



Star Times Uganda Premier League

Rules



2019/20

Contents

CHAPTER I	ABBREVIATIONS AND DEFINITIONS	4
Article 1	Abbreviations	4
Article 2	Terms and phrases	4
CHAPTER II	STRUCTURES, INTERPRETATIONS & ROLES	5
Article 3	Structures	5
Article 4	Interpretations	5
Article 5	Roles	6
CHAPTER III	CLUBS	7
Article 6	Registration of Clubs	7
CHAPTER IV	THE LEAGUE	8
Article 7	Naming	8
Article 8	Composition	8
Article 9	Format	8
CHAPTER V	PLAYERS	9
Article 10	Status, Transfer and Registration of Players	9
CHAPTER VI	COACHES	10
Article 11	Coaches	10
Article 12	Trophy	10
Article 13	Management	10
Article 14	The Ranking of Teams	10
CHAPTER VII	FIXTURES	11
Article 15	Fixtures management	11
CHAPTER VIII	MATCH ORGANISATION	12
Article 16	Match day events	12
Article 17	Colours Jerseys and Strips	13
CHAPTER IX	JUDICATURE	14
Article 18	Judicature	14
CHAPTER X	FINANCE	15
Article 19	Budget	15
Article 20	Management of Income	15
Article 21	Ticket prices	16
Article 22	Entitlement and Sharing	16
Article 23	Fines and Petitions	17
Article 24	Budget support	17
Article 25	Media and Commercial rights	17
Article 26	Management of Expenditure	17
Article 27	Power to Deduct	18

CHAPTER XI DECLARATION19
Article 28 Declaration 19

“FORCE MAJEUR” shall include but not limited to act of God, act of War, revolution, fire, flood, earthquake or other physical disaster, blockade, embargo, major strike or any cause which by exercise of reasonable care and diligence, the clubs teams, match officials, are unable to prevent.

“FOOTBALL MATTERS” shall include Decisions/Actions of the Referee on the Pitch, Decisions/Actions of the FUFA or any of its Committees, and Decisions of the Annual General Meeting of the FUFA.

It is the responsibility of club management to ensure that all players, coaches and staff are conversant with these regulations and the rules of the game as detailed in the FUFA regulations.

CHAPTER I ABBREVIATIONS AND DEFINITIONS

Article 1 *Abbreviations*

- 1) As defined in the terms and phrases for FUFA Rules

Article 2 *Terms and phrases*

- 1) As defined in the terms and phrases for FUFA Rules

CHAPTER II STRUCTURES, INTERPRETATIONS & ROLES

Article 3 *Structures*

- 1) FUFA is the FIFA recognized Member Association mandated to run and oversee all football activities in Uganda.
- 2) FCC is a standing committee of FUFA that is responsible to organize 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.

Article 4 *Interpretations*

- 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 are 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

FSSL

- 2) The FSSL shall be responsible for;
 - a) Ensuring compliance of its shareholders with the requirements of the FLC and the statutes of FSSL
 - b) Enforcing proper governance standards of its shareholders in accordance with the FUFA Rules
 - c) Brand Building for its Shareholders
 - d) Commercialization of the Clubs Commercial Properties as assigned by the clubs
 - e) Capacity Building of the Human Resource at the Clubs
 - f) Receiving funds from the Rights Holder (RH).

UPL SECRETARIAT

- 3) The UPL Secretariat shall be the TOC and shall be responsible for;
 - a) Managing the fixtures and communicating changes in accordance with the FUFA Rules
 - b) Observing and bringing to the attentions of the Competitions Disciplinary Panel or FUFA Judicial bodies any infringement of FUFA Rules by UPL entities
 - c) Enforcing the television broadcast guidelines.
 - d) Managing the communications of the UPL programs to the public.
 - e) Managing the communications between the RH and the Clubs
 - f) Managing branding at Matches as guided by the FUFA Rules.
 - g) Organize meetings related to league business and communicate to clubs for representation.
 - h) Appoint match delegates (UPL Match delegates) on match days of the league whose duties shall from time to time be as communicated by the Secretariat to clubs.
 - i) Arrange for collection of information required from the clubs for day to day running of league affairs.
 - j) Any club that breach as compliance in 3(i) above shall without prejudice to other sanctions that may be imposed in line with FUFA Rules, be fined an amount of money deemed appropriate by the UPL Secretariat.

CHAPTER III CLUBS

Article 6 *Registration of Clubs*

- 1) Registration of clubs for a competition shall be done in a period stipulated by FUFA before the league begins. Clubs shall only be considered registered after receiving a Club License from FLC.
- 2) Clubs Licensing Regulations (CLR) and guidelines shall provide the procedure for a club's qualification to participate in the elite League
- 3) Club Ownership Regulations shall provide the procedure and guidelines for Club Ownership.
- 4) Sharing of match home venue shall be limited to only two clubs per match venue.
- 5) Match venues for live television coverage of league matches shall be approved in line with club licensing regulations and guidelines as well as the requirements of TV Rights Holder

CHAPTER IV THE LEAGUE

Article 7 *Naming*

- 1) This football competition shall be called the Star Times Uganda Premier League accommodating the title sponsorship holders Star Times.

Article 8 *Composition*

1. This shall be the Elite League and composed of the 13 clubs that participated in the outgoing season of the FUFA 1st division and were not relegated plus the 3 clubs that were promoted from the outgoing season of the FUFA 2nd division league.
2. Participation in the league is subject to Club Licensing.

Article 9 *Format*

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

CHAPTER V PLAYERS

Article 10 *Status, Transfer and Registration of Players*

- 1) The Registration of Players for the UPL shall be managed as stipulated in the FCR3.01
- 2) All Uganda Premier League clubs shall be restricted to registration of only 32 players per League Season.
- 3) A club may sign up to 21 Adult Players and may also sign up to 11 Junior Players with at least 4 players having registered and played in the FUFA Juniors League. All the 32 players are eligible to play for the club in FUFA Competitions. A club may loan any of the 32 players to another club
- 4) 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

Article 11 *Coaches*

- 1) Coaches shall be regulated in accordance to relevant FUFA Rules
- 2) None compliance shall be sanctioned in accordance with provisions of relevant FUFA Rules.
- 3) Occupation of team's technical bench be as provided for in FUFA Competitions Rules. Specifically, on appearance and dress code, the UPL Secretariat shall set and communicate minimum standards. Any person found to contravene these standards shall be liable for disciplinary action.

Article 12 *Trophy*

- 1) The Trophy of the League shall be sponsored and remain the property of the FUFA / Uganda Premier League
- 2) The Trophy shall be won by the club duly declared winner by FUFA/ the Uganda Premier League.
- 3) 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 (35) gold Medals.
- 4) A club that wins this trophy three (3) consecutive times shall retain it for keeps.
- 5) The trophy shall be returned in condition it was received to UPL Secretariat at least four (4) weeks to the end of the season. Failure to do so shall attract a fine of UAs 15,000 in addition to any other penalty as may be determined by the FUFA Judicial bodies.
- 6) Withdrawal from the league shall not be used as a reason for failure to return the trophy.

Article 13 *Management*

- 1) The League shall be managed these regulations and relevant FUFA Rules.

Article 14 *The Ranking of Teams*

- 1) The official table ranking of the league shall be managed by the UPL Secretariat in accordance with the provisions of the FCR

CHAPTER VII FIXTURES

Article 15 *Fixtures management*

- 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 before 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 at least 48 hours in advance other than death circumstances as provided for under FCR.
- 4) The UPL Secretariat in liaison with the TV RH shall draw a television schedule from the league fixture.
- 5) The UPL Secretariat may change the venue of the league 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
 - f) in line with match integrity as advised by relevant football authorities
 - g) under force majeure circumstances
- 6) In event of a double head fixture, there shall be pre match meeting between the TOC, the two clubs, etc. for the double head fixtures. All modalities in relation to the respective fixture e.g. gate sharing, ticket charges, expense sharing etc. shall be agreed upon by the two clubs. In case the parties fail to agree, TOC shall take a decision

CHAPTER VIII MATCH ORGANISATION

Article 16 *Match day events*

- 1) Clubs shall observe their obligations with RH as stipulated in the deed of adherence available or as amended from time to time.
- 2) Teams shall put on jerseys properly numbered and with shirt names. Any club that contravene this provision shall be liable for disciplinary action.
- 3) 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. All televised matches must have a pre-match meeting and non-attendance will attract a fine of 1000 UAs
- 4) Security of personnel and property on match day shall be a responsibility of the home team as indicated in FUFA Competitions Rules. For avoidance of doubt, securing of a match shall be by Uganda Police.
- 5) 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.
- 6) 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.
- 7) 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.
- 8) In event of televised matches, before the final whistle, the match commissioner (his absence the center 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.
- 9) After the final whistle, the match official will inform the selected person to appear as required. Any contravention of this provision shall attract a fine of 1000 UAs.
- 10) In all televised games, match kick off of both 1st and 2nd half, the referee shall wait for signal from the floor manager of TV RH unless there is a prolonged TV related technical problem.
- 11) In all other matches, it shall be the responsibility of match officials and both teams to observe kick off time of the match as officially communicated by UPL Secretariat. The match officials shall be required to report any reason for which the match did not kick off at exact time. The defaulting entity shall be liable for disciplinary action.
- 12) Use of official match balls is mandatory. The match day referee must ensure physical presence of at least 8 official Match balls before kickoff. And this number of balls under normal circumstances must at all times during play be available for use. Violation of this rule shall attract a fine of 1000UA's

- 13) Where a match announcer is deployed, he/she must undertake the activity inline with FUFA guidelines. By accepting the assignment, the announcer shall automatically fall under jurisdiction of FUFA Rules

Article 17 *Colors Jerseys and Strips*

- 1) All clubs shall appear for League matches in shirts, shorts and stockings that shall have been registered with and approved by the FLC as the design for both the home and away games of the clubs. Any club that contravenes this rule shall attract a fine of 1000 UAs. This provision notwithstanding, the referee shall have a final say as regards the team colors before kick off as provided for in Article 17(5) below.
- 2) A set of shirts and shorts used by a player shall be numbered in as prescribed by FCR and/or Club Licensing Rules.
- 3) Each club shall register with UPL Secretariat a squad number selected from the sequence prescribed by FCR 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 attract a fine of 1000 UAs.
- 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 referee's report. The offending club shall be allowed to use any other set acceptable in the opinion of the referee provided it is a registered kit.
- 6) The Match Officials shall wear colours that distinguish them from the Strip worn by the two Clubs.
- 7) No Club shall participate in a League Match wearing Strip other than its registered home Strip or alternative Strip or a combination of the same.
- 8) When playing in League Matches the Players of each participating Club should wear Strips which are of a sufficient contrast that Match Officials, spectators and television viewers will be able to distinguish clearly between the two teams.
- 9) Clubs and players that contravene any provisions of this rule shall be liable to disciplinary action and a fine of 1000 UAs.

CHAPTER IX JUDICATURE

Article 18 *Judicature*

- 1) UPL disputes, protests, petitions, complaints and appeals shall be administered in accordance to provisions of FCR and FUFA Disciplinary or Ethics Code

CHAPTER X FINANCE

Article 19 *Budget*

- 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 FSLL and/or FUFA.
 - (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) Sponsorship Funds
 - (f) Any other lawful source of income.
- 3) UPL Secretariat shall draw the UPL budget while FSLL and/or FUFA shall approve the budget.
- 4) UPL Secretariat will manage the budget.

Article 20 *Management of Income*

a) Gate Collections

- 1) All League matches will be organized 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.

b) 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.

c) 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 the home club.
- 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 them.
- 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.

Article 21 *Ticket prices*

- 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 organized 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.

Article 22 *Entitlement and Sharing*

a) 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 shared 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%

b) Without Match Agent

- 3) Total deductions from the gross ticket sales shall include the operational costs.
- 4) For purposes of this provision, operational costs shall be deemed to constitute of not more than 20% of the gross collection. :
- 5) The net value thereafter shall be shared as follows

Home Club	80.0%
UPL Secretariat	15.0%
FUFA	05.0%

- 6) The Home team shall make a declaration in a prescribed form to be issued by UPL Secretariat. This declaration shall be made within a week from the date the match is played.
- 7) In the event that the club does not declare as provided for in 22(6) above, the UPL Secretariat shall estimate an amount payable by the club.
- 8) False, vague and misleading declarations if proven shall attract sanctions including but not limited to fines, suspension and bans.

Article 23 *Fines and Petitions*

- 1) Once a petition has been lodged, no more communication shall be made by the complainant or the person/Club(s)/group in any forum. Any breach of this regulation tantamount to sanctionable measures including dismissal of the petition
- 2) 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.
- 3) The fines paid in violation of these Rules are income to the UPL Secretariat
- 4) The fines paid in violation of other FUFA Rules are income to FUFA

Article 24 *Budget support*

- 1) 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

Article 25 *Media and Commercial rights*

- 1) Refer to FCR and FUFA Regulations for Rights, Marketing and Sponsorship

Article 26 *Management of Expenditure*

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

- 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 Article 27 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
 - i) Statutory taxes and dues from the government of Uganda in place or as introduced from time to time.

CHAPTER XI DECLARATION

Article 28 Declaration

- 1) 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 approved by FUFA.

MATTERS NOT PROVIDED FOR

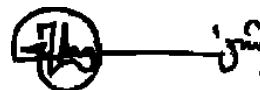
- 2) All matters not provided for in these Rules shall be decided by FCC or appropriately FUFA Executive Committee in line with the FUFA Constitution, the CAF/FIFA Statutes with the approval of the FUFA.

DECLARATION

- 3) By signing, FUFA declares that these are the amended rules and regulations that shall be used for Star Times Uganda Premier League. These regulations shall remain in force until amended



Magogo Moses
President



Edgar Watson Ssuubi
Chief Executive Officer

Federation of Uganda Football Associations-FUFA