

2020 GFA CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP Regulations

ARTICLE 1: MANAGEMENT

- a. The **GFA Club Championship** shall be governed in accordance with all Competition Regulations and GFA and FIFA regulations applicable to the Competition, including but not limited to the GFA or FIFA statutes, GFA 2019-2020 General Competition Rules and Regulations, FIFA Code of Ethics, GFA Disciplinary Code (together the “**Regulations**”), Competition circulars and Competition directives.

ARTICLE 2: ENTRIES

GFA affiliates, National Youth teams and GFA invited teams shall participate in the 2020 GFA Club Championship.

ARTICLE 3: PLAYER’S ELIGIBILITY

1. Each Club **shall** take the following provisions into account when selecting its representative team:
 - a. All players’ registration are approved through FIFA Connect with their respective club.
 - b. For invitational teams only, players who are not registered with GFA.

ARTICLE 4: COMPETITION REGISTRATION

- a. Teams must complete the participation agreement to be considered for GFA Club Championship Wednesday **27th November 2019**.
- b. **Teams must submit their list of 30 players by 31st December 2019**

ARTICLE 5: WITHDRAWAL

- a. Clubs shall not be allowed to withdraw its team from the competition. Any Club infringing this Rule shall be liable to a fine and such other action as determined by the Executive Committee whose decision shall be final and binding to all clubs.

ARTICLE 6: FORMAT AND STRUCTURE OF THE COMPETITION

- i. GFA retains the right to determine the structure, format of play and match calendar for The Competition
- ii. The GFA Club Championship Group Stage will be played in format dividing the Clubs into eight (8) groups (A to H). The number in each group shall be determined by the number of participants.
- iii. The competition group phase will commence in January 2020 and the distribution of Clubs per group will be determined based on the 2018-2019 participants of the Premier League and Conference results as follows:

- a. A maximum of two (2) Premier League teams will be draw and fill positions A1 to H1, A2 and B2.
 - b. The top six (6) Conference League Teams in the Final Stage will draw to fill positions C2 to H2.
 - c. The remaining teams will draw to fill the groups from positions A3 to H3 and A4 to H4
- iv. The **Group Stage** will comprise of teams within their respective group playing each other once, with three points for a win, one point for a draw, no points for a defeat (league system).
 - v. The winner of each group shall advance to the **Knockout Stage**. The knockout Stage shall be the quarter finals and semifinals.
 - vi. There will be a draw for match ups for the quarter finals and semifinals.
 - vii. The Semifinals will be the winners of the quarter finals.
 - viii. The Knockout Stage will be a two-game playoff.
 - ix. The away goal rule will **not** be in effect for the Knockout Stage.
 - x. The **Consolation Final** shall be a one match contest between the losers in the semi-final round.
 - xi. The **GFA Club Championship** shall be a one match contest between the winners in the semi-final round.

ARTICLE 7: COMPETITION SYSTEM

1. Group Stage

At the conclusion of the group phase, teams will be ranked in each group according to the following criteria:

- a. Greatest number of points in all group matches;
- b. Goal Difference in all group matches;
- c. Greatest number of goals scored in all group matches;

If two or more teams are equal on the basis of the above three criteria, their rankings shall be determined as follows:

- d. Greatest number of points in matches between the tied teams;
- e. Goal difference in matches between the tied teams;
- f. Greater number of goals scored in matches among the tied teams;
- g. Least number of goals allowed among the tied teams;
- h. The lowest number of points based on the number of yellow and red cards in all group matches is considered according to the following additions:
 - First yellow card: + 1 point
 - Second yellow card/indirect red card: + 3 points

- Direct red card: + 4 points
- Yellow card and direct red card: + 5 points

i. Drawing of lots by GFA

2. Knockout Stage

At the conclusion of the knockout matches, the two teams will be ranked according to the following criteria:

- a. Greatest number of points in knockout matches;
- b. Goal Difference in knockout matches;

If the two teams are equal on the basis of the above two criteria, the winner will be determined by kicks from the penalty spot.

3. The Consolation Final and The GFA Club Championship Stage

If the two teams are tied at the end of regulation time, the winner will be determined by kicks from the penalty spot.

ARTICLE 8: TEAM'S RESPONSIBILITIES

- a. Clubs shall arrange for their team to arrive at the venue no later than one and half (1 1/2) hours (90 minutes) before the scheduled time the match is due to be played.
- b. Clubs are responsible for the cost of their team's participation in the competition.

ARTICLE 9: REWARD PACKAGE

- a. The top two teams shall receive a trophy and a maximum forty (40) medals for each team.
- b. Special awards will be given to the following categories: Golden Ball, Golden Boots, Golden Glove and Best Youth Player (born 2001 or after).
- c. Monetary prizes will be as follows and shall be paid at the end of the season.

Position	Amount
1 st	\$30,000.00
2 nd	\$15,000.00
Consolation Final	\$5,000.00
Match Prize Group Stage	\$ 300.00 win \$100 for draw \$0 for loss
Match Prize Knockout Stage	\$ 500.00 win \$250 for draw \$0 for loss

ARTICLE 10: MATTERS NOT PROVIDED FOR

The GFA Executive Committee, whose decisions shall be final, will resolve matters not provided for in these Regulations.