

GFF

ELITE 2018 **LEAGUE** 2019

Rules & Regulations Booklet





RULES & REGULATIONS

2018 / 2019



The Guyana Football Federation Elite League, herein referred to as the Elite League, comprises Clubs which have exhibited the requisite administrative, technical, and tactical characteristics to participate in the highest level of football played within Guyana.



OBJECTIVES

To provide Clubs who have attained the CONCACAF Club Licensing standards with the opportunity of participating at the highest level of football within Guyana.

To establish the competitive environment, which creates the attraction, excitement and interest, among all stakeholders.

To afford Clubs participating in the Elite League the opportunity to become economically, socially, psychologically and tactically empowered through the developmental programmes of the League.

To provide the opportunity for participating Clubs to be identified and, or selected for International Tournaments.

To provide the opportunity for disciplined players of a high technical and tactical ability, to be identified and, or selected for national duties.

To provide Clubs in the lower divisions of football in Guyana the highest platform of football within Guyana to which they can aspire.



LEAGUE FORMAT **1**

- 1.1** The Guyana Football Federation Elite League Season 4 is scheduled to commence on **Friday 15th March, 2019.**
- 1.2** The Elite League Season 4 is a single table of ten (10) teams that play one (1) round of football, resulting in the club acquiring the most points being declared the winner.
- 1.2.1** Match Days will feature mostly double-headers at stipulated venues on Fridays and Sundays with a few Match Days being scheduled for Wednesdays and Saturdays.
- 1.2.2** **CONCACAF / CFU Qualification** - The overall league Champion Club will be awarded an automatic qualifying spot at the CONCACAF / Caribbean Shield Championships.
- 1.3** The Season 4 of the Elite League will be played for the following cash prizes:
- | | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| 1st Prize | - Two Million Dollars (\$2,000,000.00) |
| 2nd Prize | - One Million Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$1,200,000.00) |
| 3rd Prize | - Eight Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$800,000.00) |
| 4th Prize | - Five Hundred Dollars (\$500,000.00) |
- These prizes are awarded at the end of the of the League for a total cash prize pot of **Four Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$4,500,000.00).**
- 1.4** Match Day Notices will be circulated to Clubs, Officials and the Media at least forty-eight (48) hours before the relevant matches.
- 1.5** Postponement/rescheduling of matches by the GFF will be communicated to Clubs and Officials at least 24 hours before the commencement of the game, with the exception of Force Majeure.
- 1.6** Clubs who are unable to honor a scheduled fixture must inform the GFF formally in writing at least 72 hours prior to that fixture. The GFF will determine an appropriate action on a case-by-case basis.



1.7 Points will be awarded as follows:

- WIN - three (3) points
- DRAW - one (1) point each
- LOSS - zero (0) points
- FORFEIT - deduction of three (3) points

1.8 In case of a tie in the Final League Standings the following tiebreaker will be used.

- Aggregate goal difference within regular time.
- Higher number of goals scored in the League.
- Lower number of goals conceded in the League.
- Head to head results including kicks from the penalty mark.

Three-Way Tie in Standings

- Once one team is eliminated then it defaults to the two- team tie breaker:
 - Aggregate goal difference within regular time.
 - Higher number of goals scored in the League.
 - Lower number of goals conceded in the League.
 - Head to head results including kicks from the penalty mark.

**LEAGUE REGISTRATION****2**

- 2.1** Clubs will be allowed to register twenty-five (25) players. This quota includes three (3) spots which must be reserved for goal keepers and up to a maximum of five (5) Roster Spots for non-nationals (foreign players) who must have their international/local Transfers/Releases or Loan Agreements. However, **only three (3) non-nationals** will be allowed on the pitch at any one time during a match.
- 2.2** A non-national (foreign player) is a player who does not hold citizenship for the Cooperative Republic of Guyana.
- 2.3** A team may also allocate up to three (3) Roster Spots for additional foreign players – each of these 3 additional spots will carry a development levy, i.e. a surcharge of Five Hundred and Twelve Thousand Guyana Dollars (G\$512,000) per season for each additional player.
- 2.4** In the event that any of the Clubs become unable to participate before the commencement of the League, mechanisms will be put in place for the identification of replacement Club(s) by the GFF.
- 2.5** A Registration Fee of **G\$75,000.00** per Club will be paid to the GFF upon registration.
- Additionally, each Club will pay an Insurance Fee for its twenty-five (25) Elite League Registered Players, as determined by the Insurance Provider.
- 2.6** Registration of the Elite League Clubs closes on **Thursday 7th March, 2019 at 17:00 hours.**
- 2.7** Only players that are registered by the stipulated deadline will be allowed to participate in the Elite League.
- 2.8** All transfers will only be effective if and when executed during the GFF/FIFA approved Transfer window periods of January 1 to 31, 2019 and June 1 – July 31, 2019.
- 2.9** During the official playing season, a player shall not register for more than two (2) clubs. No club shall approach a player who is registered with another club within the League without the consent of his club.
- 2.10** A player desiring his release shall apply to his club and according to GFF Rules must be released if he has met all the conditions set forth therein. In the event that he is refused, he may bring the



matter to the attention of the GFF with reasons stated.

2.11 Any player withholding property of the club of which he is seeking to leave shall not be eligible for release or transfer.

2.12 The Player - Player may terminate their registration with a club after meeting the above conditions.

2.13 The Club - Club may terminate the Player Contract at any time for any reason, including but not limited to player's performance and violation of team rules, upon written notice to player. Upon such termination all of the rights and obligations of club and player hereunder shall terminate, provided that club actions are in accordance with the GFF and the player's contract with the Club.

2.14 Any club contacted by a player must inform the player to contact his own club and ask to be released or transferred. Also the club contacted shall notify the manager of the player's club.

2.15 PARTICIPATION

Players may participate in any competition under the jurisdiction of the Elite League provided that they are duly registered in accordance with the regulations contained therein.

2.16 Clubs and their registered players participating in the GFF Elite League will only play in competitions that are recognized, and endorsed by the GFF (e.g. national championship, national cup).

2.17 At regional level, Clubs will participate in competitions recognized by CONCACAF and CFU. For the avoidance of doubt, this provision does not relate to friendly matches.

2.18 Any player coming or returning to the Elite League from outside of Guyana must obtain proper international clearance, with applicable rules of the GFF and FIFA being complied with, before the player can be registered.

2.19 An eligible player is one properly registered with the Elite League and the GFF, and not under suspension.

2.20 The purpose of Player ID Cards / Accreditation is to limit access to participation in sanctioned games of football. The Elite League shall make rules and establish procedures and fees for the issuance of Player ID Cards / Accreditation. No person can be denied issuance of a player



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Registration Card on the basis of race, color, age, creed, or national origin. Player Registration Cards remain the property of the Elite League and must be surrendered upon request under the rules of competition of the Elite League.

2.21 The player Registration Form must indicate the date of birth and the full name of the individual. It must also have a current photo, signature and ID number.

2.22 ILLEGAL PLAYER

An illegal player is a player not properly registered with the Elite League and/or the GFF and does not appear on the Team Roster. A club using an illegal player shall forfeit **3-0** all games in which the illegal player(s) plays and will lose **3 points** per illegal player per game. International clearance is required for foreign players and returning Guyanese players who had previously requested a transfer to another foreign Federation / Association. Clubs are to ensure that all of their players have the requisite clearance.

2.23 A maximum of 18 players may dress for a game (this is the game day roster).

2.24 A roster spot may be filled if any player is released for the remainder of the Season.

2.25 Clubs are only allowed to make changes to their lists of twenty-five (25) players after their participation in four (4) matches. Such changes will be allowed to be made for the following reason(s):

- **Season ending injuries**
- **Contracts abroad**
- **Migration**
- **Death**

NOTE: Clubs must submit the necessary supporting information/documents to the GFF in order to substantiate these changes.

2.25.1 Injured players who are unable to continue the tournament must present the documentary evidence from a recognized medical practitioner/hospital.

2.25.2 Any replacement/changes must be approved by the GFF.

2.26 Players are not permitted to compete in any competitions outside of those sanctioned under auspices of the Elite League.



- 2.27** Clubs must use the Elite League Registration Form as provided by the GFF.
- 2.28** Clubs must have a Youth Arm comprising active players under the age of seventeen (17) years by the end of the first phase of the League.
- 2.29** Clubs must have a Female Arm or an affiliated female club / team comprising active players by the end of the first phase of the League.
- 2.30** Clubs must have at least a 'D' License Coach registered with the Guyana Football Coaches Association at the time of registration.
- 2.31** All Players on the Team Roster are required to be medically insured by the Clubs which they represent at the start of each league season and for the duration thereafter.



RELEGATION AND PROMOTION

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There will be no relegation and promotion at the end of the Elite League Season 4 since this will be a shortened league.

MATCH REGULATIONS

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- 4.1 Matches will be played for ninety (90) minutes, comprising two (2) equal periods of forty five (45) minutes, with a half-time break of not more than fifteen (15) minutes.
- 4.2 A Team List shall be provided to each Team by the Match Commissioner one hour and a half before the commencement of the match and should be completed and returned to the Match Commissioner/Match Official prior to Club inspection. All Goalkeepers and Captains must be identified as such (The Captain must wear his armband on the field). Two players on the game day roster must be Goalkeepers, with the number one (1) and number eighteen (18) shirts reserved for them.
- 4.3 Each Club shall be entitled to five (5) substitutions during the match.
- 4.4 Each Club is allowed seven (7) Substitutes and seven (7) Officials in the Technical Area during the match.
- 4.5 One person at a time is allowed to stand and give instruction(s) to players on the field of play from the Technical Area.
- 4.6 Players and Officials are requested to clean up the Technical Area and Dressing Rooms prior to leaving. A **Fine of ten thousand (\$10,000.00)** will be imposed upon defaulting clubs for failure to do same.



- 4.7** Clubs, Officials and or Players who become aware of any damage to property at the playing venue or items going missing from same, must report such incident to the Host Club immediately.
- 4.8** All players / officials in the Elite League must have GFF Photo ID Cards / Accreditation to enter playing venues once same has been issued by the GFF. These ID Cards / Accreditation will allow the player and one other person entry into Elite League match venues. If no ID Card / Accreditation is presented, entry will only be allowed on approval by GFF Competitions Department personnel.
- 4.9** The League Fixtures and Match Day Notices are the ultimate responsibility of the GFF. Once issued by the GFF these shall not be changed without the consent of the GFF.
- 4.10** No GFF league match can be rescheduled without the prior approval of the GFF. Contravention of this stipulation will result in appropriate sanctions as determined by the GFF.

4.11 CANCELLATION PROCEDURE

No game may be- cancelled prior to the scheduled date unless the GFF agrees. If a match venue is closed (due to "force majeure" or circumstances beyond control) the League must receive notice in writing, "a statement of closure" from the facility owner immediately after closure. The GFF shall determine the policy of rainouts and all other cancellations including games in progress.

- 4.12** Clubs requesting a postponement of any of their matches shall do so at least seventy-two (72) hours before the date fixed for those matches. Such postponements will only be granted, if the reason is acceptable to the GFF.
- 4.13** The GFF League Representatives will determine on a case-by-case basis whether a game is considered a cancellation or a forfeit. Any postponed game must be rescheduled within 72 hours. If all possible attempts to get the game rescheduled fail, then the GFF will determine how the result is recorded.

4.14 AUTHORITY TO DELAY OR POSTPONE A MATCH

Once in progress, a match may be delayed or postponed due to unfavorable weather and/or other adverse conditions beyond the control of the participating teams, which would make the playing of the match impractical or dangerous. Only the Match Commissioner has the authority to delay or postpone a scheduled match. He / she can do so on the advice of the Referee.



4.14.1 If a match needs to be terminated and seventy (70) minutes has been completed, the match will count as a complete and official match.

4.14.2 If a match is terminated prior to completion of seventy (70) minutes, the GFF will determine a reschedule date.

4.15 GRACE PERIOD BEFORE ABANDONING A MATCH

Unless the Referees and Match Commissioner agree to an alternate plan, teams must wait at least one hour before a match is abandoned, that has been delayed. The one-hour grace period may be extended up to a maximum of three hours from the time the match is delayed, if there is a likelihood of resuming the match that day. Because of the cost and difficulty of rescheduling, every attempt should be made to continue the match.

4.16 A No-show is when a team willfully does not appear at a game without a specific agreement approved by the GFF. The penalties for a No-show are as follows:

4.16.1 A **3-0 loss, a 3-point deduction** from their standings and a **League Fine of \$200, 000**.

4.16.2 All fines and fees **must be paid before the next scheduled match of the Club in the Elite League**. If fines and fees are not paid within the prescribed time, the GFF may consider options on continued participation in the League.

4.16.3 A club may be expelled from the league if it accumulates two No-shows within one season.

A team unable to attend a scheduled game because of an accident, weather or "force majeure" should immediately notify the GFF. GFF will review each situation and a decision rendered.

4.17 Clubs must arrive at least one and a half (1½) hours before the commencement of the game and conform to the scheduled kick-off time unless otherwise advised by the GFF and/or the Match Officials.

4.18 Matches must start at the time that is indicated on the fixtures. Clubs and Referees will be **fined if** they are found to be responsible for the matches not starting on time (**Clubs - \$20,000 & Match Officials - half of their match fee**).

4.19 **Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages must be served in plastic cups/containers, NO bottles/glasses are allowed.** Venue Owners are to ensure adherence to this Rule.



- 4.20** Music / PA System(s) should not be playing and / or making announcements while the match is in play.
- 4.21** Players and Officials must be properly attired on and off the field of play.
- 4.22** Professional conduct and attire is required of all personnel on the team bench. **Abusive language will not be tolerated.** Minimum dress code must include polo shirt, dress shorts, and shoes and must be apparel provided by the official kit sponsor or the Club.
- 4.23** **Absolutely no one but players on the Team Roster, Coaches, Managers, and Medical Staff will be permitted in the bench area.**
- 4.24** Referees shall report to the GFF via the Match Commissioner, the results of the game, the goal(s) scorer(s), the time of the goal(s), assists and list any cards which may have been issued. These shall be entered in the relevant areas of the Referee's Report Form. Any violations of rules and regulations by either team or their team officials must also be included.
- 4.25** The GFF reserves the right to review the participation of Clubs in the League at any time based on their adherence / non-adherence to these Rules & Regulations.

**UNIFORMS****5**

- 5.1** Each Club must have two (2) distinct sets of registered uniforms at each match in which the Club is contesting. One set must be of a dark colour and the other of a light colour (preferably white), and two (2) sets of bibs (one dark colour; one light colour) for warm up sessions. **(The Match Officials reserve the right to determine the colour to be used by a Club at any match).**
- 5.2** Each player shall wear a number between 1 and 25 on the front (3" or 4" high) and back (8" high) of his team shirt and on his playing shorts (3" or 4" high). The colour of the numbers must contrast clearly with the main colour of the shirts and shorts (light on dark or vice versa) and be legible from a distance for Spectators and Match Officials. All Goalkeepers and Captains must be identified as such (The Captain must wear his arm-band on the field). Two players must be Goalkeepers on the match day roster, with the number one (1) and number eighteen (18) shirts reserved for them. The GFF ELITE LEAGUE logo must be prominently placed on all team uniforms, as per GFF Requirements.
- 5.3** Each Club should also have adequate bibs for their substitutes on the bench.



SPONSORSHIP AGREEMENT **6**

6.1 All clubs are required to wear the Logos of the Elite League Sponsors on their uniforms. Failure to adhere to this regulation will result in disciplinary action being taken against the offending Club for each instance of violation.

6.2 Clubs, who have attained their own sponsorship, must inform the GFF prior to the start of the Elite League so as to ensure that it does not contravene the Sponsorship Agreements entered into by the Elite League.



RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE GFF

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- 7.1** The GFF will be responsible for the administration and through its Elite League Management Team, the logistics of the League.
- 7.2** The GFF will be responsible for providing the following:
- Transportation cost for the traveling Club. (If applicable).
 - Payment of Match Officials (Referees, Match Commissioners, Referees Assessors).
 - Payment of Players' match fees.
 - Match Balls
 - PA/Music System
 - Two (2) Physiotherapist / Medic
 - Stretcher & Stretcher Bearers.
 - Ambulance/Emergency Vehicle.
 - Rental of ground.
 - Payment for services to Elite Host Club (see Rule 8 below).
- 7.3** The GFF, with assistance from the Elite Clubs will be responsible for the advertising & promotion of the matches.
- 7.4** The GFF, through a Private Contractor, with assistance from the relevant Elite Host Club, shall be responsible for security/safety and crowd control at the venues.
- 7.5** The Private Security Contractor is required to provide a **minimum of six (6)** Security Officials at match venues. The GFF will arrange with the Guyana Police Force for the requisite additional security and traffic control personnel.
- 7.6** The GFF will **not** be responsible for the loss of personal items/belongings of Match Officials, Players or Spectators (e.g. cell phones, monies etc) at the playing venues, buses or anytime during the Clubs/Officials engagement with the official match.
- 7.7** The GFF shall provide personnel(s) to represent the Federation at the gate.
- 7.8** The GFF shall provide a meal for GFF Personnel, Match Officials, Medical staff, and Ball Kids.
- 7.9** The GFF shall provide **Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00)** to all Elite League Clubs towards meals for players and coaching staff participating in matches on Match Day.



- 7.10** The GFF will maintain records of all players and teams participating under the sanction of the Elite League. The GFF shall determine the eligibility of players and teams. The issuance of a player pass **does not** in itself constitute that a player is eligible to play in an Elite League match.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE ELITE LEAGUE HOST CLUB

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- 8.1** The Elite League Clubs are also responsible for promoting the matches which are scheduled as their respective 'Home Games', within, but not limited to, their communities.
- 8.2** The Elite League Host Club is responsible for the preparation of the venue on match day, inclusive of the marking and preparation of the pitch.
- 8.3** The Elite League Host Club must ensure that its medical personnel (with ice packs, "magic" spray, bandages & other medical supplies) are in attendance at all of its matches.
- 8.4** The provision of two (2) persons from the Club to assist with security at the gate.
- 8.5** The provision of eight (8) Ball Kids for each match being played at the venue.
- 8.6** The Elite Host Club shall be responsible for providing water/ice for their own Players/Officials.
- 8.7** The Elite Host Clubs will be responsible for the expenses in relation to the replacement of the following items if lost or damaged:
- Balls
 - Stretchers,
 - Flag Poles/Flags
 - Goal Nets
- 8.8** The Elite Host Clubs must ensure that Dressing Rooms/Changing Areas for Teams/Officials



and Match Officials are clean, tidy, secured and comfortable, with adequate chairs, tables, and storage space prior to the arrival of teams and officials to the venue.

8.9 Payment for meals of their Club if necessary.

8.10 Elite League Clubs are responsible for the behaviour of their Players and Supporters and may incur a fine for not controlling the conduct of their Players and Supporters during matches.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE VISITING CLUBS **9**

9.1 Clubs are responsible for the behavior of their Players and Supporters and may incur a fine for not controlling the conduct of their Players and Supporters during matches.

9.2 **Only Players and Officials will be allowed to travel on the Club(s) Bus. Any other person has to have the approval of the GFF. All Players and Officials must be properly attired when travelling to and from matches of the Elite League.**

9.3 No Spectator or Supporter will be allowed on the Bus except with written approval from the GFF. (The GFF will not be responsible for injury, harm or mischief whatsoever suffered by a Spectator / Supporter who is in violation of the foregoing).

9.4 The Club which allows the Spectator(s) / Supporter(s) to be in violation of Rule 9.3 above will be held criminally / civilly liable for any injury, harm or mischief suffered.

9.5 The Visiting Club shall be responsible for providing water/ice for their own Players/Officials.

9.6 Each Elite Club is to ensure that its medical personnel (with ice packs, "magic" spray, bandages & other medical supplies) are in attendance at all of its matches.

9.7 Elite Clubs are to ensure that Dressing Rooms/Changing Areas are left in a clean, tidy, and secured



state prior to the arrival of teams for subsequent matches.

REFEREES AND MATCH OFFICIALS **10**

- 10.1** Only currently registered GFF or FIFA Referees shall officiate league-scheduled matches.
- 10.2** The Guyana Football Federation Referees' Committee (GFFRC) will be responsible for appointing the Referees for the respective matches.
- 10.3** The Referee is the sole authority during matches in accordance with the “LAWS OF THE GAME”.
- 10.4** The GFF will be responsible for identifying the Match Commissioner for every match and he/she will be the GFF's Representative at that match.
- 10.5** The GFFRC will be responsible for appointing a Referees' Assessor for every match.
- 10.6** If the Referee(s), Referees' Assessor or Match Commissioner has to overnight, meals and accommodation will be provided by the GFF. Prior approval must be obtained from the GFF for the extension of this facility.
- 10.7** The Match Commissioner(s) should ensure that the FIFA Anthem & Flag are available at matches at which they are officiating.
- 10.8** The Match and Club Officials should ensure that the teams observe the protocols with regards to:
- Countdown Time
 - Players' Warm Up before the Match
 - Warm up of Substitutes
 - Substitute Bench Rotation
 - Instructions to Players on the field from the Technical Area
 - Technical Briefings



- Unauthorized Persons in the Technical Area.
- Shaking of Hands among Players and with the Match Officials before and after the Match.
- Playing of the FIFA Anthem.
- Display of the FIFA & Fair Play Flags

10.9 Match Officials must inspect the field of play and the venue at least one and one half hours (1 ½ hours) before the start of the match to determine if all the necessary requirements are met. The referee, referee assessor and match commissioner shall inspect the playing field and if its conditions render the field unsafe for the players, he/she shall call the game off, notifying the two competing teams of his decision.



GATE REVENUE **11**

- 11.1** The GFF Finance Department will be responsible for accounting for all gate receipts at all venues.
- 11.2** The Elite League Host Club must ensure that they have at least two (2) persons from the Club to assist with security at the gate.
- 11.3** A statement on the number of spectators, tickets sales (cash) and gross income and expenditure will be tabulated after the match(es) at a particular venue.
- 11.4** **Clubs hosting matches at their Home Venues will receive twenty-five percent (25%) of the Gate Receipts or Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00), whichever is lesser.**



PASSES AND INVITATIONS **12**

- 12.1** All players / officials in the Elite League must have GFF Photo ID Cards / Accreditation To enter playing venues once same has been issued by the GFF. These ID Cards / Accreditation will allow the player and one other person entry into Elite League match venues.

PENALTIES/FINES **13**

- 13.1** Players, upon receiving a Straight Red Card, will automatically be suspended for the next two (2) matches. If the sending off offence warrants a more serious punishment, the Disciplinary Committee of the GFF shall so determine the penalty which shall be imposed.
- 13.2** If a player receives two (2) Yellow Cards in the same match, he will be automatically suspended from that match, and the next match of his Club.
- 13.3** The Clubs will face disciplinary action if found guilty of bringing the game into disrepute and would be liable for a minimum fine of **Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000.00)** and the refund of any other costs involved.
- 13.4** Any Club which withdraws from the Elite League without reason(s) satisfactory to the GFF will be liable for payment of a minimum fine of **Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000.00)**. The matter will also be sent to the Disciplinary Committee who will investigate and recommend to the GFF if further Disciplinary Action should be taken.
- 13.5** Clubs will be fined a minimum of **Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000.00)** for not presenting themselves for the matches to start on time.
- 13.6** Clubs will be fined a minimum of **Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00)** for late registration, which closes on **Thursday 7th March, 2019**.
- 13.7** Clubs will be fined a minimum of **Ten Thousand Dollars (G\$10,000.00)** for not cleaning their Dressing Room and Technical Area after use.



- 13.8** Any Elite League player that participates in an unsanctioned tournament will have his total match fee forfeited and will be suspended for one (1) match in the first instance, three (3) matches in the second instance, and for six (6) matches in the third instance.
- 13.9** Any Elite League Club that fails to impose the sanctions as outlined by the GFF shall be fined \$25,000.00 in the first instance, \$100,000.00 in the second instance, and have all funding from the GFF suspended for the remainder of the League.
- 13.10** Club(s) are required to pay all outstanding charges/fees/fines before their next scheduled match in the Elite League:
- The Club(s) may be surcharged at the rate of **ten percent (10%) per week** on the amount owed to the GFF for failure to settle outstanding debts.

PROTESTS

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- 14.1** Protests shall be made verbally to the Match Commissioner or the Administrator within two (2) hours of the completion of the match in question and followed up with a written report or an electronic mail to the General Secretary and copied to the Chairman of the Competitions Committee and President of the Executive Committee of the Guyana Football Federation within twenty four (24) hours after the match has been completed. Failure to comply with the above will result in the protest action being disregarded.
- 14.2** If an unfounded or irresponsible protest is lodged, the GFF Disciplinary Committee may impose a fine on the Club, Player and or Official by whom the protest was lodged.
- 14.3** If any of the formal conditions of a protest as set out in these regulations are not met, such protest shall be disregarded by the GFF.
- 14.4** An appeal to any of the decisions herein made must be formally received by the Secretariat of the GFF no later than seven (7) working days after such decision has been formally handed down to the complainant.



DISCIPLINARY **15**

15.1 All disciplinary matters will be dealt with by the GFF Disciplinary Committee. Law E1 Disciplinary Authority

15.2 The GFF shall have the authority to suspend, fine or disqualify any official(s), player(s) or competing team(s), that breach any Laws of the League or for any action or conduct not in the best interest of football or the Elite League.

15.3 CAUTIONS

Cautions shall include, but not limited to:

Retaliation, unsporting conduct, dissent to a referee, encroachment, entering or leaving the field of play without permission, persistent infringement of the Laws of the Game, etc.

15.4 EJECTIONS

Players issued a red card or two violent offences yellow cards will incur a mandatory minimum of a one game suspension, which must be served in the next scheduled league game, unless it is the last game of the season. Ejections shall include, but not limited to: violent conduct, foul and abusive language, and/or persistent misconduct after a caution.

15.5 SERVING EJECTIONS

Any ejection will incur a minimum of a one game suspension, which must be served in the next scheduled league game.



The official Game Report shall be reviewed by the GFF to determine the duration of all suspensions due to ejection. Any violent act directed against the referee(s) will be an automatic suspension from all league play for the remainder of the season. Teams may appeal to the Director of Competitions before the next scheduled league game. If the team loses the appeal, they will be required to pay a **twenty thousand dollars \$20 000** fine to the GFF.

REPORTS **16**

- 16.1** All Commissioners, Referees Assessors & Referees Reports must be completed **immediately following the match** and handed over to the Match Commissioner for submission to the GFF.
- 16.2** If for reasons beyond the control of the person involved, the reports cannot be completed at the match venue, the reports must be completed and given to the Match Commissioner **within twenty four (24) hours** of the completion of the said match. The reason for the non-completion of the report must be communicated to the Match Commissioner immediately such reason(s) becomes known.
- 16.3** The Match Commissioner must ensure that the reports reach the GFF Secretariat **within forty eight (48) hours** after the match is completed.
- 16.4** A Press Release on the results of the matches and the points standing will be sent to the Media and Elite Clubs by the GFF within forty-eight (48) hours after the match.
- 16.5** Clubs must make available selected Players and Coaches for post-game press briefings.
- 16.6** Clubs must make available selected Players and Coaches for television and radio appearances.



CLUB LICENCE AND INCENTIVES **17**

17.1 All Elite League Clubs are required to be in possession of a current Concacaf / GFF Club Licence. Clubs that fail to satisfy their Concacaf / GFF Club Licensing requirement and comply with Elite League Rules & Regulations may be subject to expulsion from the GFF Elite League Season 4.

17.2 Elite League Clubs are to have insurance coverage for its league players.

17.3 Elite League Clubs are encouraged to have at least one (1) fund-raising activity per quarter.

17.4 Elite League Clubs will receive monetary incentives for having the following:

- A 'C Licence' Head Coach.
- A vibrant youth programme.
- A vibrant female programme.
- A qualified Fitness Coach.
- A qualified Goalkeeping Coach.
- A functioning CSR agenda.



OTHERS **18**

18.1 All matches shall be played in accordance with the 'Laws of the Game' as stipulated by FIFA and the GFF.

18.2 **Random Drug Testing will be enforced. Testing could be organized by the GFF with little or no prior notification.**

18.3 Trophies, cash prizes, and club / individual awards will be presented at the end of the Tournaments and League respectively.

18.3.1 Any other matter which may arise and which is not covered under these Rules and Regulations shall be determined in accordance with the GFF and FIFA rules governing the conduct of National and International Competitions.

18.3.2 In the event a club, by disbanding or for any other reason, withdraws from the league without finishing its scheduled games the following regulations will take effect:

18.3.2.1 All scores from Rounds completed with the withdrawing team stand.

18.3.2.2 Scores from Rounds not completed by the withdrawing team will be discarded.

18.4 RISK

Each player or club official shall assume all risks, responsibilities, and liabilities for loss, damage, injury or death to herself/himself while using property and facilities of the GFF ELITE LEAGUE, whether such loss, damage, injury or death be occasioned by the club or by the league, its officers, agents or otherwise. **It is the responsibility of the clubs to ensure that all their registered players are fitted with adequate insurance coverage for injuries and medical expenses.**

18.5 INDEMNIFICATION

Each club shall provide the League with a suitable indemnification agreement to hold the League,



member clubs, league officers, employees and agents harmless against all claims, action, liability or demands of whatever nature which may be commenced by any person or connection with the member's agreement to become a member of the League and League's acceptance of such.

18.6 NON-PAYMENT OF PROFESSIONAL PLAYERS BY PROFESSIONAL TEAMS.

A Professional Team, including all their associated business entities, will be fined and expelled from the GFF ELITE LEAGUE if there is failure to pay in accordance with terms outlined in the contract between the player and the club.

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Ian Alves

Director of Competitions

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Rennella Bourne

General Secretary (ag.)

...13th March, 2019...

Dear Members of the Elite League,

The Elite League Season 4 is scheduled to commence on Friday, 15th March 2019 and you have been provided with the applicable Rules and Regulations. The GFF also wishes to reiterate and make it make to those Clubs who will be playing in the competition that the said Rules & Regulations do not constitute a contract between the GFF and the respective Clubs. The Executive Committee of the GFF in the interest of football reserves the right to at any time amend the Rules & Regulations, expand the competition either by adding more elite league clubs or in any other such manner as the Executive of the GFF may consider fit and proper.

We are all working for the promotion of football in Guyana and to ensure that this beautiful game is played and enjoyed throughout Guyana.

Your signing this document is evidence of your acknowledgement, agreement and commitment of the contents contained herein.

Wayne Forde
President,
Guyana Football Federation



1. Fruta Conquerors Football Club
2. Guyana Defence Force Football Club
3. Western Tigers Football Club
4. Den Amstel Football Club
5. Victoria Kings Football Club
6. Buxton United Sports Club
7. Milerock Football Club
8. Ann's Grove United Football Club
9. Guyana Police Force Football Club
10. Santos Football Club