



2023 Rules and Regulations

Organized By



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1. Tournament Overview

The Manzoor Cup is an 11 versus 11 men's soccer tournament exclusively for Afghan players. This rule book outlines the regulations and guidelines for the tournament. The aim is to promote fair play, sportsmanship, and camaraderie among Afghan soccer enthusiasts.

2. Eligibility

- 2.1. Only Afghan citizens are eligible to participate in the Manzoor Cup. No foreigners are allowed on any team. Any team found to have fielded a non-Afghan player will be automatically disqualified from the tournament.
- 2.2. All players must provide valid proof, to verify their Afghan citizenship.

3. Team Composition

- 3.1. Each team may consist of a maximum of 11 players on the field at any given time, including one goalkeeper.
- 3.2. Teams may register a maximum of 22 players for the tournament.
- 3.3. All players must be registered before the start of the tournament, and no player may be registered for more than one team.

4. Field and Equipment

- 4.1. The tournament will be played on a regulation-sized soccer field.
- 4.2. Players must wear appropriate soccer attire, including jerseys, shorts, socks, shin guards, and soccer cleats. No screw on cleats are allowed.
- 4.3. Each team should have a distinct jersey color. In case of a color clash, the away team must change their jerseys.

5. Tournament Format

- 5.1. The Manzoor Cup will be organized as a group stage followed by knockout rounds.
- 5.2. Group stage matches will be decided using a point system:
 - A win will earn a team 3 points.
 - A tie will result in 1 point for each team.
 - A loss will yield no points.





5.3. In case of tied points at the end of the group stage, the following tie-breakers will be applied in the order listed:

- Goal Differential (the difference between goals scored and goals conceded)
- Head to Head (the result of the match between the tied teams)
- Goals Scored (the total number of goals scored by the team)
- Goals Conceded (the total number of goals conceded by the team)
- If a tie remains after considering all the above criteria, the decision will be made by a coin toss to determine the standings.

These tie-breakers are designed to ensure fair determination of group standings in case of point ties.

5.4. Knockout stage games that end in a tie after regular time will be decided using the following procedure:

- Two 10-minute halves of extra time will be played, with a brief halftime interval in between.
- If the game remains tied after extra time, a penalty shootout will be used to determine the winner. Each team will take turns in a penalty shootout, with the winner being the team that scores more penalties. The penalty shootout will follow the standard FIFA rules.

This procedure will be applied in knockout games to ensure a clear winner when the match ends in a tie.

6. Game Duration

6.1. Group stage and quarter final games will consist of two halves, each lasting 40 minutes

6.2. Semifinal and final games will consist of two 45 minute halves

7. Substitutions

7.1. Substitutions are allowed during stoppages in play.

7.2. Teams may make an unlimited number of substitutions during a game.

8. Offsides

8.1. The offside rule will be in effect. A player will be considered offside if they are closer to the opponent's goal line than the ball and the second-to-last defender when the ball is played to them.





9. Free Kicks and Penalties

9.1. Standard FIFA rules for free kicks and penalties will be applied.

10. Yellow and Red Cards

10.1. Standard FIFA rules for yellow and red cards will be applied. Players receiving a red card will be suspended from their next game.

10.2. All red card suspensions carry over to the next game regardless of group stage or playoffs. Suspensions do carry over to the play offs.

11. Fair Play

11.1. All players, coaches, and spectators are expected to conduct themselves with respect and fair play. Unsportsmanlike conduct, foul language, or aggressive behavior will not be tolerated.

11.2. No fights or physical altercations are allowed. Any players involved in a fight will receive appropriate disciplinary actions, including potential ejection from the tournament.

11.3. Unauthorized entry of players from the bench onto the field during a game is strictly prohibited. Any team found in violation of this rule will have those players ejected from the tournament. Players on the bench may only enter the field during substitutions or in case of injury, with the referee's permission.

12. Disputes and Decisions

12.1. The tournament organizers' decisions are final and binding in all matters related to the tournament.

12.2. Only coaches and captains are allowed to discuss any disputes or issues with the referees and organizers.

12.3. Every team has a point of contact on file, and they will be receiving updates and communication from the organization.

13. Player Registration

13.1. All teams must submit a roster by December 15, 2023, prior to the start of the tournament.

13.2. Rosters must include an identification document (an image of a valid passport or ID) for every player. These rosters will be shared with all participating teams.

13.3. The tournament organization reserves the right to ask for further validation of Afghan nationality from any player, and this documentation must be provided promptly.

13.4. Players' eligibility to participate in the Manzoor Cup is at the discretion of the tournament organization, and they have the authority to review and verify player eligibility as needed to ensure the integrity of the competition.

14. Player Uniforms and Equipment

14.1. Players must wear a number on the back of their shirts. Each player on a team shall have a different number and this number must coincide with the player's name and number as shown on the game sheet.

14.2. If the colors clash, the away team will change colors

14.3. At the Tournament Committee's discretion, a team that does not observe the color change or shirt requirements of this rule may forfeit the game.

15. Abandoned/Forfeited Games

15.1. The Tournament organizers will review the circumstances of any team that abandons (quits) a game before it is completed and decides whether or not the team shall forfeit the game.

15.2. At the discretion of the Tournament organizers, teams that abandoned a game, fail to show, or otherwise forfeit a game will be subject to a dismissal from the tournament and all entry fees and bonds forfeited without appeal.

15.3. All opponents of a team who have forfeited a game will be awarded a win and three points in preliminary standings (score recorded as 2-0).

16. Failure to Show

16.1. A team shall be allowed a 15-minute period of grace after the scheduled kick-off time before it is considered that they have failed to show.

16.2. A minimum of seven players constitutes a team and the game will be started if a team has at least this number of players. The period of grace may be allowed only if there are less than the minimum players required.

16.3. In the event of a failure to show, the offending team shall forfeit the game. If both teams fail to show, both teams shall be disqualified from the tournament.





17. Game Sheets and Referee Reports

17.1. All game sheets and referee reports must be returned to Tournament Headquarters, by the Field Conveners, as soon as possible after the completion of a game.

17.2. Game sheets must be signed by the referee and one official from each team.

17.3. If a player or team official is ordered from the field by the referee for misconduct, or any player or team official is cautioned by the referee during the course of a game, it is essential the referee's report and game sheet be delivered to the Tournament Headquarters immediately after the end of the game.

18. Amendments

18.1. These rules are subject to change or modification at the discretion of the tournament organizers.

The Manzoor Cup is designed to celebrate Afghan soccer talent while upholding the values of fair play and camaraderie among participants. Participants and spectators are encouraged to enjoy the beautiful game in the spirit of sportsmanship and unity.

