

## **DISCOVERY KNOCK-OUT CUP**

These rules apply to both Boys and Girls competitions.

### **CUP COMMITTEE**

BOYS and GIRLS KNOCK-OUT:

- Convenor - Mr Stephenson
- Chairman – Mr Makara
- Vice Chairman – Miss Davies
- Referee co -Ordinator – Mr Mofolo

### **DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE**

All emails to be sent to [discoverycup@jpsfa.org.za](mailto:discoverycup@jpsfa.org.za)

with attention to the convenor - Mr. R. Stephenson and Chairman - Mr Makara.

### **Dates:**

- All games must be played on the dates listed on the Calander as well as on the Knockout Brackets. No exceptions will be allowed.
- No Discovery KO fixture may start later than 15:00

### **FORMAT:**

#### **Boys:**

- U9 through to open will be played in an 11-a-side format.

#### **Girls:**

- U9 and u11 will play 7-a-side format. (No Offsides)
- U14 will play 11-a-side format.

### **VENUES:**

- 1st, 2nd, and 3rd rounds played at schools.
- No match may start later than 15:00 in Rounds 1, 2 and 3.
- Quarterfinals and semi-finals and finals are at a neutral venue that will be communicated as soon as a venue is confirmed.
- In rounds 1, 2 and 3: Schools must agree on venues a week before the matches scheduled.
- In all the rounds, if a mutually acceptable arrangement cannot be found, Mr Stephenson will determine the venue based on the facts made available.

### **AGE GROUPS:**

For 2026 the age groups are as follows:

- U9 born in 2017
- U10 born in 2016
- U11 born in 2015
- U12 born in 2014
- U13 born in 2013
- U14 born in 2012

### **REFEREES: (Proof of SAFA level is needed)**

- The visiting school has the right to nominate the referee under condition:
- that the visiting school has a SAFA-qualified referee.
- If the visiting school does not have a SAFA-qualified referee, then the host school may nominate the referee on condition that they have a SAFA-qualified staff member or coach.
- If neither school has a SAFA-qualified staff member or coach, then the visiting school may nominate the referee.
- This issue must be resolved when fixtures are confirmed in the week prior to the fixture.

**NB: HOCKEY-STYLE REFEREEING IS NOT PERMITTED IN THIS COMPETITION**

## ELIGIBILITY:

THE FOLLOWING IS REQUIRED ON MATCH DAY AT THE VENUE:

- A PRINCIPAL'S LETTER WITH ALL THE NAMES, SURNAMES AND DATE OF BIRTHS OF ALL THE PLAYERS PLAYING IN THE FIXTURE, AS WELL AS THE GRADE THE PLAYER IS IN.
- INDEMNITY FORMS. (These can be found on the JPSFA website)
- Once a player has participated in an age group fixture, he is then cup-tied to that age group and that school.
- A player listed in the team list or return will be regarded as having participated in the cup game.
- In the event of a player changing schools, his/her case must be presented to Exco for a ruling on his/her eligibility.
- ALL DISCOVERY KNOCK-OUT GAMES ARE GENDER-SPECIFIC.
- ONLY 15 PLAYERS ARE PERMITTED ON THE TEAM RETURN.
- Only those players listed on the team return are allowed to play in the fixture and sit on the bench.
- The competition rules state that all players and substitutes must be listed on a JPSFA team return before kick-off.
- Only the players and substitutes named in the starting line-up may take part in the match upon their arrival.
- A team may start the match with a minimum of 7 players if they don't have enough to field a full team.
- **ONLY PRIMARY-SCHOOL PUPILS UP TO AND INCLUDING GRADE 7'S ARE ELIGIBLE. NO HIGH-SCHOOL PUPILS MAY PARTICIPATE.**

## Indemnity forms:

- The previous years indemnity form may be used for the duration of the players primary school for the Discovery/JPSFA knockout games.
- u9's will need to fill in a new indemnity form.
- New players will need to sign indemnity forms.

## TEAM LISTS:

A JPSFA team list is properly completed and signed. **(On the JPSFA Web Site for download)**

## BEFORE THE GAME STARTS:

- Coaches must check and verify players by checking the principal's letter and indemnities and team return.
- Coaches have the right to verify the age, identity, and eligibility of any player on the list.
- If both team lists are not available or incomplete, the fixture will be abandoned, and both teams will be excluded from the competition.
- The JPSFA reserves the right to verify any players at any stage of the competition. Schools will need to avail a school representative not associated with any of the teams. Ideally the School Deputy principal and or the school principal, should there be a need to verify players and/or settle disputes.

## SUBMISSION OF TEAM RETURNS:

The official team return is available on the JPSFA web. This is the only form that may be submitted with the result via EMAIL. The completed team return must reach the admin by 14:00 the next day to the following email:

**[discoverycup@jpsfa.org.za](mailto:discoverycup@jpsfa.org.za)**

- Both the winning school and the losing school must submit a team return.
- Failure to submit by the deadline time will result in a Disqualification of teams that do not submit.

## DURATION OF GAMES:

### **Boys:**

- U9, U10, U11: 20 minutes each way
- U12, U13, U14: 25 minutes each way

### **Girls:**

- U9: 15 minutes each way

- U11: 15 minutes each way
- U14: 20 minutes each way

### **Substitution: (REFEREES MUST BE MADE AWARE OF ALL SUBSTITUTIONS)**

#### **BOYS:**

- Boys u9 through to Open: 4 substitutes will be permitted (no Rolling substitutions for the boys).

#### **GIRLS:**

- U9 and u11: 4 substitutions with rolling substitutions.
- U14: 4 substitutes with no rolling subs

### **RESULTS OF GAMES: (CORNERS WILL NOT BE USED TO DETERMINE RESULTS)**

For Rounds 1, 2 and 3: (All age groups and teams)

- If there is no result after the stipulated time has been played, the following procedure will apply:
- 2 x 5 - minutes periods of extra time will be played.
- If there is still no result:
- If there is still no result the game will be decided by a coin toss. This will be done by the coaches and the two team captains.

#### **For the Quarter finals, Semi Finals and Finals:**

##### **Boys u9 and u10. Girls u9 and u11:**

- If there is no result after the stipulated time has been played, the following procedure will apply:
- 2 X 5 - minute periods of extra time will be played.

- If there is still no result the game will be decided by a coin toss. This will be done by the coaches and the two team captains. (Quarter finals and Semi Finals)
- *IN THE FINAL IF THE SCORES ARE THE SAME: THE TROPHY SHALL BE SHARED.*

#### **Boys u11, u12, u13 and u14 AND U14 GIRLS:**

- If there is no result after the stipulated time has been played, the following procedure will apply:
- 2 X 5 - minute periods of extra time will be played.
- If the results are the same at the end of extra time the following will apply:
- 3 penalties per team. There after sudden, death penalties.

#### **DISCIPLINE:**

**NB: Any disputes or complaints need to be sent with the Team returns. Should a complaint be filled after 14:00 pm the following day, it will not be considered.**

- In the event of a dispute regarding the playing conditions (i.e. fields), photographic evidence must be submitted to the cup co-ordinator.
- If a team return is not available or incomplete at any stage from the pre-round to the finals, please note the following:
  - The Discovery Knock-Out co-ordinator will award the game to the non-offending team.
  - The offending team and coach will have this explained to them before the game is played.
  - The game will be played as a friendly to give the non-offending team match practice.

#### **CATEGORY ONE OFFENCES:**

Schools that have entered the Discovery Knock Out may be found guilty if they:

- Fail to fulfil fixtures.
- Fail to fulfil fixtures on the specified date

- Provide incorrect team returns.
- Provide incomplete team returns.
- Fail to submit a team return with the results before the deadline, either on the App or email.
- Fail to start the game before 15:00 for rounds 1,2 and 3, only if the hosting school is playing one match per field.
- Fail to submit results on or before the specified date.

### **CATEGORY TWO OFFENCES:**

- Schools that have entered the Discovery Knock Out may be found guilty if they:
  - Use overage players.
  - Use non-registered players or match officials.
  - Use high-school players i.e., grade 8 players.
  - Include non-eligible players i.e. Cup-tied players; players who have played for another school and a Knock-Out Cup team unless permission to play has been granted by Exco. N.B. players are deemed to be cup-tied if they are listed on the official team return

### **Regardless of a result: the following will be an instant disqualification:**

- DISPLAY ABUSIVE BEHAVIOUR TOWARDS REFEREES, PLAYERS, COACHES OR PARENTS FROM THE START OF THE MATCH AND UP UNTIL THE LEAVING OF THE VENUE.

### **SANCTIONS**

#### **CATEGORY ONE OFFENCES:**

- The offending team will be excluded from the rest of the current year's competition.
- The school will face a possible fine of R1 000 to the Association. The Association will use this fine to assist schools with the cost of travel or catering if the fixture is cancelled.
- Failure to pay this fine will result in the school being withdrawn from all JPSFA activities.

#### **CATEGORY TWO OFFENCES:**

- Relevant coaches, Head of Sport, and a member of the SMT will be required to attend a Disciplinary hearing. The hearing will provide the school with an opportunity to present their case and the JPSFA committee to hear from others, in order that an informed and appropriate sanction may be applied.
- The school will be subjected to possible expulsion for a period of 3 years from the Discovery Knockout Cup,

### **CROWD OFFENCES:**

Should a spectator/parent or any school official that enter the field of play or displays unruly behaviour, the offending team will be disqualified.

JPSFA