a compromise to get the Match played or may award a forfeit against one of the Clubs.

17.3.4.4 In case of forfeit, dependant on the circumstances, a financial penalty may or may not be imposed.

17.3.4 Duration

17.3.5.1 If the Match is played with a reduced number of players, both Clubs and the Referee must agree on the duration of the Match before kick-off.

17.3.5 Promotion from Division 2

17.3.5.1 The UAE Division 2 final winner will have the option to challenge for promotion to UAE Division 1 at the completion of the competition. If the winner is not eligible or does not want to be considered for promotion then the option passes to the runner up of the Division 2 final only. The mechanism for promotion will be a Challenge Match against the team that finished bottom of Division 1.

17.3.5.2 In order to be eligible to play in the Division 2 final the teams must have completed 60% of their scheduled games playing 15 a-side. For the purposes of calculating the percentage of games completed with 15 players only games in which the team was the 'offending team' for reducing the number of players will be counted.



- 17.3.5.3 Once the Division 2 finalists are identified GRM will contact the two clubs who will need to advise (prior to the final) their intention re challenging for promotion to Division 1.
- 17.3.5.4 The Challenge Match will take place as per the published Season Schedule and will be at the home ground of the Division 1 club.
- 17.3.5.5 All regulations surrounding player eligibility will be in line with regulation 8
- 17.3.5.6 The team that wins the Challenge match will play in Division 1 the following season, the team that is defeated will play in Division 2
- 17.3.5.7 If a team forfeits the match, or plays any ineligible players it will be deemed to have lost the match

17.4 UAE Women's Series

The competition shall be known as the UAE Women's Series (the "Competition"). The competition name may be amended or changed to incorporate any title sponsor.

The Competition shall be played according to the Sevens Variations of the WR Laws of the Game, as amended from time to time by WR.

17.4.1 Competition format:

- 17.4.1.1 The league consists of a number of rounds in a Series format.
- 17.4.1.2 Clubs who wish to participate must host a round of the series and must indicate to GRM by 31st August each year, the date they wish to host, and the venue they will be using. GRM will confirm all participating clubs, the number of rounds and host clubs.
- 17.4.1.3 Newly formed Clubs are allowed to participate in the Competition for one (1) season without hosting a tournament. If the Club wishes to participate in the Competition the following year, 17.4.1.2 will apply.
- 17.4.1.4 Each Tournament is divided into an A-League, B-League and a C-League as follows:
- 17.4.1.4.1 A-League:
- The League consists of the five (5) highest ranked teams, based on the previous season's Tournament position.
 - A relegation system with the B-League applies at the end of each tournament.



- A play off will apply between the team finishing bottom of the A-League & the team finishing top of the B-League after the final tournament to decide the winner of the Plate trophy.

17.4.1.4.2 B-League:

- The League consists of the teams ranked 6th to 10th based on the previous season's Tournament position.
- A play off will apply between the team finishing top of the B-League & the team finishing bottom of the A-League after the final tournament to decide the winner of the Plate trophy.
- A promotion system with the A-League applies at the end of each tournament.

17.4.1.4.3 C-League

- The League consists of the teams ranked 11th and lower based on the previous Tournament positions.
- The format of this League will vary depending on the number of Teams entering each Tournament.

17.4.2 The Host Club is responsible for the following:

- Pitch booking at a suitable match compliant venue paid for by the host club.
- Contacting GRM minimum two weeks before the date of the tournament to confirm Referees required.
- Host Club must forward proposed competition format to GRM for approval no later than two weeks before the date of the tournament.
- Host Club to forward the confirmed Match Schedule to all participating teams no later than seven days before the date of the tournament.
- Host Club to provide GRM with the names of the following individuals no later than seven days before the date of the tournament:
 - Tournament Manager who will be responsible for:
 - a. Ensuring the appropriate Medical provision is in place as detailed in regulation 11.2.
 - b. Ensuring the tournament runs to the agreed format.
 - c. Informing GRM of all scores, pool tables and final standings by 10am on Sunday following the Tournament.
 - d. Informing GRM of any disciplinary issues.



- Pitch Manager(s), who will assume responsibilities of a Match Manager as outlined in regulation 11.4;

Note: Tournament and Pitch Managers must not be involved in Match-day squads in any playing, coaching, managing, or medical capacity.

- Providing medical cover as detailed in Section 11.2
- Providing adequate pitch-side water, ice and food to participating teams
- Providing adequate water, ice and food for Match Officials

17.4.3 Participating Clubs are responsible for:

- Sending their Team Declaration to GRM five days before the Tournament,
- Completing and confirming their squad sheet with the Tournament Manager no later than one hour before the kick-off of their first Tournament Match,
- Complying with section 11.2.1,
- Paying 2,000 AED per team to the host Club if the participating Club is not hosting a tournament during the season.

17.4.4 Forfeiture:

17.4.4.1 If a club does not wish to participate in any round(s) of the series, the Club must inform both GRM and the Host Club in writing no later than 14 days before the tournament date and provide the reasons for not participating.

- Failure to comply with regulation 17.4.4.1, a club will pay 2,000 AED (plus VAT) penalty, (paid to GRM) to cover Host Club's expenses incurred as per regulation 9.3 (once paid, GRM will reimburse the Host Club).

17.4.4.2 If a team confirms participation but fails to honour their commitment, this will be treated as a forfeit and the fines above will apply.

17.4.4.3 UAE based Clubs must participate in a minimum of six tournaments during the season to avoid disqualification from future Leagues &/or Tournaments.

17.4.4.4 Host Clubs may invite Clubs from WA to participate in their tournament;

17.4.5 Tournament Format:

All tournaments in the Series follow the same format with a pool and a knock-out stage.

17.4.5.1 Pool Phase:

Teams will play each other in each Pool on a round robin basis. Match points will be awarded for each pool match on the following basis:



- Win = 3 Points
- Draw = 2 Points
- Loss = 1 Point

17.4.5.1.1 No extra time shall be played in pool Matches.

17.4.5.1.2 If, at the completion of the Pool phase, two teams are equal on competition points, the winner of the match in which the two tied Teams have played each other will be the higher ranked.

17.4.5.1.3 If, at the completion of the Pool phase, two teams have played each other resulting in a draw or more than two Teams are level on Match points, the following criteria will be used in the following order until one of the Teams can be determined as the higher ranked:

- (i) The Team which has the best difference between points scored for and points scored against in all its Pool Matches shall be the higher ranked;
- (ii) the Team which has the best difference between tries scored for and tries scored against in all its Pool Matches shall be the higher ranked;
- (iii) the Team which has scored most points in all its Pool Matches shall be the higher ranked;
- (iv) the Team which has scored most tries in all its Pool Matches shall be the higher ranked; and

17.4.5.1.4 If none of the above produce a result, then it will be resolved with a toss of a coin.

17.4.5.2 Knock-out Phase:

17.4.5.2.1 The format of the knock-out phase may vary from tournament to tournament, and it is the responsibility of the Host Club to get GRM approval as in regulation 17.5.2.

17.4.5.3 Match Duration

17.4.5.3.1 The duration of all Matches will be seven minutes each half with a two-minute half time interval.

17.4.5.3.2 During the knock-out phase, in the event of a match being drawn at the end of normal playing time, sudden death (next score wins) / extra time will be played until a winner is



determined. A two (2) minute water break will be held at the end of normal playing time.

17.4.5.3.3 The extra time is played in periods of five minutes. After each period the Teams will change ends without interval. In extra time the Team which scores first will immediately be declared the winner without further play.

17.4.5.3.4 A toss by the Team Managers and the Referee will be conducted to determine which team will choose either to:

- Kick off, or
- Choice of end.

17.4.6 Series League Standings

All teams participating in the Series will receive competition points according to their ranking at the end of each tournament. The overall winner of the Series will be determined by the Team with the most points as set out in the Series table below:

17.4.6.1 Series Point:

<i>Tournament Position</i>	<i>Points Awarded</i>
Tournament Winner	22 points
2 nd Place	20 points
3 rd Place	18 points
4 th Place	16 points
5 th Place	14 points
6 th Place	14 points
7 th Place	12 points
8 th Place	10 points
9 th Place	8 points
10 th Place	6 points
11 th Place	6 points
12 th Place	4 points
13 th Place	3 points
14 th Place	2 points
15 th Place	1 point
16 th Place	1 point

17.4.6.2 Criteria of resolution

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- (i) In the event of two or more Teams being equal on points for any position on the Series table, the Team which has the best difference between points scored for and points scored against in all the Series Matches shall be the higher ranked;
- (ii) In the event of (i) above not providing a decision, the Team which has the best difference between tries scored for and tries scored against in all its Series Matches shall be the higher ranked;
- (iii) In the event of (ii) above not providing a decision, the position on the Series table will be considered equal (i.e. a tie).

17.4.7 Playing an ineligible player:

If a team selects an ineligible player to play in a Tournament, the following sanctions apply:

- They are deemed to have forfeited the Tournament and will attract the forfeit penalties.
- Deduction of 15 points on the overall series standings
- All teams finishing below that team in that particular tournament, will move up in the tournament standing and collect the appropriate points.

17.5 UAE Mini and Youth Competition

17.5.1 GRM will administer all UAE Mini and Youth Competition, this includes:

- 17.5.1.1 Fixtures lists
- 17.5.1.2 Collate results after every round
- 17.5.1.3 Update Competition Tables.
- 17.5.1.4 Match Officials appointment for all Under 16s and Under 18s/19s, (subject to availability).
- 17.5.1.5 Disciplinary and Judicial matters
- 17.6.1.6 Finals day. This includes pitch bookings, Match Officials Appointments

17.5.2 Clubs are responsible for:

- 17.5.2.1 Register all players with UAERF
- 17.5.2.2 Organise and manage own home match schedules, excluding finals day.
- 17.5.2.3 Request Match Officials from GRM no later than 21 days before the date required.
- 17.5.2.4 Forward the Match Sheet to GRM no later than 12:00 on the Sunday following the fixture.



- 17.5.2.5 Inform GRM of any change to the fixtures list, no later than 21 days before the fixture date.
- 17.5.2.6 Organise Medical provision as regulation 11.2
- 17.5.2.7 Inform GRM of any disciplinary issues
- 17.5.2.8 Ensure all league matches are played in accordance with the Mini & Youth law variations

17.6 UAE Schools League

17.6.1 GRM will be responsible for:

- 17.6.1.1 Match Officials appointments for all Under 16s and U18s/19s Matches (subject to availability).
- 17.6.1.2 GRM to invoice the home school a Match Fee to cover Match Officials appointment/s. For individual matches the fee is AED 300 per Match Official, per match, (plus VAT). For tournaments please contact the GRM Office for a quotation.
- 17.6.1.3 All Disciplinary and Judicial matters

17.6.2 Schools/DASSA will be responsible for:

- 17.6.2.1 All administration & operations of Schools competitions.
- 17.6.2.2 Organise fixtures and collate results
- 17.6.2.3 Keep competition tables
- 17.6.2.3 Request Match Officials from GRM no later than 21 days before the date required.
- 17.7.2.4 Organise Medical provision as per regulation 11.2
- 17.7.2.5 Inform GRM of any disciplinary issues
- 17.7.2.6 Ensure all league matches are played in accordance with the Mini & Youth law variations



18. Disciplinary Regulation

18.1 For the purposes of the Union's Competition Regulations, the following definitions will apply

- 18.1.1 Appeal Committee or Appeal Officer means the Appeal Committee or Appeal Officer appointed by the Union under these Disciplinary Regulations;
- 18.1.1.1 Appellant means a Player or other participant who appeals a finding of a penalty imposed by a Judicial Officer or Disciplinary Committee;
- 18.1.1.2 Assistant Referee means as assistant referee officiating in a match that has been appointed by GRM in a match sanctioned by UAERF
- 18.1.1.4 Assistant referee report mean a reporting in writing submitted by the Assistant Referee
- 18.1.1.5 Board of Directors mean the current board of the UAERF
- 18.1.1.6 Citing is to be reported to GRM/UAERF in writing under regulation 18.5
- 18.1.1.7 Citing Commissioner is a person appointed by GRM/UAERF who may cite an incident under regulation 18.5
- 18.1.1.8 Citing Complaint means a notice of alleged incidents of a breach or breaches
- 18.1.1.9 Club means a club or school represented by a team participating in any match or competitions sanctioned by UAERF and managed by GRM
- 18.1.1.10 Competition means any rugby Competition or Match sanctioned by UAERF and managed by GRM
- 18.1.1.11 Complainant Club means a club, school or affiliate that seeks to cite a player.
- 18.1.1.12 Decision means a decision of UAERF, GRM, a Judicial Officer, Disciplinary Committee or Appeal committee
- 18.1.1.13 Deposit means the sum of AED 1,000 AED
- 18.1.1.14 Disciplinary Committee means the Disciplinary Committee appointed by UAERF/GRM under the Disciplinary Regulations.
- 18.1.1.15 Disciplinary Definitions means the disciplinary definitions specified within regulation 18 and amended from time to time.
- 18.1.1.16 Disciplinary Regulations means these disciplinary regulations as amended from time to time.
- 18.1.1.17 Foul Play means foul play as defined by WR Regulation 17.7.3



- 18.1.1.18 Game means Rugby Football played in accordance with WR laws of the game.
- 18.1.1.19 Hearing means a hearing convened by GRM/UAERF with an appointed Judicial Officer, Disciplinary Committee or Appeal Committee
- 18.1.1.20 In Writing means a signed letter either posted or sent by courier to the relevant address or sent as an e mail.
- 18.1.1.21 Incident means the act(s) or alleged acts(s) of foul play giving rise to the relevant disciplinary proceedings.
- 18.1.1.22 Judicial Officer means the Judicial Officer or Chairman of a Disciplinary Committee or Appeal Committee
- 18.1.1.23 Laws of the game means the WR laws governing the playing of rugby as amended from time to time
- 18.1.1.24 Match means any rugby match sanctioned by UAERF and managed by GRM
- 18.1.1.25 Notice of Appeal means a notice of appeal in writing submitted by the appellant
- 18.1.1.26 Notice of Citing means a notice of alleged incident of a break or breaches of the Laws of the game made in writing to GRM
- 18.1.1.27 Ordered Off means when a Player is sent off the playing enclosure permanently by the Referee and can take no further part in the match which he is ordered off
- 18.1.1.28 Person means any Player, Referee, Assistant Referee or other match official, selector, coach, trainer, manager, medical officer, physiotherapist or other team official or any individual who is or has been at any time involved in the organisation, administration or promotion of rugby including a director or other employee or UAERF, GRM or any member or associate member of UAERF.
- 18.1.1.29 Player means a player playing a match
- 18.1.1.30 Players Club means the club or school the Player was representing at the time of the incident
- 18.1.1.31 Referee means the GRM appointed Match referee officiating in the match the incident took place



- 18.1.1.32 Referee Report and Assistant Referee's Report means respectively reports in writing submitted by a Referee or an Assistant Referee to UAERF/GRM
- 18.1.1.32 Competitions Manager means the person appointed by the GRM as a disciplinary administrator from time to time
- 18.1.1.33 Temporary Suspension means suspension for a period of ten minutes playing time
- 18.1.1.34 UAERF means UAE Rugby Federation
- 18.1.1.35 UAERF Regulations means any regulations set out by UAERF/GRM in accordance with each competition
- 18.1.1.36 WR means World Rugby

18.2 Jurisdiction

- 18.2.1 Where a Person or Club is alleged to have breached WR or UAERF regulation or in a Match administered or organised by GRM/UAERF is
- Ordered off the playing enclosure in a match (red card) (Regulation 18.3) or
 - has been Temporarily Suspended in accordance with regulation 18.4 (accumulated yellow cards) or
 - Cited for an act(s) of foul play (Citing) (Regulation 18.5)
- UAERF/GRM shall appoint a Judicial Officer or set up a Disciplinary Committee for such incident. The Judicial Officer or Disciplinary Committee shall have power to act in the name of UAERF to hear and determine disciplinary proceeding's within its jurisdiction in accordance with these Disciplinary Regulations and WR Regulations
- 18.2.2 Any Person being dealt with under Regulation 18.2.1 and where WR has deemed that Person's continued involvement in the game in any capacity pending final determination by the relevant authority to be inappropriate and/or potentially prejudicial to the image and reputation of the sport under WR Regulation 17.26.14 shall be provisionally suspended from any involvement in the sport.
- 18.2.3 Any Player being dealt with under regulation 18.3, 18.4 & 18.5.1.2 is not entitled to play the game (or any form thereof) or be involved in any on-field Match day activities anywhere in the world until their case has been



finally resolved. A suspended player who elects to appeal may not take part or be selected for any further matches until their case has been dealt with by an Appeal Committee or Appeal Officer or the expiry of their suspension, whichever occurs earlier.

18.2.4 Any player being dealt with under regulation 18.5 shall not be provisionally suspended pending the hearing of the case.

18.3 Procedure following an Ordering Off

18.3.1 Where a Player is Ordered Off the playing enclosure in a Match, the Referee shall, within 48 hours of the completion of the Match send to the Competitions Manager a Referees Report incorporating:

- a) The date of the Match, the venue and the teams participating
- b) The name of the Player ordered off and the Players Club
- c) The Circumstances in which the Player was Ordered Off
- d) The reason for the player being Ordered Off
- e) Any other information the Referee considers relevant

18.3.2 Where the player is Ordered Off the playing enclosure as a result of the intervention of an Assistant Referee, the Assistant Referee shall, within 48 hours of the completion of the Match send to the Competitions Manager an Assistant Referee's Report incorporating matters referred to in Regulation 18.3.1 a) to e)

18.3.3 The Player ordered off shall be required to appear before a Judicial Officer or Disciplinary Committee and the hearing shall be conducted in accordance with the procedure set out in regulation 18.6

18.4 Accumulated Yellow Cards

18.4.1 A Player who received three (3) yellow cards during a single season shall be required to appear at a Hearing before a Judicial Officer or Disciplinary Committee, which shall be convened in accordance with regulation 18.6 the player shall be notified as follows:

18.4.1.1 The purpose of the Hearing is to consider whether any further penalty should be imposed on them for persistent offending



- 18.4.1.2 That they may be represented by a representative of the Players Club and/or the Players legal representative (if any)
- 18.4.1.3 That save where the player has given notice of his intention to challenge a Temporary Suspension within the time period specified in WR Regulation 17.25.2 (c) and in the absence of exceptional circumstances relating to the failure to give the prescribed notice, no evidence will be heard other than on the question of sanction
- 18.4.1.4 The identity of the Judicial Officer or Disciplinary Committee, as the case may be
- 18.4.1.5 The player shall not be permitted to play in any match and shall be suspended from all on-field activities on Match days anywhere in the world pending the outcome of their case
- 18.4.2 The Hearing shall be conducted in accordance with the procedures set out in Regulation 18.6
- 18.4.3 Previous Yellow cards that may have been taken into account by a previous Judicial Officer or Disciplinary Committee. For the avoidance of doubt if a Player is sent off for any reason having received two (2) yellow cards in one Match and as a result of that Ordering Off, a Judicial Officer or Disciplinary Committee deals with that incident, then the two yellow cards in question will not be counted for in the purpose of any computation or action under regulation 18.4.
- 18.5 Citing Procedure
- 18.5.1 The following people may cite
- 18.5.2 Where no Citing Commissioner is appointed for the Match then the procedure will be as follows
- 18.5.2.1 Each club participating in a Match or an official of GRM/UAERF may cite:
- a) A Player(s) for act(s) of alleged Foul Play committed during the Match provided that such act(s) have not been detected by the Referee or Assistant Referee
 - b) A player for more than one incident of alleged Foul Play in the same match
 - c) more than one player in any Match



- 18.5.3 Where a Citing Commissioner is appointed for the Match the Citing Commissioner may cite a Player to GRM/UAERF and the procedure will be as follows:
- 18.5.3.1 The Citing Commissioner shall be entitled to cite a Player for act(s) of Foul Play in which in the opinion of the Citing Commissioner warranted the player concerned being Ordered Off
- 18.5.3.2 The Citing Commissioner may cite a Player for act(s) of Foul Play even where such act(s) may have been detected by the Referee or Assistant Referees and which may have been subject of Referee action. The Citing commissioner may not cite a Player for act(s) of foul play in respect of which the Player has been Ordered Off save where the Ordering Off is as a result of two yellow cards. A Player in that situation may also be cited for act(s) of Foul Play which resulted in either or both yellow cards.
- 18.5.3.3A Player may be cited by the Citing Commissioner if they have been temporarily suspended. Such Citing may be made in respect of Incidents(s) for which the player was temporarily suspended or otherwise.
- 18.5.3.4 Citing Commissioners shall act independently of the Judicial Officer or Disciplinary committee and of the Referee and /or Assistant Referee of a match.
- 18.5.3.5 Where a Citing Commissioner has been appointed for a Match, the persons referred to in Regulation 18.5.2 shall not have the power to cite a Player for Foul Play but may refer any Incident to the Citing Commissioner for consideration provided such incident is referred to the Citing Commissioner within 12 hours of the completion of the Match in which the Incident is alleged to have occurred, A Citing Commissioners decision on whether a player should be cited (or not, as the case maybe), whether as the result of an incident referred to him or otherwise shall be final



18.5.3.6 Subject to WR Regulations 17.15.3 and 17.15.4, a citing complaint by a Citing Commissioner must be sent in writing to GRM no later than 48 hours after the completion of the match. For this purpose of this regulation (18.4.3.6) a citing complaint is deemed to be sent when it is transmitted by email.

18.5.3.7 In circumstances where a Player has not been cited within the time periods specified in Regulation 18.4.3.6 as a result of either

- a) Mistaken identity and/or
- b) Circumstances exist where the nature of the Incident(s) concerned is such that further investigation is needed to identify the Players(s) alleged to have committed an act(s) of foul play and/or
- c) Circumstances exist where the nature of the Incidents(s) concerned is such that it is necessary to further investigate and establish the full nature of the alleged acts(s) of foul play.

The citing commissioner may seek the leave of a duly appointed Disciplinary Committee or Judicial Officer to extend the citing period, however, any such extension will not in any event exceed 12 days for the last date permitted in regulation 18.5.3.3.

18.5.3.8 The Citing Complaint should ordinarily contain the following information

- a) The date and place of the incident
- b) The name of the player in respect of whole the complaint is made and the club they were playing for at the time of the incident
- c) The name of the opposing Club
- d) The details of the alleged Foul Play including brief details of the evidence relied upon.

18.5.3.9 All persons requested to provide reports and/or information must do so within the timescales requested or seek more



time if required from the Citing Commissioner. Failure to provide information in the absence of any reasonable explanation may constitute Misconduct as defined under WR Regulation 20.

18.5.4 Where a Citing Commissioner is not appointed the following will apply

18.5.4.1 The Citing Complaint must be in writing and signed by the Chairman/Secretary or equivalent official of the Complainant club or Union seeking to Cite.

18.5.4.2 The Citing Complaint must be addressed to the GRM Competitions Manager and delivered to the office not later than 48 hours after the completion of the match in which the incident occurred. All materials to be submitted in support of the Citing complaint must be submitted to the GRM Competition Manager and delivered to their office no later than 17:00 (Gulf Standard Time) on the fourth (4th) business day following the Match in which the Incident occurred.

18.5.4.3 GRM and the Judicial Officer or Disciplinary Committee will not consider a Citing Complaint which is received after the expiry of the prescribed time limit in Regulation 18.5.4.2

18.5.4.4 Details to be included in the Citing complaint

- a) The date and place of the alleged foul play
- b) The name of the Player in respect of whom the complaint is made and the club he was playing for at the time of the alleged foul play
- c) The name of the opposing club
- d) Details of the alleged Foul Play including brief details of the evidence relied upon
- e) Be accompanied by the written, signed and dated statements of any witnesses of the Incident together with any other documents or materials to be relied upon if available (such as photographs, medical reports etc)



f) Be accompanied by two copies of audio visual evidence if available.

18.5.4.5 Where made by a Complainant club, the citing complaint must be accompanied by the Deposit (1000 AED) to cover administrative expenses. If the Citing Complaint is accepted by the GRM Competitions Manager and the incident is proved, then the Deposit will be returned to the Complainant club. If, however, the citing Complaint is rejected by the GRM Competitions Manager or is not proved at a hearing, the whole, or part of it shall be reimbursed as the GRM Manager or Judicial Officer considers in their absolute discretion.

18.5.5 Upon delivery of a Citing complaint the following shall apply

18.5.5.1 The Competitions Manager shall as soon as practicable consult the Referee and any Assistant Referee to consider whether the Incident was seen by them during the match.

18.5.5.2 Following the consultation as outlined in regulation 18.5.5.1 the Referee and any Assistant Referee shall each produce a brief written report of the incident.

18.5.5.3 If the Referee or any Assistant Referee saw the Incident which is the subject of the Citing, the Citing complaint shall be void and no further action shall be taken in response to it by GRM, other than sending a written advice to the Complainant club stating the citing complaint is void.

18.5.5.4 Subject to the outcome of 18.5.5.3 if the Referee or Assistant Referee did not see the incident the Competitions Manager shall consider whether the submission of the Citing Complaint and all accompanying materials comply with regulation 18.5. The Competition Manager shall not accept any oral representations by any party in connection with the citing complaint.

18.5.5.5 The Competitions Manager shall decide whether, upon an inspection of the materials presented, the Citing Complaint should be referred to the Judicial Officer or Disciplinary



Committee or whether it should be dismissed. The Competitions Manager shall do so by determining if it has been established that the incident was of such seriousness that the player would have been ordered off the playing enclosure with a Red Card.

18.5.5.6 The Competitions Manager shall notify the Complainant Club and the player and his club of the decision within seven days of receipt of the written reports(s) of the Referee and/or Assistant Referee(s). The decision shall be accompanied by copies of the Citing Complaint, copies of all accompanying materials and the written reports(s) of the Referee and/or Assistant Referee(s)

18.5.5.7 If the Competitions Manager has decided that the matter should be referred to the Judicial Officer or Disciplinary Committee the Competitions Manager shall ensure that a Judicial Officer is appointed or a Disciplinary Committee is convened as soon as reasonably practical to hear the Citing Complaint.

18.5.5.8 If the Competitions Manager has decided that the matter should not be referred to the Judicial Officer or Disciplinary Committee, the complainant club who submitted the Citing Complaint may ask the GRM Manager to review the decision. The GRM Manager shall select a person to undertake the review who complies with the below

- a) is a Judicial Officer on the International Panels of with WR or Asia Rugby and
- b) who does not have a conflict of interest regarding the Citing.

The person reviewing the decision shall consider all materials provided by the Competitions Manager and promptly make a recommendation to the GRM Manager if the matter should or should not be referred to a Judicial Officer or Disciplinary Committee for full consideration

18.5.6 The Hearing



18.5.6.1A Hearing shall be conducted in accordance with the procedures set out in Regulation 18.6. At any hearing of a Citing Complaint a representative of the Complainant Club or the official of the union who submitted the Citing Complaint must be in attendance, failing which the citing complaint will be dismissed.

18.6 Disciplinary Hearings

18.6.1 A Judicial officer or Disciplinary Committee will be appointed upon:

- a) receipt of a Referee Report and/or Assistant Referee's Report made in accordance with Regulation 18.3 or
- b) The accumulation by a player of three yellow cards during a single season under Regulation 18.4
- c) Receipt of a Competitions Managers Decision to refer a Citing Complaint
- d) Receipt of a Citing Commissioners citing complaint

18.6.2 Subject to Regulation 18.5.3 and 18.5.3 GRM shall have complete discretion in the appointment of the Judicial Officer or Disciplinary Committee

18.6.3 No member of the Players Club, the player who was the victim of the incident or the complainant club shall be the Judicial Officer or Chairman or member of the Disciplinary Committee

18.6.4 The Judicial Officer or Chairman of the Disciplinary Committee shall be a senior legal practitioner of at least seven years standing or a serving or retired judge who shall have previous experience in rugby disciplinary proceedings, and in-depth knowledge of the game and a member of the UAERF Judicial Panel.

18.6.5 During a Hearing, the Judicial Officer or Disciplinary Committee shall sit to hear the evidence and arguments submitted by the relevant parties in relation to the disciplinary charges(s) brought against the player. The hearing shall be held as soon as possible after the Match or Matches in which the Incident is alleged to have taken place.

18.6.6 Prior to the Hearing the Competitions Manager shall supply the Player with (as appropriate) a copy of the Referees Report and/or



Assistant Referee Report any other relevant evidence and these regulations. The Competitions Manager shall advise the player:

- a) The date, place and time of the Hearing and the identity of the Judicial Officer or members of the Disciplinary Committee
- b) That they will be required to attend in person at the hearing (which may include attendance by telephone or audio-visual means at the discretion of the Judicial Officer or Chairman).
- c) that if the player is unable to appear at the hearing they should advise the Competitions Manager as soon as practicable
- d) that the player is entitled to adduce evidence (save that no evidence may be adduced if the Hearing is being held under Regulation 18.4 unless the exception in Regulation 18.4.1.3) and make submissions and be represented by a representative of the Players Club and/or Players legal advisor
- e) that he is not eligible to play in a match anywhere in the world and shall be suspended from all on-field activities on Match days pending resolution of the case (save that this provision does not apply if the hearing is being held under Regulation 18.4)

18.6.7 In respect of proceedings brought under Regulation 18.4, prior to the Hearing, the judicial Officer or Disciplinary Committee shall be entitled (but not obliged) to call for and receive the relevant yellow card reports from the Referees and/or Assistant Referees. If the Judicial Officer or Disciplinary Committee requests such reports the Competitions Manager shall supply the Judicial Officer or Disciplinary Committee and the players with copies.

18.6.8 The Competitions Manager shall, simultaneously, send copies of all the GRM communications with the Players to the Secretary of that Players club.

18.6.9 The player shall within such period as set out in the notice of the hearing confirm in writing if:

- a) Whether he/she admits the offence specified in the Referees Report and wishes to plead guilty and if so, whether he/she wishes the case to be dealt with “on paper” in his/her absence. Or



b) Whether he/she disputes the allegations and content of the Referee or the Assistant Referee at which point the Referee and/or Assistant Referee will be contacted to make themselves available for the hearing.

18.6.10 In the event that a case is proven or admitted then a fee of 600 dhs (plus VAT) will be payable by the person, player or club for an oral/physical hearing and 300 dhs (plus VAT) for a paper only hearing. The Judicial Officer (or GRM) may in its discretion also order the payment of any additional costs to be paid by that person, player or club. Where a person, player or club is ordered to pay fees or costs payment shall be made within 21 days of the receipt of the invoice. If the payment is not made within 21 days GRM in consultation with the Judicial Officer may impose further sanctions on a person, player or club (including suspension of a player from playing) until they are paid. A failure to pay any costs within 45 days will result in a breach by the person, player or club of regulation 18.10

18.7 The procedures and powers of the Judicial Officer and Disciplinary Committee in connection with jurisdiction, process and evidential matters relating to hearings shall be set out in WR Regulation 17.18, 18 and Appendix 1 of WE Regulation 18 as amended where necessary.

18.8 Appeals Procedure

18.8.1 The procedure for Appeals shall be set out in WR Regulation 17.22 18 and Appendix 1 of WR Regulation 18 as amended where necessary

18.8.2 The Notice of appeal must be submitted to the Competitions Manager in writing with the 1000AED Deposit within 10 days of receiving the initial decision of the Judicial Officer or Disciplinary Committee

18.9 Bad Disciplinary Record

18.9.1 Where a player, spectator or members of a club or school appear before a Judicial Officer/Disciplinary Panel on more than one (1) separate occasion in any one season that club may be charged by the Competitions Manager and summoned to attend a disciplinary hearing on the basis that it has a bad



disciplinary record. When dealing with a club under this provision the Judicial Officer/Disciplinary Panel has the power to impose sanctions as set out in 18.9.2

18.9.2 When dealing with a club under 18.9.1 a Judicial Officer/Disciplinary Panel may impose any sanction, including (but not limited to) a reprimand, a financial penalty (on the club) and/or deduction of championship points, relegation, exclusion or disqualification from any competition or combination of the above.

18.9.3 Sanctions may also be suspended if considered appropriate.

18.10 Misconduct

UAERF/GRM shall have power to discipline any player, official, member or employee of a affiliated club or school for any infringement of these Rules, the UAERF Regulations, the Laws of the Game or the World Rugby Regulations and/or for any conduct which is prejudicial to the interests of UAERF/GRM or the Game or which amounts to cheating. UAERF/GRM may terminate or suspend membership of the subject club and/or impose any other appropriate punishment for any such offence.



[To be submitted on club headed paper]

SCHEDULE 1

No Residency Dispensation

[Insert UAERF office address]

Dear Sir/Madam,

We are writing on behalf of [_____] Rugby Club (the “Club”) to complete Effective Registration for [_____] (the “Player”) with the Club.

The Player has applied to become a resident of, the UAE

We are fully aware that under the UAERF and Expat Rugby Competition Regulations any false information we or the Player provides to the ERM office with respect to the Player's Effective Registration will result in serious non appealable disqualification penalties, both financial & competition points bring levied by ERM against the Club.

We understand that if the registration is accepted, the effective registration will only be valid for 4 weeks.

Yours faithfully

Signed: _____

Name:

Club Chairman

Signed: _____

Name:

Club Captain

T +971 4 809 6534

Email: gulfrugby@emirates.com

P.O. Box 686, Dubai, UAE

www.thesevensstadium.com



SCHEDULE 2

The Playing Enclosure



T +971 4 809 6534

Email: gulfrugby@emirates.com

P.O. Box 686, Dubai, UAE

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