Greater Reading Nepalese Community Association
Reading cup 2026
9-A-Side Football Tournament

Game Rules

1. Laws of the Game

a. The Laws of Association Football will apply, unless otherwise stated, except that the normal law governing ‘offside' will not be taken into account.

2. Goal Kicks

The goalkeeper may only handle the ball in his own ‘goal area'. Handling outside the ‘goal area' will result in the award of a direct free kick.

3. Teams and Players

a. A team is to consist of 9 players, one of which is to be a goalkeeper and should be over 18 years old (**DOB should be before 9th October 2008**) **and three players of 16 years old (DOB should be before 9th October 2010).** Each team is allowed to have 6 substitutes. They are to be registered on the day of the tournament. Unregistered players will not be allowed to play for a team. Teams who substitute unregistered players will automatically be disqualified and will no longer participate in the tournament.

b. Substitution may take place at any time when the ball is out of play. However, a player who has been dismissed by the referee for misconduct or other reasons cannot be substituted. Referee is to be informed before substituting players.

c. A player is allowed to play for the registered team only. Any team found to be in breach of this rule will be automatically disqualified from participating in the tournament. If this be the case, then the remaining 2 teams in the pool will compete against each other.

d. A player who has been sent off will missed 2 game. However, a player sent off for denying a goal scoring opportunity, 2 yellow cards or other technical offences well miss one game and may be reinstituted at the discretion of the Decision Committee after having given regard to the referee's report.

e. The referee will be the sole judge of timings for matches.

F. There can be maximum of **3 foreign players** in a team.

4. Team Kit

a. Players kit are to consist of soccer boots/training shoes and their team colours. DMS boots and other form of civilian shoes will not be allowed. All players must wear shin guards. Players will not be allowed to play bare feet.

5.Team Colours

a. All participating teams are strongly advised to bring a second set of colours in case of colour clash. In the event of colour clash, the referee will a toss of a coin to decide who is to change colours. The referee's decision will be final.

b. To avoid any disappointment, please ensure that you do bring a second set of team colour. GRNCA will have beeps in hand for teams that do not have second set of colours.

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6. Conduct/Discipline - On and Off the Pitch

a. Team captains/managers are reminded that inappropriate use of language on and off the pitch will not be tolerated. Appropriate actions will be taken against those found to be in breach of this rule.

Anyone, whether it be a player or a team, found to be displaying unsportsmanlike conduct and disrupting a game will be disqualified from taking any further part in the tournament. Depending upon the severity of the conduct, team(s) may also be barred from entering any future Reading cup tournaments.

b. To this end, we expect team captains/managers to display a high degree of control and leadership over their teams during the tournament.

7. Complaints/Disputes

a. Any complaints/disputes arising in a game will be handled by the Decision Committee consisting of a senior Referee, Tournament Co-ordinator and the Sports Secretary. Team captain/managers are to lodge their complaints/disputes at the Control Tent along with £50. **Complaints/disputes from the individual players will not be accepted.** Consultation and advice of the match referee will be taken into account. **The committee's decision will be final.**

8. Team Pools

a. This will be clearly displayed in the area of the Control Tent according to the number of teams that have entered the tournament. Announcement will be 5 minutes before each match to ensure that teams are at their designated pitch to commence their game on time. It is the responsibility of team captains/ managers to regularly check their team's game schedule and ensure that their teams report on time for their games. Any team turning up 5 minutes late for their match after being informed will have their game forfeited. The other team will be declared the winner and gain 3 points.

b. Any changes to match timings for reasons beyond our control will be announced and all team captains/ managers informed.

c. If a team withdraws from a pool league, their name will be deleted and all their matches declared null and void. The remaining teams in that pool will continue to play as per the match fixture.

9. Match scores

a. the match scores for each game for league phase will be as follows:

i. Winner - 3 points

ii. Draw - 1 point

iii. Loser - 0 point

10. Match decision

a. there will be no extra time played in the pre-quarter, quarter and semi-finals. Extra time will only be

implemented in the finals and this will of 5 minutes duration each way. If a winner still does not emerge after extra time in the final than this will be decided on penalty kicks as stated below:

b. penalty kicks will only be taken to decide matches in the pre-quarter finals, quarter finals, semi finals and the final.

c. the procedure for penalty kicks to decide a winner in the knock out phase will be as follows:

i. Three nominated players from each team will take the penalty

ii. If this fails to deicide a winner, then the sudden death rule will apply.

d. any player in the team can take a penalty provided that they are in the field of play at the completion of the game. No other players may take the penalty. All players are to assemble at the half way line when taking penalties. Only the player called out by the referee is to move forward to take the penalty.

11. Knockout Phase Qualification

a. team with the highest points and second highest points from each pool will through into the pre-quarter finals.

b. should teams end up with even scores; the team with greater number of goals scored will qualify.

c. failing this, goal difference will be taken into account to decide the winner i.e. goals conceded.

12. Match Duration

a. these will be as follows:

i. Pool league- 10 min each way

ii. Pre- Quarter Finals- 10 min each way

iii. Quarter Final- 10 min each way

iv. Semi Final -10 min each way

v. Final -10 min each way

13.Referees and Linesmen

a. These will be provided by GRNCA. Linesmen will only be used in the final game of the tournament.

14. Tournament Prizes and Distribution

a. Prizes will be distributed to veterans, non-veterans after the final game as follows:

i. Tournament Cup

ii. Winners: Individual Trophies, certificate and Cheque of (£2026.00 for Main Team, £1026 for Veterans, £526 for Super Vet)

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iii. Runner-ups: Individual trophies, certificate and Cheque of (£1026.00 Main Team , £526 for Veterans, £326 for Super Vet)

iv. Man of the Match/Highest Scorer: Trophy

Note: Highest scorer: in case of equal score between more than one player, the winner will be decided by toss of a coin. Score will count from QF onwards.

b. We would greatly appreciate if teams only left after the prize distribution.

15. Veteran Teams

a. The veteran pool will consist of 8/10 teams. This will be on a 'first come first served basis. The minimum age limit for a person to participate in the veteran team will be 38 years (**DOB should be before 9 October 1988) – with three players of 36 years (DOB should be before 9th Oct 1990).** Application submission deadlines and games rules for veteran will be the same as for other entrants.
b. Should complaints/dispute arise as to a genuine age or identity of a player in the tournament then an identity check will be carried out.

16. Players Identity

a. A proof of identity (photocopy of a driving license or passport) of all participating players, veterans/non-veterans, are to be attached to the Entry Form. A player will not be registered and will not be able to participate without providing a proof of identity.

b. The Committee reserves the right to alter or vary any of the Rules of the Competition at any time for any reason, it is in the opinion of the Committee that by doing so, they are acting in the best interest of the majority of participants in the tournament.

17. injury or damage
a. Organiser will provide first aid service on the tournament being a charity organisation, we are unable to undertake responsibility for any injury or damage incurred.
b. Organiser will not responsible for any illegal parking, lost, stolen and damage of personal belongings and properties.

18. Tournament Cancellation

a. should inclement weather preclude us to hold the tournament on the day, another date will be re-scheduled for the tournament. If this is not feasible, then all entry fees will be returned to participating teams.

15. Super Veteran Teams

a. The veteran pool will consist of 4/6 teams. This will be on a 'first come first served basis. The minimum age limit for a person to participate in the veteran team will be 45 years (**DOB should be before 9 October 1981)** Application submission deadlines and games rules for veteran will be the same as for other entrants.
b. Should complaints/dispute arise as to a genuine age or identity of a player in the tournament then an identity check will be carried out.

Thank you.

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Min Kumar Gurung
Coordinator,
Youth Secretary GRNCA
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