



RULES & REGULATIONS

2026

EASTERNS LFA

FIELD SIZES

AGE	FORMAT	MAX LENGTH	MIN LENGTH	MAX WIDTH	MIN WIDTH
Under 06	5 v 5	40m		30m	
Under 07	5 v 5	40m		30m	
Under 08 /09	7 v 7	60m		45m	
Under 10- 11 – 12	9 v 9	70m		50m	
Under 13 and older	11 v 11	120m	90m	90m	45m

- Corner flags to be in place
- **Lines to be clearly marked**
- Field size to comply with rules of football
- Nets to be properly secured and in good order
- Change rooms to be made available for visiting teams
- Change rooms to be kept in a clean and healthy condition
- Technical area to be allocated and clearly marked
- Both technical areas to be on the same side of the field, teams are to adhere to this
- Only coach, manager, physio and regulated number of substitutes allowed in this area
- No spectators allowed in this area
- No spectators allowed behind or next to the goal posts
- A demarcated area for spectators to be marked
- **No alcohol to be allowed ANYWHERE near the field of play. Clubs will allocate an area near their clubhouse for the consumption of alcohol. This area must be clearly marked and signed as follows: "NO ALCOHOL BEYOND THIS AREA".**
- **No smoking in the technical area**

1. TEAMS AND PLAYER

- All football jerseys to have clear, visible numbers
- Socks are all the same
- Shin pads are compulsory.
- Substitutes to wear different colour tops or bibs when in the technical area.
- Players may not wear ANY jewelry on the field of play
- All players, managers and coaches MUST be in possession of a valid registration card.
- Registration card to have player name, photo, date of birth or ID number.
- NO player may take the field of play without a registration card.
- No letters allowing players to play are acceptable, unless signed by a member of the Management Committee. NO VERBAL PERMISSION WILL EVER BE GIVEN.
- The team manager is responsible for the players' behavior on and off the field of play.
- **No junior players' names to be printed on their shirts**
- **Girls can play one year down and only up to 13 years of age.**

2. TEAM RETURNS AND RESULTS

- Team returns to be completed **BEFORE** the game commences.
- Teams **MUST** use official team sheets only.
- 2 Copies are to be available – 1 for referee, 1 for opposition,
- Team returns must contain players name, player ID card number and jersey number.
- Team returns must contain the Coach and Manager name and card number.
- Team returns must contain the name and card of the following number of substitutes:
 - a. JUNIORS 5 subs only
 - b. SENIORS 5 subs only
- Any player who is not on the team return may not take the field of play
- Team returns must be signed by **TEAM OFFICIAL** and **REFEREE**
- Results to be clearly visible.
- Club results - to be updated on **gamesetmatch**
- Results are to be submitted by no later than noon on the Monday after the weekend scheduled matches.
- Team returns to be faxed or e-mailed to your respective LFA.

GAMESETMATCH

- Clubs must record all results on **GAMESETMATCH** by no later than Wednesday following the weekend scheduled matches.
- If a result has been recorded (by 1 team and not the opposition before the next week-ends games the result will stand.
- The above-mentioned rules will apply to the 2nd round of schedules.
EXAMPLE OF END OF ROUNDS: 10 team league = 18 games each
 - **ROUND 1:** 9 games Games 1 to 9
 - **ROUND 2:** 9 games Games 10 to 18
 - **All scheduled games MUST be completed before the CUP FINALS**

Gamesetmatch website: www.gamesetmatch.com

3. REFEREES

- Referees are to be paid before a game.
Referees **MUST** be in possession of their Referee Card.
NO CARD! MAY NOT OFFICIATE! NO TRAVELLING FEE!
- If a Referee is not in possession of a Referee Card; teams must agree between themselves if such official may officiate the game.
- Non – Arrival of appointed referee and/or NO CARD – **visiting team nominates a referee.** If the visiting team declines offer – **home team must nominate a referee.**
- If there is a match official on the premises and is in possession of a valid referee card; such an official may be requested to officiate the game.
- **All games will be played if officials do not arrive.**
- **The ONLY games that will not be played without an official are the following:**
 - a. Junior League Semi-Final Cup Under 12 only.

b. **JUNIOR LEAGUE:** *Semi-Final Cup*

c. **SENIOR LEAGUE:** *All games to be played with the exception of the Super League.*

- Nominated referees have the power to make all decisions pertaining to the game.
- Nominated referee's decision on any aspect of the said game is upheld.
- Any nominated referee fulfills the obligations of an official referee.
- Nominated referee is **NOT** paid for his/her services. (Clubs discretion)
- Late arrival of the official referee – may take over the game immediately and will be paid the fee due.
- **EXCEPT FOR SENIOR GAMES.**
When an official arrives late for a scheduled match, he/she must officiate the match, but will not receive a travelling fee.
- Should a game be called off for whatever reason, bad weather, unplayable conditions, abandonment, etc. – the referee is entitled to be paid in full if a game has kicked off.
- Clubs will automatically be fined R1000.00 (one thousand rand) based on the match officials report on abusive behavior, foul language or any other complaint that brings the league into disrepute plus a R2000.00 (Two Thousand) suspended sentence. Fine must be paid within 72 hours of receipt of invoice. Clubs do not have the right to appeal such fines.

RED AND YELLOW CARDS

- The onus is on the Club of said team to report any cards issued to the Club Secretary
 - The Club Secretary will forward **Team Name – Age Group - Players Name – Player Card Number and Team Shirt Number** - on the attached result sheet – in the place provided.
 - The onus is on the Club to ensure the player in default serves the relevant suspension.
 - Players receiving a straight **RED CARD** must serve an automatic 2 (two) game suspension. The onus is on the Club to ensure the player in default serves the relevant suspension. Once the Referee's report has been received, The DSL MC will advise the Club / Team / Player concerned if suspension has been extended.
- (YELLOW CARDS)**
- **Player receiving 2 (two) yellow cards in a game, will receive a RED card. Such player will be suspended from all football for 1 (one) game.**
 - **The onus is on the Club to ensure the player in default serves the relevant suspension.**
 - **A player who receives 5 (five) Yellow Cards during the course of the season will receive an automatic 1 (one) game suspension. The onus is on the club to keep a record of Yellow Cards and to report such yellow cards on their Results Form.**
 - **The SL MC will also have a record of Yellow Cards issued and will also advise the offending club of the player suspension. A fine of R100.00 will be imposed on all Red cards and a fine of R50.00 if a player receives 5 (Five) Yellow cards**

MANNERS MAKETH FOOTBALL PLAYERS

- All Clubs, Managers and Coaches must ensure that they, their members and players, uphold a code of ethics.

- **ZERO TOLERANCE** on any **RACIAL ABUSE** and **personal derogatory** remarks will be dealt with in the harshest of means.
 - Foul language has become part of the game –**this is unacceptable.**
 - Club Officials should make themselves informed about what is deemed appropriate.
 - Clubs hosting other teams should ensure all courtesies are afforded to visiting teams – location of change rooms – field on which game will be played etc.
 - Any reports received by the league on such behavior; the offending club will automatically receive a fine of **R1000.00 (one thousand rand)** payable before the next scheduled match. If this fine is not paid by the due date, the League MC will have no option to suspend the club from all football. The League MC also reserves the right to lodge any complaint of this nature with the League Prosecutor for review and the possibility of further disciplinary action.
- Teams will forfeit games for any unruly conduct by players spectators or management and incur a fine which will be decided by the Disciplinary Committee.

GAMES

- No friendlies are allowed – even if goalkeepers are switched.
- Clubs / Teams may not play any scheduled match as a 6 (six) pointer. (i.e., 2 games = 1 result)
- Any League Game played as a friendly game - the result will stand.
- All games will be played – any protest must be submitted within 48 hours after the game.

PROTESTS PROCEDURES:

Use of player on team sheet who is:

- Unregistered
- Suspended
- Banned
- Alleged Overage Player

LODGING A PROTEST:

- Must be done prior to kick off.
- In writing on the team sheet.
- Full name, jersey and registration number to be recorded on team return.
- Reason for objection on team return
- Signed in presence of referee.
- Signed and countersigned by opposition.
- Written protest lodged with DC Secretary within 48 hours after the said game
- A protest fee – *as per fee schedule below*
- Proof of payment to DC Secretary
- No protest shall be entertained if said provisions are not complied with.
- Protest not complying the protest fee will be returned.

COMPLAINTS:

- Protests not lodged or following the correct procedure.
- Club may lodge complaint in writing within 7 (seven) working days of incident.
- No protest which has been heard by DC Committee may become a complaint.
- Complaint fee – *as per fee schedule below*
- Complaint must be accompanied by proof of payment.
- No complaint entertained against referee/assistant, official decision being final.
- Complaint not complying with the complainant fee will be returned.
- No game may be abandoned under any circumstances.
- Abandonment of a game can only be done under the auspices of a referee.
- An automatic fine of **R5000.00** will be imposed on the team found guilty of the
- Abandonment of a game.
- If an ELFA official is in attendance he can, after discussions with the referee, abandon a game.

**Teams DO NOT have 15 minutes grace for late arrival.
All matches will start as per schedule.**

If another game is in progress both teams are to wait for that game to be completed. There is no added time in junior games.

DURATION OF GAMES

AGE GROUP	MINUTES PER HALF
UNDER 06 / UNDER 07	15 minutes
UNDER 08 / UNDER 09	20 minutes
UNDER 10	25 minutes
UNDER 11 / UNDER 12	30 minutes
UNDER 13	30 minutes
UNDER 15	40 minutes
SENIOR LADIES / VETS	40 minutes
UNDER 17/ SENIOR Men	40 minutes
SUPER LEAGUE	45 minutes

SUBSTITUTES

AGE GROUP	SUBSTITUTES	COMMENT
UNDER 13 / UNDER 14 / Under 15/SENIOR LADIES	5	Rolling
UNDER 17 / SENIOR MEN	5	No Rolling

Vets	5	Rolling
------	---	---------

LITTLE LEAGUE

AGE GROUP	FORMAT	MAX PLAYERS	COMMENT
UNDER 06	5v5	10 Players	5 Rolling subs
UNDER 07	5v5	10 Players	5 Rolling subs
UNDER 08 / UNDER 09	7v7	12 Players	5 Rolling subs
UNDER 10 / UNDER 11 / UNDER 12	9v9	14 Players	5 Rolling subs

POSTPONEMENTS

- Request for postponements will **NOT** be accepted.
- Clubs / Teams must bring a game forward that is before the scheduled fixture. Notice must be signed by both clubs and submitted to the office 7 days prior to the scheduled match.
- Clubs / Teams not fulfilling a fixture due to not bringing it forward or having a postponement request denied; will be fined and could face disciplinary action.

CLUB

- The club secretary oversees all correspondence to be sent to the LFA.
- Team returns – registration of players – red and yellow cards – rescheduling of games – forwarding queries – forwarding complaints is the duty of the Club Secretary / Representative.
- All correspondence from the club must be on a club letterhead.
- No correspondence, and/or telephonic conversations will be entertained from Managers, coaches, parents, players or members of the club.**
- No verbal communication orWhatsapps will be accepted.
- Clubs must ensure that all contact details are updated where necessary.

WITHDRAWAL OF TEAMS FROM LEAGUE COMPETITION

- Teams participating in any league may not withdraw from this competition once it has commenced.
- Where club team/s are withdrawn from the league competition (due to player shortage etc. – the lowest rank team of the club in that age group must be withdrawn.
- Clubs withdrawing teams from any competition will receive a fine of R1000.00 (one thousand rand) per team; such a fine is payable within 7 (seven) days of invoice date.
- Team/s withdrawing from the league (such team will forfeit their league position for the following season) and points will be recorded as follows:

BEFORE / AFTER	ACTION	COMMENT
Before 1 st round schedules completed	All points accumulated will be expunged	The team will forfeit league position for the next season. Team will be fine R1000.00

		(one thousand rand)
After 1 st round schedules are completed, but not completing 2 nd round schedule	The MC will decide on how points are allocated.	The team will forfeit league position for the next season. Team will be fine R1000.00 (one thousand rand)

TEAMS VISITING CLUBS

- May not enter the premises of the home club with the following:
 - Cooler boxes with any type of drink (alcohol or soft drink)
 - Cadac braais or any sort of equipment to cook food.
- The **HOME** club has the right to request that the person/s not abiding by the above-mentioned rule; vacate the premises immediately.
- If this request is not adhered to, the club concerned will face disciplinary action.
- This rule applies to all age groups: Juniors and Seniors league matches.
- A few clubs have a **NO ALCOHOL** rule. (School Grounds)
- Teams / Clubs MAY NOT under any circumstances take alcohol into these facilities. Any club, player, spectator, and club official doing so will automatically be fined up to R20,000,00 (Twenty thousand rand)

ALL CLUBS

- Must ensure that spectators do not come within 2m of the touch line. We would recommend that clubs place a perimeter around the field at least 2m away from the touch line.
- The match officials have received a directive to stop a match if spectators are standing on the touchline. Clubs have exactly 1 minute to ensure that this rule is applied. If it takes long the match official has the right to abandon the match and the offending club/s will receive an automatic fine of R5000.00 (Five thousand rand) and may face disciplinary action due to the match being abandoned.
- Parents / Spectators should be on the one touch line and technical team on the opposite side. Spectators may not stand on the side of the technical team.

PLAYER REGISTRATION

- June 30 of each year. No player may be registered after this date if the player is seeking a transfer from one club to another.

If the ELFA receive any complaint regarding the incorrect size of Goals / Fields in a particular age; the offending club will have to play all their games (for the offending age group) away.

MC has zero tolerance on incorrect sizing of fields and goals.

CUP COMPETITIONS:

- Teams who do not participate in the 1st Round of any Cup Competition, may not participate in any cup rounds thereafter.

- ELFA**

KNOCK OUT CUP: teams in each age group will participate in the age group cup.

JUNIOR LEAGUE: **KNOCK-OUT CUP: (Medals: Gold / Silver)**
All teams in the various age group leagues will participate in Cup Competition (no exceptions)

SENIOR LEAGUE: All Seniors Teams will participate in Senior Knock-Out Cup.

LEAGUE COMPETITIONS:

Clubs who participate in the Gauteng Development League (GDL) will not be allowed to participate in the ELFA. Their premises will also not be permitted to host GDL games.

FACILITIES (Club / Team without a home venue):

The conditions listed below apply to all Clubs/Teams participating in the ELFA.

- Club / Team may not offer an alternative venue once competitions have started.
- Where a scheduled game has both teams without a venue; the onus is on the HOME team to source a venue.
- If HOME team is unable to source a venue the AWAY team may make similar arrangements.
- If the match is not played due to unavailability of venue; Home team will forfeit the points to opposition and a fine of R1000.00 (one thousand rand) will be levied on the HOME team.
- Clubs who do not have the correct size goals will have to play all their scheduled matches AWAY. *(Based on reports received from opposition clubs and match officials; and after an investigation by members of the ELFA)*

FINES

REASON	AMOUNT	COMMENT
RED CARD	R100.00	2 Game suspension
5 YELLOW CARDS	R100.00	1 Game suspension
FIXTURE NOT FULFILLED	R300.00	U06 – U11 – Possible disciplinary action

FIXTURE NOT FULFILLED	R500.00	U12 and older – Possible disciplinary action
PROTEST FEE	R2000.00	
APPEAL FEE	R5000.00	
COMPLAINT	R1000.00	
DC APPEARANCE FEE	R900.00	
CLUB REQUESTING MATCH OFFICIAL AT DC	R250.00	
WITHDRAWAL OF A TEAM	R1000.00	
Abandonment of game	R5000.00	Possible disciplinary action
Playing overage/Unregistered Player R5000.00		

BANKING DETAILS: LFA will invoice clubs / teams accordingly.

MATTERS NOT PROVIDED FOR AND CHANGES TO THESE RULES

- 39.1 Matters not provided for in these Regulations shall be dealt with in terms of the Constitution of the LFA and/or South African Football Association and where such constitution is silent, the Rules and Regulations of SAFA, CAF and thereafter the Rules and Regulations of FIFA.
- 39.2 The Management Committee shall be empowered to amend, alter, and add to these Rules and Regulations at any time during any one season. Such amendments, alterations and additions to these Rules and Regulations shall be operative with immediate effect.
- 39.3 The Management Committee shall be empowered to institute and authorise a Commission of Enquiry into any matter which they may in their sole and absolute discretion, deem necessary or advisable.
- 39.4 Any documentation of whatsoever nature which is required to be served on a club, club official or player of the Association shall be served via the respective LFA on such party at the address and/or telefax and/or electronic mail as supplied to the respective LFA by the club in its annual registration form

_____ **FC hereby confirm acceptance of the ELFA Rules and Regulations.**

We will ensure that a copy of these Guidelines is distributed to all our Members, Managers and Coaches; who will be advised of the importance of how these Guidelines should be adhered to.

CLUB	
FULL NAME	
POSITION	
SIGNED	

DATE	
------	--

CLUBS MUST SUBMIT THE LIST BELOW WHICH MUST BE SIGNED BY ALL CLUB MANAGERS and COACHES. *(This list MUST accompany the signed copy of the Rules and Regulations).*

Any disturbances or abuse of referees or players or of opposition spectators. Clubs will forfeit one or two weeks games. i.e. lose the points for all the clubs teams and be fined.

CLUB NAME	
-----------	--