



主辦機構
Organized by

香港足球總會
HONG KONG FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION



主要合作伙伴
Major Partner

香港賽馬會慈善信託基金
The Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust



資助機構
Subvented by

康樂及文化事務署
Leisure and Cultural
Services Department

Hong Kong Football Association 2021-2022 Jockey Club Women's Football League Competition Regulations (Updated on 13th August, 2021)

Name and Nature of the League

1. The competition shall be officially called the "Jockey Club Women's Football League". Hong Kong Football Association (hereinafter referred to as the "HKFA") reserves the right to add the name of the Title Sponsor or its product name. The competition is governed by HKFA, except as otherwise provided in this Regulation, shall be implemented in consistence with the Articles issued by HKFA.

Management of the League

2. The League is organized by HKFA, The Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust as the major partner and subvented by Leisure and Cultural Services Department.
3. HKFA reserves the right to alter or modify the Rules and Regulations of the League if necessary.
4. The League shall comply with the Laws of the Game as laid down by the International Federation of Association Football (IFAB).

Commercial Rights

5. HKFA is the original owner of all the rights emanating from the League. These rights include, among others, all kinds of financial rights, audiovisual and radio recording, reproduction and broadcasting rights, multimedia rights, marketing and promotional rights, A-Boards allocation and incorporeal rights as well as rights arising under copyright law whether currently existing or created in the future subject to any provision as set forth in specific regulations.

Application

6. HKFA members, other football associations and legally registered clubs, companies, institutions and organizations may file an application. The applications of HKFA member will be prioritized. The League reserves the right to reject any application by any member or non-member without any reason.

Applying club/team must complete the application form designated by the League within the application period and deliver the completed application form together with the **application fee HK\$1,500** and **deposit HK\$1,000** to HKFA. The League will not consider any application to which either the registration fee or the deposit is not attached.

The League is open for application. If more than 14 teams applied for the League, the priority will be given in the following order:

- 1) Teams ranked in Women's Football League 2020-2021;
- 2) Premier League members;
- 3) First Division members;
- 4) Second Division members;
- 5) Third Division members;
- 6) Other member clubs (in order of affiliated member > non-voting member); and
- 7) Other organizations (The team shall be organized by a school, registered entity or registered company and shall submit a copy of corporate registration certificate for application.)

In case of one or more teams falling into categories from 2) to 7) listed above, the priority will be given to the clubs who have participated in 2020-21 Women's Youth Football League (Participated in both U18 and U15 > Participated either U18 or U15). If still the same, then HKFA will decide the priority order based on the order of application.

*** If more or less than 14 teams enrolled, HKFA has the right to change or modify the competition system. Details please refer to the Attachment 2 "Modification of Competition System".**

Match Organizations

7. The League is governed in accordance with this Regulation.
8. The League is held between **October 2021 and July 2022. (The League may delay the start or end day depends on the weather condition or any other special reasons)**
9. Every match in the league is 90-minutes and is divided into the first half for 45-minutes and the second half for 45-minutes. Half time break, from whistle to whistle, will be no more than fifteen (15) minutes.
10. Cooling break will be adopted if the Hong Kong Observatory hoisted the Very Hot Weather Warning thirty (30) minutes before the kick off. Details please refer to the Attachment 1 "Competition Guideline under Very Hot Weather".
11. A match shall not commence or continue if the number of players of either team is less than seven (7) upon the scheduled kickoff time or during the match.
12. The League shall allow each team to nominate eleven (11) starting players and up to twelve (12) substitutes in a match. The number of substitutes, up to maximum of five (5), may be used in any match. The team must submit the completed player substitution form to the assistant referee. The player being substituted could not participate in the rest of the match.
13. The League is conducted in two stages. The promotion and relegation system will be adopted in the league. The promotion/relegation of teams will be determined by the result of the play-off.

[First Stage – League & Play-off]

The league will be divided to First Division and Second Division. First division will consist of a maximum of eight (8) teams and Second Division will consist of a maximum of six (6) teams.

First Division shall play under **double round robin system** and Second Division shall play under **triple round robin system**.

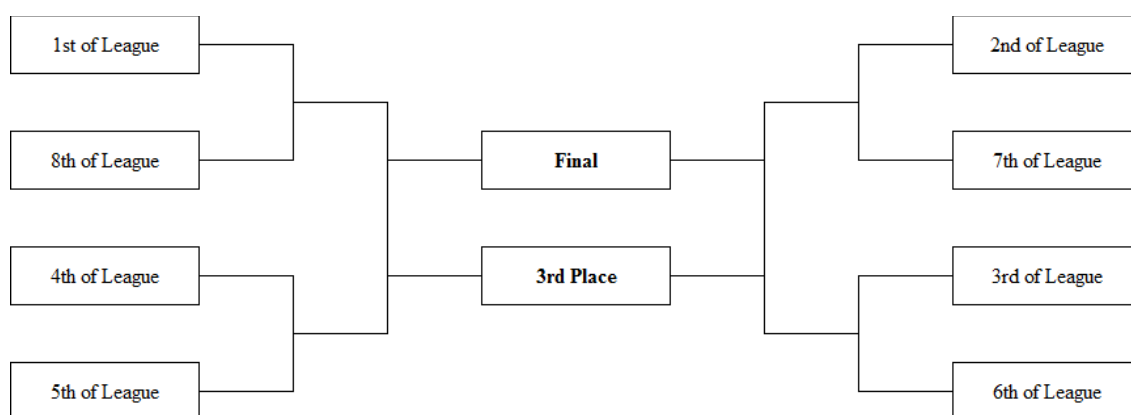
After completion of the league stage, the promotion/relegation of teams will be determined by the result of the play-off. The team ranked last of first division will play knockout match against the champion of second division for the place of first division in next season. The play-off will be played in single-elimination. If a competition ends in a tie, a penalty shoot-out and a penalty kick as defined in the Laws of the Game will be applied to determine the winner of the competition.

The priority for First Division will be given to the team based on the final league ranking and the result of Play-off in last season. And the remaining teams shall take part in the Second Division.

[Second Stage – Cup]

League Cup

All first division teams shall participate in League Cup. The League Cup will be played in single knock-out format.

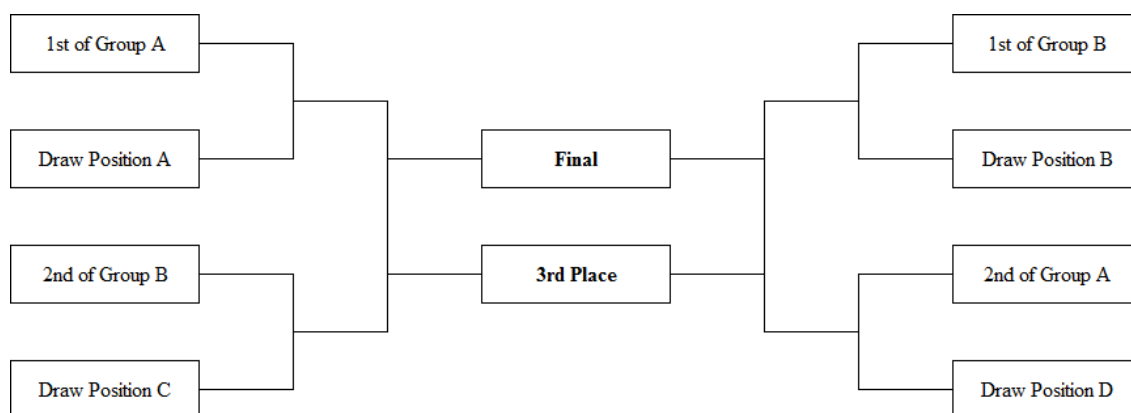


FA Cup

All teams shall participate in FA Cup. FA Cup consists of Group stage and Knockout stage.

All the teams will be divided into two groups (Group A & B) by lot drawing. Each of the group comprise of four (4) teams in First Division and three (3) teams in Second Division.

After completion of Group stage, the top four (4) teams of each group shall qualify to the knockout stage of FA Cup. Seed teams and lot drawing will determine the matches of first round.



When any of the matches in the knockout stage of Cup competitions ends in a tie, a penalty shoot-out and a penalty kick as defined in the Laws of the Game will be applied to determine the winner of the competition.

Note: If any team withdraws in the Group or League stage during the course of the season, the record of the matches which its playing team has participated shall be expunged from the league table.

If any team withdraws during FA Cup/ Shield knockout stage, the completed match record will not be affected and the remaining match schedule will continue according to the fixture.

Modification of Competition System

14. The League has the right to change or alter the competition system based on the number of participating teams. The League reserves the right to modify the competition system if necessary.

Ranking System

15. The Competition including League and the Group stage of FA Cup shall be played in league format. The winner of a match shall be awarded three (3) points. Each team participating in a match which ends in a draw shall be awarded one (1) point.
16. Participating teams' final positions in the league table shall be determined by the number of points obtained by their respective playing team in the Competition, the team having obtained the highest number of points being at the top of the table and the team having obtained the lowest number of points being at the bottom.
17. If any two (2) or more playing teams have obtained the same number of points, the positions of the teams concern shall be determined as follows by order of priority:
 - 1) Number of points obtained in the matches of the Competition between/among the teams concerned, higher or highest placed team shall be the team with the higher or highest number of points;
 - 2) goal difference, that is to say, the difference between the total number of goal scored by and against a team in the matches of the Competition between/among the teams concerned, and higher or highest placed team shall be the team with the higher or highest goal difference;
 - 3) Number of goals scored by a team in the matches of the Competition between/among the teams concerned, and higher or highest placed team shall be the team with more or most goals scored;
 - 4) If, after having applied Art. 17.(1) to 17.(3), playing teams still have an equal ranking, Art. 17.(1) to 17.(3) are reapplied exclusively to the matches between the playing teams in question to determine their final rankings. If this procedure does not lead to a decision, Art. 17.(5) to 17.(8) apply;
 - 5) goal difference, that is to say, the difference between the total number of goal scored by and against a team in all its matches of the Competition, and higher or highest placed team shall be the team with the higher or highest goal difference;
 - 6) Number of goals scored by a team in all its matches of the Competition, and higher or highest placed team shall be the team with more or most goals scored;

- 7) Least number of yellow and red cards. Each team will receive points for receiving red and yellow cards as indicated below:
 - i. Each yellow card (1 point)
 - ii. Each red card as a consequence of two yellow cards (3 points)
 - iii. Each direct red card (3 points)
 - iv. Each yellow card followed by a direct red card (4 points)The team receiving the least number of points will be ranked the highest.
- 8) Drawing of lots.

Competition Venue and Date

18. HKFA is responsible for competition venue arrangement. Competitions will be played on grass field or artificial turf field designated as the competition venue.
19. Competition fixtures will be sent to each team prior to the commencement of the competition. All matches must be played as scheduled. If any team fails to comply with the rule, HKFA will impose disciplinary action on the violating team, including a fine, deduction of the score obtained in the competition, and deduction of the points acquired in the Division. If any team not only fails to take part in a scheduled match, but also found with any of the following situations, including (but not limited to) withdrawals from the league, or does not report for a match or refuses to continue a match, then HKFA will impose disciplinary action based on each occurrence, including but not limited to:
 - 1) The team withdraws from the League during the period between its confirmation of participation and commencement of its first scheduled competition.
 - The registration fee and the deposit paid shall be confiscated.
 - 2) The team withdraws from the League after the first competition in the age group to which its team belongs.
 - The registration fee and the deposit paid shall be confiscated, and a fine of HK\$1,000 shall be paid.
 - 3) The team withdraws from the League after the first competition in the age group to which its team belongs and after its team plays the first scheduled competition.
 - The registration fee and the deposit paid shall be confiscated, and a fine of HK\$3,000 shall be paid.
 - 4) The team defaults in a scheduled competition within 24 hours before the competition.
 - Its team shall loss 0:3 and shall pay a fine of HK\$1,000* and the expenses relevant to the competition.
 - 5) The team defaults in a scheduled competition on or before the date of the competition.
 - Its team shall loss 0:3 and shall pay a fine of HK\$1,000* and the expenses relevant to the competition.
 - 6) The team defaults in the middle of a competition or resulting the competition unfinished.
 - Punishment shall be imposed subject to seriousness of the violation.

* If a team continues to violate the General Rules, the Disciplinary Committee shall impose heavier punishment on the violating team.

20. Any request for re-schedule of a match due to special reasons must be made to the HKFA Secretariat in written notification and delivered to the Secretariat of HKFA at least fourteen (14) days before the scheduled date of the competition or within five (5) days after the competition fixtures are issued (whichever is earlier). HKFA will re-schedule the competition as requested when the reasons indicated are due and proper. Each team is only entitled to make such request once in the season. HKFA has the ultimate authority to change the date of the competition. **To ensure a fair competition, any request to change the date of any competition scheduled in the last four (4) weeks of the League, any match is D1 Cup, last two (2) weeks of the Group stage in FA Cup and any matches of the Knockout stage in FA Cup shall not be approved except for severe weather and special reasons.**
21. Failure to start or finish a competition due to a force majeure incident (such as unusual weather, floods, lightning, storm, fire, explosion, earthquake, sag, structure destruction, epidemics, Act of God, power breakdown or shortage, war, military action, riot, civil commotion, strike, business suspension or other industrial actions, terrorist attack, civil unrest, implementation of any law or regulation, state of anarchy, or lack of local or international power with authorization) (which delays or prevents anyone from performing the contents of the agreement) shall be handled in accordance with Rule 22. The date of the competition to be replayed will be decided by HKFA and shall not be affect other scheduled competitions.
22. If a competition cannot continue to the end of the completion time due to any possible reason, HKFA has the right to decide whether the competition is completed or needs to be replayed. All competitions to be replayed shall be done in accordance with the General Rules of the League and the latest Laws of the Game issued by International Federation of Association Football. The date to be replayed will be decided by HKFA and shall not affect other scheduled competitions.
23. Notices issued by HKFA are delivered to registered mail address, fax number and email address. The notice is fully given after HKFA has delivered or sent the notice in any of the aforementioned communication ways.
24. Any application for withdrawal from the game due to individual reasons shall be filed in written notification with HKFA. The due and proper reasons for such withdrawal shall be specified. The team shall still play the scheduled competitions before HKFA approval in written notification or the team shall be deemed for the absence from the competitions. Such absence will be considered by the Disciplinary Committee for proper punishment.

Arrangement for Typhoon or Inclement Weather

25. If Hong Kong Observatory issues Typhoon Signal No. 8 or above or Red or Black Rainstorm Warning two (2) hours prior the competition, the competition shall be cancelled and rescheduled.
- If Hong Kong Observatory issues Typhoon Signal No. 3 or Thunderstorm Warning or the weather is unstable that the competition venue is closed two (2) hours before the competition, the team shall still report on site and wait for the decision of referees if the team does not receive any notice of from HKFA.

Football Used in Matches and Basic Equipment

26. HKFA shall arrange and decide the match venue and inform the playing teams. HKFA will provide match ball if there is commercial sponsorship obtained, if not, the match ball used in a competition shall be provided by team named first in the fixture.

27. 1) Every club that participates in the competitions organized by HKFA is required to register **at least 2 sets of kit for the Outfield Players and at least 3 sets of kit for the Goalkeeper (kits including shirt, shorts and socks) 7 working days before the first match of the respective competition. The colours of the shirts and socks of home kit and reserve kit of outfield player and goalkeeper must have a clear colour contrast.**
- 2) To avoid a clash in colours, **each team must prepare at least 2 sets of registered kits for the Outfield players and 3 sets of registered kits for the Goalkeeper (kits including shirt, shorts and socks) in every match.** When playing in the matches, the players of the playing teams shall wear shirts and socks which in the opinion of the referee is of a sufficient contrast that the refereeing officials shall be able to distinguish clearly between the two playing teams. **Teams may need to wear the kit of the combination colour of their home and away kits.** The following order of precedence shall apply for the selection of the choice of shirts and socks by the referee:
- i. 1st priority: the outfield players of the [home] team (except the goalkeeper);
 - ii. 2nd priority: the outfield players of the [away] team (except the goalkeeper);
 - iii. 3rd priority: the goalkeeper of the [home] team;
 - iv. 4th priority: the goalkeeper of the [away] team.
- Referee takes the final decision regarding to the kits colours of the teams.
- 3) A number must appear clearly on the shirt and shorts, and a player must wear a shirt and shorts with the same number printed on his shirt and shorts whenever he participates in a match. The location of the number on the shirt and shorts of the same team must be identical.
- 4) The number appearing on the shirt and shorts must be between from 1 to 99, and number 1 must be worn by a goalkeeper.
- 5) Apart from the goalkeeper, the shirts, shorts and **socks** worn by the outfield players of the same team must be identical **during the match.** The colours of the shirts and **socks** (including the goalkeepers) of home kit and reserve kit must have a clear colour contrast of dark and light.
- 6) All advertisement regarding the equipment or **kits** of the football teams / players shall be done in accordance with the **2021-22 Equipment Regulation.**
- 7) **All protection equipment being used in matches by players, such as masks and goggles, a written request must be submitted forty-eight (48) hours before the kick-off of the match. All protection equipment shall only be used during the match after an approval of HKFA.**

Player Registration and Qualification

28. The registration procedure shall be completed in accordance with the “Rules of the Association” and “HKFA Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players”. Except as otherwise provided herein, all regulations and rules provided by HKFA for player, identity and club transfer shall be applicable to the competitions. Staff and players of the team shall complete the enrollment procedure through the online registration system “HK Football Connect”. The team has to log in the system to complete the registration.
29. Any request for the registration of the players must be submitted in writing **on or before 31st May 2022.** Any late request will not be entertained.

30. All players shall be born on or before **31st December, 2006**.
31. **After players have completed the registration procedure, the team has to submit the Participating Players List (including at least 15 players) to the Player's Registration Department seven (7) working days before the start of the first match of its division.** The team has to choose the qualified players from the Participating Players list and specify the player information on the list for Player's Registration Department's verification. Team which is unable to submit the Participating Players List (including at least 15 players) before deadline shall be deemed to have violated regulations and be punished by the Disciplinary Committee. **All teams can amend the Participating Players List at any time throughout the season according to the related regulations.**
32. The team will be issued a registration certificate of game supervisors and players after the Player's Registration Department of the Association has verified the Participating Players List. Name, photo and registration number of each game supervisor and players are presented in order to secure their qualification for participation in the match.
- If the team fails to show the referee the valid registration certificate of game supervisors and players immediately prior to a match, the match shall not be started, and the team shall be deemed to have violated regulations and be punished by the Disciplinary Committee.
- The maximum number of the registered players by each team shall not be more than thirty (30) during the season.**
33. Each player allows registering as player and game supervisor for one team but she shall only represent either one role in every single match.
34. Each participating club is responsible for and bears the onus of fielding only eligible participating players in a match. If it is proved that a team sends an un-registered or ineligible player to play, it shall be deemed to have violated regulations and the case will refer to Disciplinary Committee according to disciplinary procedure.
35. If a match is abandoned by the Referee for any other reason after kick-off and the match shall be re-scheduled, only the players that are submitted in the "Participating Players List" as of the date of the match are allowed to play the re-scheduled match.

Limitations of Players Transfer

36. According to Article 17(8) of the Rules of the Association, a player may be registered with 3 teams in every season, but shall represent only two of the teams to participate in a formal competition. (The rule is made in compliance with the provisions for a player's status and transfer of football teams in Article 5(3) of FIFA.) Each player may transfer to another football team no more than twice every football season.

Ineligible Players

37. A player that is found with any of the following situations shall be deemed as unqualified player:
1. The team fails to register the player in accordance with the Regulations of HKFA and Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players by FIFA.
 2. The player failed to be included the "Participating Players List" of the team.
 3. The name of the player is not in the team list (Form B) provided by HKFA.

4. Personal information given during referee inspection is inconsistent with that specified in the “List of Registered Players”.
5. A player disguises the player whose identity check has been completed to play a competition.
6. The player should have not played the competition due to any kind of suspension.

If a team allows any unqualified player to participate in a competition, the HKFA Board or relevant committee shall impose proper disciplinary action in accordance with the rules of discipline, including but not limited to:

- Fine;
- Adjudicating the Club to have lost the Match by 0-3, or if the goal difference at the end of the Match in question is greater than 0-3, the result on the pitch is upheld or a replay of the Match; and
- Decision issued by the HKFA Board or select committee.

Registration of Game Supervisors

38. Each team must enroll at least one up to 7 team officials at the age of 21 or above to be the Game Supervisor(s). **(At least one game supervisor shall be a coach with C License or above assessed by Asian Football Confederation and registered with Hong Kong Football Association.)** A supervisor has to present for the entire match. If before or during the match, either team has no supervisor presence, the referees will not start the match or they will terminate the competition immediately. The team that has no supervisor appearance shall bear the consequence and responsibility.

It is the responsibility of the Game Supervisor to ensure that all the match documents required are correct, including but not limited to the Team List [Form B], the Registration Card of Game Supervisors and Players, etc. Game Supervisor shall sign and confirm to receive the red and yellow card records after the match.

39. Each team official shall only register as game supervisor for one club in each competition.
40. Any request for the registration of the Game Supervisors must be submitted in writing **on or before 31st May 2022**. Any late request will not be entertained. However, teams can amend the Game Supervisors from the list of registered team officials at any time throughout the season.

Team List [Form B]

41. Before the competition begins, the Game Supervisor and the captain of each team must fill out Form B (teams could make copy of Form B, but cannot amend any content of Form B), which is issued by HKFA and shall be confirmed and signed by the game supervisor and the captain. Players in the competition and the registration number and jersey number of each player shall be specified in the Form. The Form together with the list of game supervisors and players shall be given to the referee for inspection during the provided period prior to the match. The referee and duty officer must:
 - 1) Check the identity of each player to play the competition; and
 - 2) Submit the team list (Form B), substitution form and the referee’s report to HKFA within forty-eight (48) hours after the match

If the referee or the duty officer suspects any player’s identity, he has the right to ask the player to show the ID certificate and sign on the team sheet.

The team list shall specify the registration number of each player and the number printed on the player's jersey, and the contents of the team sheet shall be confirmed by the game supervisor and the captain of the team by signing on the list prior to the match.

The names of assistant referees and any 4th official for the match shall be indicated in the referee's report.

Number of Players

42. If the number of players of a team is less than 11 upon commencement, the match shall continue as according to the number of players as stipulated in the Laws of the Game. As the aforementioned situation affects the operation of the match and the image of the League and makes the match unable to continue in the spirit of fair play, the team shall be punished for its violation of this rule by the HKFA Board or a committee under the HKFA Board. The sanction may include but is not limited to the following:

Fines:	-1 st time	HK\$1,500
	-2 nd time	HK\$3,000
	-3 rd time	HK\$5,000
	-4 th time	Suspension to be considered by the HKFA Board

Referees and Assistant Referees

43. HKFA will appoint referees and assistant referees from the list of registered referees. If all or any referees fail to appear to perform required duties, the Secretariat may appoint, prior to the commencement of the match, other persons as it thinks fit to perform the duties required for referees or assistant referees.
44. The HKFA Board has the right to decide the remuneration to referees and assistant referees if necessary.
45. Unless the consent of the HKFA is acquired prior to a match, the match shall be played as scheduled. The referee on the site must report to HKFA any incident resulting in delay of the match and any lateness or absence of any assistant referee or oneself. The assistant referee who is late or absent must explain the reason.
46. The referee must send the referee's report, incidents regarding red cards resulting in players from the field, and the report on misconduct of relevant people, including but not limited to players, staff or team supporters to HKFA within forty-eight (48) hours after the match.

Disciplinary Matters

47. HKFA shall be wholly authorized for discipline matters. Serious incidents and misconducts of staff or players shall be considered by the Discipline Committee for proper punishment. Red cards and yellow cards are computed for this competition and will not influence competitions in other groups.

When a team official/player is cautioned by the referee showing a yellow card or is sent off from the field by the referee showing a red card, the team official/player will be subjected to the following rules:

- 1) If a team official / player is sent off from the field by the referee showing a red card or giving two (2) cautions (i.e. two yellow cards) in a match, **the team official /player shall be automatically suspended from the next match to be played by her team.**

- 2) If a player is cautioned (with a yellow card) in a match and then be sent off from the field by the referee showing a red card for another misconduct in the same match, the player shall be automatically suspended from the next match to be played by her team, and the caution will remain accumulated.
- 3) If a player accumulates five (5) yellow cards (including any yellow cards carried forward from another season), the player shall be automatically suspended from the match to be played by her team following the match where she is obtained the fifth yellow card. In case of accumulated ten (10) yellow cards, the player shall be suspended for two (2) matches, and so on.
- 4) If a team official accumulates three (3) yellow cards, the team official shall be automatically suspended from the match to be played by his/her team following the match where he/she is obtained the third yellow card. In case of accumulated six (6) yellow cards, the team official shall be suspended for two (2) matches, and so on.
- 5) All red cards shall be dealt with in the scheduled period listed in the discipline rules. As for misconduct, the Secretariat shall inform in writing of the date that the misconduct is dealt with.
- 6) All automatic suspensions imposed upon a player shall be the administrative responsibility of the player's team. The team shall be responsible for ensuring that players are qualified for the match.
- 7) The team official and players upon whom a suspension is imposed shall perform such suspension in accordance with the decision made by the Disciplinary Committee.

If the team fails to implement the suspension of the player in accordance with regulations, the team will be judged to lose the related match which the player should not have taken part in, and the player shall still be suspended from the next match to be played by her team. Team shall be fined HK\$1,000 for the first time, the punishment will be increased gradually if the team violating the rule more than once.

If the player accumulates no more than two (2) yellow cards after the completion of the matches this year, the accumulated yellow cards will be automatically cancelled. However, if the number of accumulated yellow cards is three (3) or above, then after subtraction of two (2) yellow cards from the accumulated yellow cards, the rest of yellow cards shall be carried forward to the football season 2022-23.

If the football club intends to pay a fine instead of obtaining a yellow card carried forward from another season, the fine to pay shall be \$80 per yellow card. An application for the fine payment replacing the yellow cards carried forward from another season **shall be filed forty-eight (48) hours prior to the first formal match when the player plays.**

Cautions for team official will not be carried forward to next season. Cautions accumulated upon the completion of the current football season shall be automatically cancelled.

Matches Fail to Commence or Being Aborted

48. If a match fails to commence or is aborted by either teams or either team due to a non-force majeure incident, this case will be deemed as a violation and be dealt with by the Disciplinary Committee.

49. If a player/ team official is suspended from the match that is aborted or cancelled due to an incident excluding match reschedule application and no replay is arranged, the suspension decision against the player shall be deemed to have been performed.

Otherwise, in case there is a replay, the player/ team official shall be suspended from the replay in accordance with regulations. If the player/ team official have been removed from the team list, the suspension decision against the player/ team official shall be deemed to have been performed.

50. Any yellow card or red card acquired and misconduct committed in an aborted competition shall be dealt with by the Disciplinary Committee in accordance with regulations.

Suspensions Carried Forward From the Previous Season

51. If any suspension of a team official / player is not performed in the Women's Football League at the end of this season, the suspension shall carry into the competition with the highest level that the player is entitled to participate in the next season. Levels of competitions are provided below in the order from the highest to the lowest level:

Women's Football League → Women's Youth Football League

Penalties

52. If a team / player fails to meet the requirements provided by this regulation or violates any rule, the Discipline Committee shall issue a decision for every violation. Decisions issued include but are not limited to the following:
- 1) Adjudicating the violating team to have lost the match by 0-3, or if the goal difference at the end of the match in question is greater than 0-3, the result on the pitch is upheld;
 - 2) Points accumulated by the team in the Division to be deducted;
 - 3) A fine of no more than HK\$20,000 to be paid by the violating team;
 - 4) Competition-related expenses to be paid by the violating team;
 - 5) The violating player or staff on the team to be suspended from a competition or prevented from participating in any activity hosted or co-hosted by HKFA (Suspension may be extended to any competition governed by HKFA); and
 - 6) Replay;
 - 7) Cancellation of the violating team or player's qualification for the game.

Protest, Claim or Complaint

53. No protests can be made against the referee's decisions. Such decisions are final and not subject to appeal, unless otherwise stipulated in the HKFA Disciplinary Code. Any and all protest, claims or complaints in connection with a match shall be made in written notification and delivered together with a deposit of HK\$2,000 to the Secretariat within forty-eight (48) hours after the match. The protest, claim or complaint will be dealt with within seven (7) days after the receipt by HKFA. No protest, claim or complaint shall be withdrawn without the consent of HKFA. If the protest, claim or complaint is not successful, all or part of the deposit paid will be forfeited.

Appeal

54. No appeal shall be made.

Trophies and Medals

55. Trophies and medals shall be awarded in the following situations:
- 1) League
First Division/Second Division: Champion, first runner-up and second runner-up will be awarded a trophy and **thirty-seven (37)** medals
 - 2) D1 Cup
Champion, first runner-up and second runner-up will be awarded a trophy and thirty-seven (37) medals
 - 3) FA Cup
Champion, first runner-up and second runner-up will be awarded a trophy and **thirty-seven (37)** medals
 - 3) League Top Scorer
First Division/Second Division: Trophy will be awarded to the player with the most goals in the League. (If the team was sanctioned to lose the point of the match due to violation of the rules, the player's goal in the game will not be counted.)
 - 4) The Most Valuable Player of FA Cup **Final**
A trophy will be awarded to the most valuable player in the FA Cup **Final**

Violation of the General Rules

56. 1) If any team or its staff or player violates this Regulation of the League or commits any misconduct, HKFA shall have the Disciplinary Committee to deal with the violation or misconduct. HKFA has the right to expel the violating football team, staff or player from the League, suspend its membership, suspend it from the game, or impose on it a fine or other proper penalties. If any team is temporarily suspended from the match, HKFA has the right to award to its rival in the match all the points assigned for the match during such suspension of the team.
- 2) If a player is warned by the referee showing a yellow card or is sent off from the field by the referee showing a red card, or the referee or assistant referee reports or complains in writing about the player for misconduct, the player will be examined by the Disciplinary Committee or other relevant committee assigned by HKFA Board for proper punishment.
- 3) Any complaint made in writing by a Director of HKFA, staff of a team or a referee will be reviewed by the HKFA. If the complaint is in the scope of the duties of the Disciplinary Committee, it shall be dealt with by the Disciplinary Committee. The HKFA Board or the selected committee of the HKFA Board only deals with the complaints beyond the scope of the duties of the Disciplinary Committee and the incidents regarding violation of the Regulations.
57. When a protest, claim or complaint is dealt with by the Disciplinary Committee or any committee of the HKFA Board, the members of the committee shall not attend the meeting on behalf of any team, except for submitting evidence and relevant information to the committee.

Code of Ethics

58. All participating clubs, its Officials and Players, Match Officials are responsible to comply with the FIFA, AFC or HKFA Code of Ethics and all relevant circulars and directives in force at the time of the Competition, and agree in particular to respect the fighting against discrimination, racism and match-fixing activities.

All participating clubs, its Officials and Players, Match Officials are responsible to ensure the fair play of all games. Any violated behavior will be examined by the Disciplinary Committee, or further examine by AFC or other related authorities.

Language

59. The Chinese version (of the regulation) should have priority over the English version should there be any inconsistency or contradiction in between.

Modification and Interpretation of Regulations

60. The HKFA Board has the right to modify, add, delete and interpret any rule provided in this regulation, and any participating football club / team shall not raise any objection to such modification, addition, deletion and interpretation.

--- END ---

Attachments:

Attachment 1 – Match Arrangement Guidelines under Hot Weather Condition

Attachment 2 – Modification of Competition System

Hong Kong Football Association
2021-2022 Jockey Club Women's Football League
Competition Regulations

Match Arrangement Guidelines under Hot Weather Condition

In accordance with the match arrangements under hot weather by the Asian Football Confederation (AFC), the Hong Kong Football Association is now developing guidelines for Women's Football League matches under hot weather conditions which 'Cooling break' will be adopted.

'Cooling break' procedures for match days

1. The 'Very Hot Weather Warning' of The Hong Kong Observatory will be the official measurement used to determine whether cooling breaks shall be implemented. 'Cooling break' will be adopted if the 'Very Hot Weather Warning' is issued thirty (30) minutes before the kick off time of the match.
2. At thirty (30) minutes before kick-off, Duty Officer will notice referees and game supervisor of both teams the arrangement of 'Cooling break'.
3. 'Cooling break' of two (2) minutes in duration will be implemented by the referee.
4. For the normal 90-minute matches, 'Cooling break' will be implemented at around 30th and 75th minute respectively; For 80-minute matches, 'Cooling break' will be implemented at around 20th and 60th minute respectively; And no 'Cooling break' for any matches which is under 80-minutes or playing in 3 sessions.
5. Time consumed for 'Cooling break' will be added into the additional time of the session respectively.

'Cooling break' details

1. The ball must be out of play for the break to commence.
2. The referee will signal the start of the break, informing both teams, assistant referees, 4th officials bench (if provided) and duty officer.
3. All players will go to their respective bench/ technical area and use ice and cool towels to cool down.
4. The referee will signal the conclusion of the break after which the match will restart at which play was stopped.

Match days drinking procedures

In general matches, players are able to have drinks during the stoppage of play. For matches which 'Cooling break' is adopted, players are also able to have drinks with below guidelines apart from the 'Cooling break':

1. Drinks/ beverages should be consumed during stoppage of play.
2. Consumption should take place at the touch line from the technical area of the team benches.
3. Bottles may be handed to the players along the touch line from the technical area in front of the team benches. It is forbidden to throw bottles onto the field of play.
4. Goalkeepers may keep a drink/beverage in a plastic bottle outside of the goal and off the field of play at least 1meter from the end line.

Hong Kong Football Association

2021-2022 Jockey Club Women's Football League

Competition Regulations

Modification of Competition System

If more than or less than fourteen (14) teams enrolled, HKFA has the right to change or modify the competition system. Details are listed as below:

The Women's Football League is conducted with two stages.

League & Play-off

If the number of **participating teams is eighteen (18)**, the league will be divided into two divisions. First divisions shall play under double round robin system. Second divisions ten teams shall play under single round robin system in first round, the number of points in the league table after the completion of the first round will be carried forward to the second round directly. The second round will according to the first round ranking to divide in two groups (The 1st to 5th in Championship Group and 6th to 10th in Promotion Group). Both group shall play under single round robin system to decide the final ranking. No more than eight teams can be accepted in First Division and no more than ten teams can be accepted in Second Division.

If the number of **participating teams is seventeen (17)**, the league will be divided into two divisions. First divisions shall play under double round robin system. Second divisions ten team shall play under single round robin system in first round, the number of points in the league table after the completion of the first round will be carried forward to the second round directly. The second round will according to the first round ranking to divide in two groups (The 1st to 5th in Championship Group and 6th to 9th in Promotion Group). Both group shall play under single round robin system to decide the final ranking. No more than eight teams can be accepted in First Division and no more than nine teams can be accepted in Second Division.

If the number of **participating teams is sixteen (16)**, the league will be divided into two divisions. Both divisions shall play under double round robin system. No more than eight teams can be accepted in both First Division and Second Division.

If the number of **participating teams is fifteen (15)**, the league will be divided into two divisions. Both divisions shall play under double round robin system. No more than eight teams can be accepted in First Division and no more than seven teams can be accepted in Second Division..

If the number of **participating teams is thirteen (13)**, the league will be divided into two divisions. First Divisions shall play under double round robin system and Second Division shall play under triple round robin system. No more than eight teams can be accepted in First Division and no more than five teams can be accepted in Second Division.

If the number of **participating teams is twelve (12)**, the league will be divided into two divisions. First Divisions shall play under double round robin system and Second Division shall play under quadruple round robin system. No more than eight teams can be accepted in First Division and no more than four teams can be accepted in Second Division.

The priority for First Division will be given to the team based on the final league ranking and the result of Play-off in last season. And the remaining teams shall take part in the Second Division.

After completion of the league stage, the promotion/relegation of teams will be determined by the result of the play-off. The team ranked last of first division will play knockout match against the champion of second division for the place of first division in next season. The play-off will be play in single-elimination. If a competition ends in a tie, a penalty shoot-out and a penalty kick as defined in the Laws of the Game will be applied to determine the winner of the competition.

Hong Kong Football Association
2021-2022 Jockey Club Women's Football League
Competition Regulation

FA Cup

All teams shall participate in FA Cup. FA Cup consists of Group stage and Knockout stage.

Each of the group comprise of four teams in First Division and four teams in Second Division. After completion of Group stage, the top four teams of each group shall qualify to the knockout stage of FA Cup.

If the number of **participating teams is eighteen (18)**, all the teams be divided into three groups (Group A , B and C) by lot drawing, six teams will be drawn to each Group respectively. Group A and B are comprised of three teams of First Division and three teams of Second Division. Group C is comprised of two teams of First Division and four teams of Second Division. After completion of Group stage, the top two teams of each group and the best two third-place teams shall qualify to the knockout stage of FA cup.

If the number of **participating teams is seventeen (17)**, all the teams will be divided into two groups (Group A & B) by lot drawing, nine teams and eight teams will be drawn to Group A and Group B respectively. Group A is comprised of four teams of First Division and five teams of Second Division. Group B is comprised of four teams of First Division and four teams of Second Division. After completion of Group stage, the top four teams of each group shall qualify to the knockout stage of FA Cup.

If the number of **participating teams is sixteen (16)**, all the teams will be divided into two groups (Group A & B) by lot drawing, eight teams will be drawn to each Group respectively. Each Group is comprised of four teams of First Division and four teams of Second Division. After completion of Group stage, the top four teams of each group shall qualify to the knockout stage of FA Cup.

If the number of **participating teams is fifteen (15)**, all the teams will be divided into two groups (Group A & B) by lot drawing, eight teams and seven teams will be drawn to Group A and Group B respectively. Group A is comprised of four teams of First Division and four teams of Second Division. Group B is comprised of four teams of First Division and three teams of Second Division. After completion of Group stage, the top four teams of each group shall qualify to the knockout stage of FA Cup.

If the number of **participating teams is thirteen (13)**, all the teams will be divided into two groups (Group A & B) by lot drawing, seven teams and six teams will be drawn to Group A and Group B respectively. Group A is comprised of four teams of First Division and three teams of Second Division. Group B is comprised of four teams of First Division and two teams of Second Division. After completion of Group stage, the top four teams of each group shall qualify to the knockout stage of FA Cup.

If the number of **participating teams is twelve (12)**, all the teams will be divided into two groups (Group A & B) by lot drawing, six teams will be drawn to each group respectively. Each Group is comprised of four teams of First Division and two teams of Second Division. After completion of Group stage, the top four teams of each group shall qualify to the knockout stage of FA Cup.

Seed teams and lot drawing will determine the matches of first round. When any of the matches in the knockout stage of FA Cup ends in a tie, a penalty shoot-out and a penalty kick as defined in the Laws of the Game will be applied to determine the winner of the competition.