

**FUFA**



# **The Uganda Premier League**

## **Regulations**

**2014/15**

## CHAPTER I ABBREVIATIONS AND DEFINITIONS

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### Article 1 Abbreviations

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CAF	Confederation of African Football
CDP	Competitions Disciplinary Panel
CECAFA	Council of East & Central Africa Football Associations
DC	FUFA Disciplinary Committee
DFA	District Football Association
FCC	FUFA Competitions Committee
FCR	FUFA Competitions Rules
FBL	FUFA Big League
FLC	FUFA Licensing Committee
FCC	FUFA Competitions Committee
FCR	FUFA Competition Rules
FIFA	Federation of International Football Associations
FRSC	FUFA Referees Standing Committee
FUFA	Federation of Uganda Football Associations
RH	Rights Holder
FRSC	FUFA Referees Standing Committee
FSL	FUFA Super League
FSL	FUFA Super League Limited
UA(s)	Unit(s) of Accounts
UPL	Uganda Premier League

### Article 2 Terms and phrases

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The terms given below denote the following:

#### **Association Football**

Means football competitions organised under the auspices of FIFA, CAF, CECAFA, and all FIFA member Associations

#### **Closed Stadium**

Means allowing only the match crew during game time into the stadium. Even to the entitled match crew, entry shall be for a specified period and at the expiry of that period, the stadium shall be closed to all.

#### **Club**

Means any football club which is a registered member of the league. Football Club shall comprise of players, officials, employed staff, and fans.

#### **Club Official**

Any person registered by the club as an official or employee or such a person acting as an official of the club within the technical area, the dressing room and or the playing arena

#### **Days**

Means only working days

**Forfeiture**

Means a team being considered to have lost the match by 3-0 but if the goal difference at the end of the match in question is greater than 3-0, the result on the pitch is upheld.

**FUFA Rules**

Means the Statutes, Regulations, Decisions and Directives of FIFA, CAF and FUFA

**Uganda Premier League Entity**

This shall mean the following persons and entities

- Players of Uganda Premier League Clubs
- Registered Owners, Officials, Directors, Staff,
- The participating Clubs
- Contracted Service Providers by any of the above

**Game Time**

Means duration of the game starting three (3) hours before kick-off of the match to three (3) hours after the last whistle

**Home Club**

Means the club hosting the match which shall always be named first in the fixture

**Ineligible Player**

Any player outlawed by any of the provisions of these rules and/or any other rules of association football in regard to the Uganda Premier League.

**League format**

Means a football competition played on a home-away basis for all clubs involved over a period of time

**Match Crew**

The following persons shall compose the match crew:

- Registered Staff, Players, and Officials of the day's participating clubs,
- Staff and personnel of the Uganda Premier League,
- Staff, and Officials of the stadium/ground hosting the match
- Staff, and Officials of FUFA
- Referees and match Commissioners of the day's match
- One assigned representative from each media house

**Match-Fixing**

When a match is played to a completely or partially pre-determined result

**Media Rights**

Electronic audio-visual, visual or audio coverage or reproduction of the Uganda Premier League matches, training session or player interviews including without limitation a live television and/or radio signal and/or recordings in any form of audio and/or audio-visual medium and the right to transmit and/or make available and/or license third parties to transmit and/or make available any such coverage or reproduction.

**Neutral Ground**

A neutral ground shall mean a ground that does not, in the opinion of the FCC, give undue advantage to either of the competing Clubs

**Player**

Means a football player registered with FUFA as a player

**Region**

As per FUFA Statutes, a set of FUFA DFAs clustered for administrative convenience

**Season**

Means the period between registration of Clubs and the last match of the tournaments organized by FCC

**Season Tickets**

Tickets that allow bearers to watch the all Uganda Premier League matches for the rest of the season from the time of acquisition

**Spectator**

Any other person in the stadium during game time who is not a member of the match crew

**The League**

Means the Uganda Premier League

**Units of Accounts**

Currency units equivalent to One thousand Uganda Shillings (1,000 UGX)

## CHAPTER II DEFINITIONS, STRUCTURES & ROLES

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### Article 3 STRUCTURES

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- 1) FUFA is the FIFA recognised Member Association mandated to run and oversee all football activities in Uganda.
  - 2) FCC is a standing committee of FUFA that is responsible to organise and supervise football competitions. It is the think tank, hands, ears and eyes of the FUFA Executive committee with matters concerning football competitions in Uganda.
  - 3) FSLL is the Legal entity owned by the Elite Clubs as Ordinary Shareholders and FUFA as a Special shareholder with outlined veto rights but without voting rights.
  - 4) UPL Secretariat is the elite league management secretariat with roles as specified in these regulations.
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### Article 4 INTERPRETATION

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- 1) Unless the context otherwise requires:
  - (a) Words importing the singular number shall include the plural and vice versa;
  - (b) Words importing any particular gender shall include all other genders.
  - (c) The headings in these Rules are for convenience only and shall not affect their interpretation.
  - (d) These Rules shall remain in force until another set of rules are put in place by the FUFA Executive Committee
  - (e) The FUFA Executive Committee may from time to time amend and/or clarify these regulations even during the course of the league through communication by circulars signed by both the FUFA President and FUFA CEO or their written delegated authorities

#### **LEADING OPINION**

- 2) The spirit behind these rules and regulations are aimed at the ten golden rules of FIFA Fair Play
- 3) The Judicial Units shall apply and enforce these rules and regulations upon a report by any party offended and may apply and enforce these rules and regulations upon their own finding of any infringements.

#### **FUFA COMPETITIONS RULES (FCR)**

- 4) The FCR is the supreme competition rules in Uganda
- 5) These UPL Rules are subject to the FCR except for areas as explicitly stated in these rules

**FUFA**

- 1) FUFA shall be responsible for;
  - a) Drawing and enforcing rules and regulations as provided for in these rules
  - b) Registration and Licensing of UPL Entities
  - c) Undertaking Disciplinary Measures to ensure compliance to FUFA Rules
  - d) Appointing, Assessing, Developing and Disciplining (Where Applicable) Match Officials

**FSLL**

- 2) The FSLL shall be responsible for;
  - a) Ensuring compliance of its shareholders with the requirements of the FLC and the statutes of FSL
  - b) Enforcing proper governance standards of its shareholders in accordance with the FUFA Rules
  - c) Brand Building for its Shareholders
  - d) Commercialisation of the Clubs Commercial Properties (Excluding Television Rights)
  - e) Capacity Building of the Human Resource at the Clubs
  - f) Receiving funds from the Rights Holder

**UPL SECRETARIAT**

- 3) The UPL Secretariat shall be the TOC and shall be responsible for;
  - a) Managing fixtures and communicating changes in accordance with the FUFA Rules
  - b) Observing and bringing to the attentions of the competent bodies any infringement of FUFA Rules by UPL entities
  - c) Enforcing the television broadcast guidelines
  - d) Managing the communications of the UPL programmes to the public
  - e) Managing the communications between the RH and the Clubs
  - f) Managing branding at Television Matches as guided by the FUFA Rules
  - g) Preparing and Hiring Stadiums for Television Match Days
  - h) Organize meetings related to league business and communicate to clubs for representation.
  - i) Arrange for collection of information required from the clubs for day to day running of league affairs
  - j) Any club that breach compliance of 3(i and h) above shall be fined an amount of money deemed appropriated by the UPL Secretariat.

## CHAPTER III CLUBS

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### Article 6 REGISTRATION OF CLUBS

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- 1) Registration of clubs for a competition shall be done in a period stipulated by FCC before the league begins. Clubs shall only be considered registered after receiving a Club License from FLC.
- 2) Club Statutes shall mean a document describing a system of laws and principles governing the functionality of a club.
- 3) Clubs Licensing Regulations (CLR) shall provide the procedure for a club's qualification to participate in the elite League, the change of ownership, address and identity.
- 4) Club Ownership Regulations shall provide the procedure and guidelines in management of the Club Ownership.

## CHAPTER IV THE LEAGUE

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### Article 7 NAMING

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This football competition shall be called the Uganda Premier League. FUFA shall issue written instructions in the event of change of the name.

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### Article 8 COMPOSITION

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This shall be the Elite League and composed of the 13 clubs that participated in the 2013/14 FSL and were not relegated plus the 3 clubs that were promoted from the 2013/14 FBL. Participation in the league is subject to Club Licensing.

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### Article 9 FORMAT

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This competition shall be played on a league basis as defined in the FCR.

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### Article 10 TROPHY

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- 1) The club declared the champion shall receive the championship trophy which shall be kept in its safe custody. The Champion Club shall also receive thirty (30) gold Medals.
  - 2) A club that wins this trophy three (3) consecutive times shall retain it for keeps
  - 3) The trophy shall be returned to UPL Secretariat at least four (4) weeks to the end of the season. However, a club failing to return the trophy as spelt out in this paragraph shall be fined a fee to be determined by the FDC.
  - 4) Where a club loses the trophy, it shall be fined the replacement cost of the Cup at the prevailing market value.
  - 5) A club shall only be registered for the following season if it has returned or replaced the trophy as specified and required in rules (4) above.
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### Article 11 MANAGEMENT

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The League shall be managed as the functions are allocated in these regulations

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### Article 12 THE RANKING OF TEAMS

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The final table ranking of clubs in the UPL shall be determined in accordance with the FCR

## CHAPTER V PLAYERS

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### Article 13 STATUS, TRANSFER AND REGISTRATION OF PLAYERS

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- 1) The Registration of Players for the UPL shall be managed as stipulated in the FCR
- 2) The Status and Transfer of players shall be done in accordance with the FUFA Regulations for the Status and Transfer of Players

## CHAPTER VI COACHES

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### Article 14 REGISTRATION

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- 1) It is mandatory for each Club to register one or more Coaches with a FUFA practising license.
- 2) FUFA reserves the rights to withdraw a FUFA practicing license at any time it deems fit.
- 3) No clubs shall take more than four (4) weeks during a season without a valid coach as specified in (1) above. Upon observation of this contravention and subject to provisions of these rules, the defaulting club shall be subjected to disciplinary action
- 4) Coaches shall conduct themselves in accordance with the Code of Conduct for Coaches
- 5) Clubs shall conduct themselves in relation to Coaches in accordance with the Code of Conduct for Clubs
- 6) Any failure by Coaches or Clubs to conduct themselves in accordance with their respective codes of conduct shall constitute a breach of this Rule.

### Article 15 PREREQUISITES FOR A UPL COACHES PRACTISING LICENSE

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- 1) The Applicant must be a member of and not under any sanctions of the Uganda Football Coaches Association (UFCA)
- 2) Foreign Coaches shall be subjected to clearance by the UFCA upon fulfilment of membership prerequisites
- 3) The applicant for the license shall either
  - a) hold, or have commenced and actively engaged on requisite course to obtain a minimum of CAF-C Coaching License
- 4) The Applicant must have signed a FUFA Coaches Code of Conduct
- 5) Upon satisfaction of the above conditions, the applicant shall fill form F801 and submit to FUFA for consideration
- 6) Upon satisfaction of the procedures and prerequisites, FUFA shall issue an annual practising license to the applicant.
- 7) FCC will sanction or de-register any coach upon notice of breach of the FUFA Coaches Code of Conduct or upon requirement of sanctions and de-registration by the Uganda Football Coaches Association or upon withdrawal of the FUFA Coaches Practising License by FUFA.
- 8) For a Coach that shall have engaged into training to obtain the minimum requirement of CAF-C as indicated in Rule F9 above but fail to accrue the requirements for its award, FCC shall cancel his registration

Caretaker Coaches shall be FUFA registered coaches not necessarily holding a FUFA Coaches Practising License. This exemption shall expire after four (4) weeks from the date of their appointment as such. FCC shall have power to grant an extension of the four (4) weeks period only if reasonably satisfied with the reasons for the absence of the FUFA Coaches Practising License holder.

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- 1) No Club shall employ any person as a Coach unless and until the terms of the Coach's employment have been evidenced in a written contract of employment between the Club and the Coach and the Coach's contract of employment has been registered with FCC in accordance to FUFA Regulations on contracts management.
- 2) Contracts of employment between a Club and a Coach shall be in accordance with the FUFA Contracts regulations.
- 3) FUFA shall register Coaches' contracts of employment in accordance with relevant contracts regulations.
- 4) Upon completion of a contract of employment between a Club and a Coach, the Club shall within 7 days send the contract of employment to FUFA for registration.
- 5) The FUFA shall refuse to register the contract of employment and shall forthwith give notice to that effect to the Club if:
  - i. a coach does not present a registration certificate of the Uganda Premier League Coaches Practising License
  - ii. A contract of employment between the Coach and any other Club has been registered under the provisions of these Rules or the Regulations of the Football League and the registration of that contract of employment has not been cancelled.
- 6) An application for cancellation of the registration of a Coach's contract of employment shall be made in writing to the FUFA and may be made by either party to the contract of employment.
- 7) The FCC shall cancel the registration upon being satisfied that either:
  - (a) both parties to the contract of employment have consented to the cancellation of the registration; or
  - (b) the contract of employment has been properly terminated by either party to it; or
  - (c) the contract of employment has expired; or
  - (d) A period of one year has elapsed since the Coach ceased to perform his duties under the contract of employment.

## CHAPTER VII FIXTURES

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### Article 18 FIXTURES MANAGEMENT

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- 1) Fixtures and fixture changes shall be drawn by the UPL Secretariat in accordance with FUFA Calendar and approved by FUFA.
- 2) The fixture schedules shall be notified to the clubs by UPL Secretariat at the beginning of first and second rounds of the league.
- 3) The UPL Secretariat has power to rearrange any fixture provided such rearrangement is notified to the affected Clubs s at least 48 hours in advance.
- 4) The UPL Secretariat shall draw a television schedule from UPL fixtures comprising in accordance with Broadcast Compliance Manual.
- 5) The UPL Secretariat may change the venue of UPL match;
  - a) for avoiding likely fixture congestion,
  - b) in order to ensure fair play
  - c) for health, safety and security reasons
  - d) In order to fulfil the RH obligations
  - e) to a neutral ground where in the opinion of UPL Secretariat is deemed necessary

## CHAPTER VIII MATCH ORGANISATION

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### Article 19 MATCH DAY EVENTS

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#### **Before Game time**

- 1) Clubs shall observe their obligations with RH as stipulated in the deed of adherence.
- 2) It shall be obligatory for Match officials, Participating Clubs, Stadium Management and UPL Secretariat to attend pre-match meetings for certain matches selected by the UPL Secretariat . FUFA may attend such meetings.

#### **During Game time**

- 3) Clubs shall register only FUFA-registered club officials on team sheet and any decisions by the head official shall be representative of the club decision during game time.
- 4) It shall be the obligation of the home club to provide a gazetted premium club sitting arrangement for specific matches as may be required by the FUFA , UPL Secretariat ,RH, League Sponsors, and Club Sponsors or upon the discretion of the club to consider such a match of that category
- 5) At the discretion of the home club, it shall be its obligation to provide hospitality services to any ticket holders or invited guests that may attend a match.
- 6) In event of televised matches, before the final whistle, the match commissioner (his absence the centre referee), will be informed by the head of production team of the persons to appear for a post-match press conference, interview, or prize award.
- 7) After the final whistle, the match official will inform the selected person to appear as required. Any contravention of this provision shall cause disciplinary action to the defaulting person.

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### Article 20 COLOURS, JERSEYS AND STRIPS

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- 1) All clubs shall appear for League matches in shirts, shorts and stockings that shall have been approved by the UPL Secretariat as the design for both the home and away games of the clubs. Any club that contravenes this rule shall be liable to disciplinary action.
- 2) A set of shirts and shorts used by a player shall be numbered in sequence from Number 1 to 25.
- 3) Each club shall register with UPL Secretariat a squad number selected from 1-25 for each player and it shall be obligatory for the respective player to use only the assigned squad number for the entire season while still with the club. Any club and / or player that contravene this provision shall be liable for disciplinary sanction.
- 4) The back of the shirt of each player shall bear the registered surname and squad number of the player in eligible font, font size and colour in accordance to deed of adherence.
- 5) The referee shall validate the sets of uniforms to be used by clubs before kick-off of the match if it conforms to registered specimen set of the club and if it meets the required standards. The referee shall have absolute powers to refuse the set of uniform presented by a club if it does not meet the required standards and this shall be included in the referees report. The offending club shall be allowed to use any other set acceptable in the opinion of the referee but shall be liable to disciplinary action.
- 6) Clubs and players that contravene any provisions of this rule shall be liable to disciplinary action.

## CHAPTER IX JUDICATURE

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### Article 21 JUDICATURE

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UPL disputes, protests, petitions, complaints and appeals shall be administered in accordance to provisions of FCR

## CHAPTER X FINANCE

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### Article 22 BUDGET

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- 1) The UPL Secretariat shall draw a budget to manage the UPL indicating expenditure and projected income.
  - 2) The sources of income to the UPL budget shall include;
    - (a) Budget Support Contribution by FSLI
    - (b) Gate collection of UPL matches
    - (c) Fines and petition fees upon infringement of these rules and the Broadcast Compliance Manual
    - (d) Budget Support Contribution by the Clubs
    - (e) Any other lawful source of income
  - 3) UPL Secretariat shall draw the UPL budget while FSLI shall approve the budget
  - 4) UPL Secretariat will manage the budget
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### Article 23 MANAGEMENT OF INCOME

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#### **Gate Collections**

- 1) All League matches will be organised by the Home Club, Stadium and UPL Secretariat or services of FUFA registered match agents will be hired where part or all responsibilities of the three (3) will be taken care of by the match agent

#### **With services of a Match Agent**

- 2) A contract shall be signed between the match agent as one party with both UPL Secretariat and the Home Club as the other party.
- 3) The contract shall indicate the obligations, rights and privileges of all parties
- 4) Rules governing operations of FUFA registered match agents shall be outlined in the FUFA Match Agents Regulations.

#### **Without services of a Match Agent**

- 5) The tickets for all league matches shall be printed and delivered to stadium by the Home Club
- 6) No spectator shall enter the stadium during game time for any League match unless the person is a holder of a valid and lawfully obtained ticket.
- 7) Issuing of an entry ticket shall not in any way be deemed to render the entities, Staff and Officials of UPL Secretariat, FUFA, Match day Clubs or Stadium management and Sponsors liable for any injury, damage or loss caused while in the stadium to a person(s) in respect of whom the ticket was issued.
- 8) Members of the match crew will be entitled to free access to the stadium.
- 9) Media practitioners upon presentation of accreditation cards shall be entitled to free entrance. Accreditation of the media personnel shall be managed by UPL Secretariat.

- 10) The home club reserves the right to avail free-entry privilege of an individual or an entire category for any duration of the season or for a particular match in an exclusive effort to promote themselves
- 11) The home Club or FUFA or Stadium management reserve the right of admission and may issue persona non grata status to an individual, or a category of people. Any person(s) who enters the stadium during game time after being declared persona non grata status shall be considered to have trespassed and shall be sued for trespass

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**Article 24**    **TICKET PRICES**

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- 1) The ticket prices shall be determined by the home club(s)
- 2) Where two matches are to be played in the same venue on the same day, a meeting involving stakeholders will be organised to agree on the modalities of sharing the revenue. In event of disagreement, the UPL Secretariat shall decide on the modus operandi and the percentage shares of each party

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**Article 25**    **ENTITLEMENTS AND SHARING**

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**With Match Agent**

- 1) When a match agent works for a percentage, his fees shall be considered an operational expense of the match and after deduction of operational expenses, the revenue collected from sale of match tickets shall be as follows;

UPL Secretariat	15%
FUFA	05%
Home Club	80%

- 2) When a match agent pays a fee for all, the revenue collected from sale of the match shall be as follows;

UPL Secretariat	15%
FUFA	05%
Home Club	80%

**Without Match Agent**

- 3) Total deductions from the gross ticket sales shall include the operational costs

The net value thereafter shall be shared as follows

Home Club	80.0%
UPL Secretariat	15.0%
FUFA	05.0%

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**Article 26**    **FINES AND PETITIONS**

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The fees shall be as indicated in the circulars and/or as established in these rules and shall be paid to UPL Secretariat and a receipt issued to the paying entity.

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**Article 27**    **BUDGET SUPPORT**

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The fees shall be as indicated in the circulars and/or as established in these rules and shall be paid to UPL Secretariat and a receipt issued to the paying entity

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**Article 28**    **MEDIA AND COMMERCIAL RIGHTS**

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Shall be administered in accordance with FCR.

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**Article 29**    **MANAGEMENT OF EXPENDITURE**

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- 1) The expenditure by the UPL Secretariat shall be as outlined in the budget.
  - 2) Any club that is dismissed or demoted from the Premier League as a disciplinary action or on the club's own decision to be dissolved shall not be entitled to receive its prize money. For avoidance of doubt, clubs demoted because of their final positions in the final table standing shall receive their entitled prize money
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**Article 30**    **POWER TO DEDUCT**

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- 1) If any Club or Relegated Club ("the debtor Club") fails to make any payment due to any creditor of the description set out in (2) below, upon being reasonably satisfied to that effect, the UPL Secretariat shall be empowered to deduct the amount in instalments or wholesomely of any such payment from any funds that the debtor club is entitled and immediately pays the same to the creditor to which the amount is due.
- 2) The creditors to which Art 30 applies are:
  - a) CECAFA, CAF & FIFA and any other parties owed by participation in international competitions
  - b) Another Club in the Uganda Premier League or Lower League
  - c) FUFA
  - d) FCC
  - e) FUFA Regional Associations
  - f) FUFA District Football Association
  - g) any Associated Undertaking or Subsidiary Undertaking of the Club
  - h) Individuals or companies proven to have provided football related services and/or goods to a club

Article **31** BYE-LAWS

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With the approval of the FUFA, UPL Secretariat shall have powers to make Bye-laws deemed necessary to ensure the smooth running of the league.

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Article **32** MATTERS NOT PROVIDED FOR

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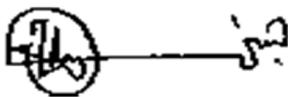
All matters not provided for in these Rules shall be decided by FCC or appropriately FUFA Executive Committee in line with the FUFA Constitution, the CAF/FIFA Statutes with the approval of the FUFA.

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Article **33** DECLARATION

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By signing, FUFA declares that these are the amended rules and regulations that shall be used for the 2014/15 Uganda Premier League.



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Edgar Watson Ssuubi  
Chief Executive Officer



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Magogo Moses  
President

Federation of Uganda Football Associations-FUFA