COMPETITION RULES – MICFootball PUNTA CANA'27

1. ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

The MICFootball Punta Cana is organized by GST GROUP SRL (Global Sports Tournaments) and will be governed according to the rules and regulations of FIFA.
The present regulations describe the modifications of the rules and regulations previously detailed, adapting them to the MICFootball Punta Cana'27 competition.

2. CATEGORIES

a. **Eleven-a-side**
- U16 – Players born after 01.01.2011
- U15 – Players born after 01.01.2012
- U14 – Players born after 01.01.2013
- U13 – Players born after 01.01.2014
- F16 (Female) – Players born after 01.01.2011

b. **Seven-a-side**
- U12 – Players born after 01.01.2015
- U11 – Players born after 01.01.2017

3. EXCEPTIONS

Categories U16, U15, U14, U13, and F16: Teams may register a maximum of two (2) players born in the year prior to the respective age category.
Categories U12 and U10: Teams may register a maximum of one (1) player born in the year prior to the respective age category.
All the categories (except F16) can have teams of both boys and girls.

4. DOCUMENTATION

Before the start of the competition all players and staff members must be accredited and registered on the competition platform.
During the competition only team members who are accredited will be allowed in the assigned technical area.
The registration or modification of players and staff members won't be allowed once the competition has started.

The person responsible for each team will receive from the organization copies of the list of players. Thirty minutes (30') before each game, one of these lists must be handed to the director or assistant director of the field indicating the numbers that the players will wear during the match.
All players must identify themselves with an ID card, passport or other official document accrediting their age with a current photograph. All teams are required to carry with them in each game the documentation of all team members proving their identity (ID card, passport, card, etc.).

The corresponding review of documentation will be made before the start of the competition, but also if circumstances require it, the organization may repeat it at any other time.

5. NUMBER OF PLAYERS & LINE-UP

There is no maximum limitation on the number of players registered per match.
It is allowed to line up a player in different teams of the same club as long as the team where the player is fielded is of a different and higher category. In no case may a player be fielded in another team of the same category or lower category than the one in which he is registered, regardless of his age.
For the 11-a-side categories, the minimum amount of registered players must be 14. For the 7-a-side categories, the minimum number of players registered must be 9.

In no case, a player can play the competition with two different clubs or two teams of the same club participating in the same category.
In order to be properly aligned, 5 hours must have passed between the end of a match and the start of another. Always with the previous authorization of the organization.

6. SUBSTITUTIONS

Changes are free without the need to stop the game, always under previous authorization of the director, assistant field manager or referee.
The game will only be stopped if the substituted player is the goalkeeper, or if the referee or field director thinks it's necessary.
Any substituted player may re-enter.
All substitutions must be made through the center of the field. The player who enters the field must do so once the field director or assistant field director has given his approval.

7. FACILITIES & PLAYING FIELDS

All fields are of natural turf of the highest quality.
It is forbidden to use aluminum cleats in the fields.

8. BALLS

All matches will be played with FIFA PRO brand balls (11-a-side categories size 5 and 7-a-side categories size 4).
The organization will not leave balls to warm up before the games. It is recommended that teams bring their own balls.

9. UNIFORM/KIT

Each club is required to bring at least two numbered playing uniforms or one numbered kit and one set of numbered bibs. All jerseys must be properly numbered, and the numbers must match the team list. It is recommended that the players wear the same number throughout the competition.

Teams shall wear the first official kit of the designated club prior to the start of the competition. If the kits of both teams match in color or the referee determines that confusion may occur, the away team (listed second on the competition schedule) shall change kits.

All players playing in the match are required to wear shin guards.
Players warming up during the course of the match must stand in the area previously established by the Field Director wearing a bib/vest that does not coincide in color with any of the teams in play.

10. GAME PROGRAM

The organizing committee reserves the right to make changes to the game program, both in terms of schedules and playing fields. The information about the changes will be communicated to the team responsible.

11. DURATION OF MATCHES

All games will consist of two (2) 25-minute halves (2 x 25min).
There will be a strict two-minute (2) halftime break between halves to allow teams to switch sides and hydrate. For the tournament's finals, the halftime interval will be extended to three (3) minutes.
The organizing committee is authorized to alter the duration and schedule of the games if circumstances require it.

12. PUNCTUALITY

Teams must be on the field between 1 hour and 30 minutes before the scheduled start of the competition. Thirty minutes (30') before the start of the match, the team must be ready on the field.

13. COMPETITION SYSTEM

The competition system is composed by 3 phases.

a. **CLASSIFICATION ROUND**
   Teams will be distributed in groups formed by 4 teams each.
   In this round teams will play each other in a league group format.
b. **GOLD ROUND**
   This round will be played by the best teams classified in the "Classification Round".
   This round will be played according to a play-off format, and in case of draw they will be decided without extra time, by penalties according to FIFA rules.
c. **SILVER ROUND**
   This round will be played by the teams not classified for the "Gold Round"
   This round will be played according to a play-off format, and in case of draw they will be decided without extra time, by penalties according to FIFA rules.

*The competition format may vary depending on the number of participating teams. If any category includes groups with an unequal number of teams, standings will be determined based on a points-per-game coefficient, calculated by dividing the total points earned by the number of matches played.

In the event of a tie in the coefficient between two or more teams, standard tie-breaking criteria will be applied, using the coefficient derived from each team's actual number of matches played.

14. SCORING FOR THE QUALIFICATION ROUND LEAGUE

- Match won: 3 points
- Match drawn: 1 point.
- Match lost: 0 points.

15. CLASSIFICATION CRITERIA

In case of a tie between two teams

1. Individual goal average.
2. Global goal average.
3. Number of goals scored.
4. Youngest team.

In the case of a tie between more than two teams* 1.

1. Points obtained in the matches played between the teams involved.
2. Goal-average of the matches played between the teams involved.
3. Number of goals scored in the matches played between the teams involved.
4. Goal-average general.
5. Number of goals scored in the general classification of the group.
6. Youngest team.

*If the tie between more than two teams in any point becomes a tie between two teams, then it will be considered a "tie between two teams" and the tie will be broken according to the appropriate criteria.

16. PENALTY KICKS TO BREAK TIES IN PLAY-OFFS

It will be carried out in accordance with the FIFA rules. The teams will shoot a penalty shootout, one at a time alternately (5 penalties in the 11-a-side and 3 in the 7-a-side categories). If there is still a tie, it will go to sudden death. The teams will shoot a penalty alternately until one scores and the other misses.

Only players who are on the field at the end of the match may participate in the penalty shootout. Each penalty kick shall be taken by a different player. Only after each team member has taken a penalty kick (including the goalkeeper) may players take a second penalty kick.

17. RULES FOR A PENALTY SHOOTOUT

A goalkeeper who suffers a clear and obvious injury, confirmed by the medical team of the organization present on the field, during the execution of the penalty shootout and can no longer play may be replaced.

Any eligible player may change places with the goalkeeper at any time during the execution of the penalty shootout.

If at the end of the match and before the penalty kicks are taken a team has more players than its opponent, it must reduce its number of players to equal that of its opponent, and the team manager must inform the field director and the referee of the name and number of each player excluded.

Thus, any excluded player will not be allowed to take part in the penalty kicks.
All players available, according to the rules, to take the penalty kick shootout, must stand in the center of the field, with the exception of both goalkeepers and the player taking the penalty kick. The rest of the players and coaching staff must remain in the assigned technical area.

18. MIC PUNTA CANA COMPETITION COMMITTEE

The Competition Committee shall be appointed by the organizing entity of MICFootball Punta Cana'27. This committee will consist of three people, including two members of the organizing entity and a member of the Technical Committee of Referees.

The matters of protests and claims will be handled by the Competition Committee and its written resolutions may not be appealed or changed.

19. SANCTIONS

If a team lines up a sanctioned player or a player who does not comply with the requirements of the rules, the team will lose the match in question by 3-0.
If a player commits an infraction punishable by a caution or expulsion (either on or off the field), he will be penalized according to the nature of the act according to the referee's report and under the sanction parameters detailed in the regulations and rules of the game.
The yellow card will be used to communicate a caution. A player who receives two yellow cards in the same match will be expelled from the match and will not be allowed to participate in the same match.

The red card will be used to communicate an expulsion.

During the course of the competition the use of the blue card will NOT be valid.

Expulsions, previously verified and reviewed by the Competition Committee, will not be penalized in the following cases:

- Being sent off after preventing a goal with a hand or wasting an obvious goal-scoring opportunity.
- Being sent off after a minor offence for being the last player in an obvious goalscoring move.
- Receiving a second caution in the same match, this being of a minor nature and with no further repercussions.

Expulsions of a serious nature will be sanctioned by the Competition Committee and may lead to the suspension of one or more match days, in the following cases:

- Serious foul play.

- Spitting at an opponent or any other person.
- Violent conduct.
- Using offensive, insulting or humiliating language and/or gestures.
- Aggressive and/or unsportsmanlike conduct.
- All actions that the Competition Committee considers of a serious nature.

All cases of serious expulsion will be reported to the national federation of the country of the player involved.
Unsportsmanlike conduct, regardless of whether it occurs on or off the field of play, may result in the exclusion of a player or team from the competition.

20. DISCIPLINARY MATTERS

All incidents and expulsions that may occur during the course of the competition (on or off the field) will be reported to the Competition Committee.
The Competition Committee shall be solely responsible for applying the corresponding disciplinary sanctions. At the end of each day the sanctions will be communicated to the teams concerned.
The sanctions imposed by the Competition Committee and its written decisions may not be appealed or changed.

21. SUSPENDED MATCH

If a match is suspended due to any incident and/or incident, the Competition Committee will decide on the following parameters, taking into account the reason for the suspension.

- The match is replayed from the start.
- The match is replayed from the minute when it was suspended.
- The result of the match when suspended is set as the final result.
- One of the teams wins 3-0.
- Both teams lose the match (0-3).

22. REFEREES

MICFootball Punta Cana referees belong to International Referee Committees and will be appointed by the Technical Committee. Their decisions are unappealable and in no case will be grounds for complaint.

23. CLAIMS

Protests or claims must be submitted in writing to the Course Director or Head of the Organization together with the claim fee of $100, which will be returned in case of a favorable resolution.
These claims must be submitted no later than 30 minutes after the end of the match in question.
Claims will be accepted only if they are submitted by the delegate or team manager duly accredited.

Complaints will not be accepted for refereeing decisions.
The written decisions of the organizing committee cannot be appealed or changed.

24. RULES OF ORDER

Delegates are responsible for their players in case of damage in the locker rooms, hotels, buses, or other facilities.

Silence must be respected in the hotels between 23:00 and 8:00 hours. Mealtimes established by the hotel managers must be respected. It is forbidden to travel in the organization's transport without a T-shirt. It is forbidden to bring alcohol or other substances not allowed for children under 18 years old in the rooms.

Failure to comply with any of these rules by any player, coach or companion may be grounds for expulsion from the tournament.

25. RESPONSIBILITIES AND INSURANCE

All clubs/teams must have their players insured on and off the field. All participants must have a health card and own private insurance. GST GROUP SRL (Global Sports Tournaments) is not responsible for possible damages to participants such as loss of personal belongings (due to theft or other circumstances) or injuries. Neither will they be responsible for measures taken by public authorities or transportation companies such as strikes, cancellations, etc. The club, at the time of registration, declares that its players are physically fit for the event. The organization declines all responsibility for any damage that participants may cause during and after the competition both to themselves and to third parties.

26. DATABASE

All participants registered on the official platform of the tournament are required to fill out the data protection form, have it signed by their legal representatives, and deliver it to the organization before the tournament. Through this form, they will give their consent to the processing of their data. Participation in the event authorizes GST GROUP SRL (Global Sports Tournaments) to use any graphic reproduction of the participants during the tournament.

Players and / or clubs that do not submit the authorization of image rights before the start of the competition, may not participate in the MICFootball Punta Cana'27.

27. MODIFICATION

Any circumstance that has not been reflected in the rules, is the sole responsibility of those responsible for the organization, being their decisions unappealable, reserving the right to add, modify, interpret, and apply the rules according to their criteria and the needs of each tournament. GST GROUP SRL (Global Sports Tournaments) reserves the right to modify these rules for the benefit of the competition. All changes made to these rules will be communicated in writing to the head of the participating club or team.