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COMPETITION RULES
2023 - 2024

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CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION

A. Scope

Article 1

These rules and regulations apply to the 2023 Grassroots International Tournament (the Tournament), organized by the LIGA MX / EXPANSION MX (the League).

B. Participating Clubs

Article 2

There will be eight participating Clubs, four Clubs from the League, two Clubs invited from the Major League Soccer (MLS), one Club invited from the Liga Nacional de Fútbol Profesional de España (LaLiga), y and one Club invited from Liga Brasileirao, as its shown below:

LIGA BBVA INTERNACIONAL		CLUBES / TEAMS	
	GUADALAJARA LIGA BBVA MX		ATLÉTICO DE MADRID LA LIGA
	RAYADOS DE MONTERREY LIGA BBVA MX		FC DALLAS MLS
	SANTOS LAGUNA LIGA BBVA MX		LOS ÁNGELES FC MLS
	TOLUCA LIGA BBVA MX		PALMEIRAS BRASILEIRAO

The Tournament shall take place in Mexico City **from August 14th to 27th 2023**.

All clubs shall comply with the Code of Ethics, the Regulations and Protocols of LIGA MX, the FMF and FIFA.

CHAPTER II COMPETITION SYSTEM

A. General Terms

Article 3

The competition consists in a Qualifying Round and the Final Match.

Qualifying Round. Consists on a Round Robin or all-play-all round in which all the Clubs play against each other once despite the group in which they are located; and

Final Match. The best team from each Group, will play the Final Match.

B. Qualification Round

Article 4

The eight aforementioned Clubs will be divided in two Groups of four Clubs each, as follows:

LIGA BBVA INTERNACIONAL		GRUPOS / GROUPS			
G1		GUADALAJARA LIGA BBVA MX	G2		ATLÉTICO DE MADRID LA LIGA
		RAYADOS DE MONTERREY LIGA BBVA MX			FC DALLAS MLS
		SANTOS LAGUNA LIGA BBVA MX			LOS ÁNGELES FC MLS
		TOLUCA LIGA BBVA MX			PALMEIRAS BRASILEIRAO

Article 5

Point System

Every match, the Clubs will obtain:

- 5.1. Three points for a win
- 5.2. One point for a tie
- 5.3. Zero points for a loss

C. Final Match

Article 6

The International Tournament will be played as follows:

LIGA BBVA INTERNACIONAL		FINAL / FINAL	
G1	 GUADALAJARA LIGA BBVA MX	G2	 ATLÉTICO DE MADRID LA LIGA
	 RAYADOS DE MONTERREY LIGA BBVA MX		 FC DALLAS MLS
	 SANTOS LAGUNA LIGA BBVA MX		 LOS ÁNGELES FC MLS
	 TOLUCA LIGA BBVA MX		 PALMEIRAS BRASILEIRAO
			VS
			1ER LUGAR 1ST PLACE G2

Article 7

In the event that two or more Clubs finish the qualification stage with an equal number of points, the following system will be as tie-breakers:

- 7.1 Goal difference, *i.e.*, greater difference between scored and received goals
- 7.2 Bigger amount of goals scored
- 7.3 Head-to-head result
- 7.4 Points System of yellow cards and red cards.

Article 8

The Points System of yellow cards and red cards mentioned in paragraph 7.4 above, will be calculated as follows:

First yellow card	1 point
Second yellow card (indirect red card)	3 points
Direct red card	3 points
One yellow card and one direct red card	4 points

In case of applying these tiebreakers, the Club with the fewest amounts of points will occupy the best position in their respective Group Table.

Article 9

A single match between the best Club from Group 1 and the best Club form Group 2 will decide the Champion of the Tournament.

D. General rules of the Competition

Article 10

Final match will be played by a single game. If the score is tied after the end of regular time, then there will be penalty kicks to define the winner.

Article 11

Penalty Kicks

Procedure

The referee chooses the goal at which the penalty kicks will be taken.

The referee tosses a coin and the Club's captain who wins the toss decides whether to take the first or the second penalty kick.

The referee keeps a record of the taken penalty kicks.

Subject to the conditions explained below, both Clubs take five penalty kicks.

The penalty kicks are taken alternately by the Clubs.

If, before both Clubs have taken the five penalty kicks, one has scored more goals than the other could score, even if had not taken its five penalty kicks, no more penalty kicks will be taken.

If, after both Clubs have taken five penalty kicks, and both Clubs have scored the same number of goals, or have not scored any goals, the penalty kicks will continue to be taken in the same order until one Club has scored one more goal than the other Club in the same number of penalty kicks.

A goalkeeper who is injured while the penalty kicks are being taken from the penalty mark and is unable to continue in the penalty shootout, as a goalkeeper he may be replaced by substitute player when his Club has not exceeded the maximum number of substitutes permitted under the competition rules.

With the exception of the foregoing case, only players who were on the field of play at the end of the match, are eligible to take part on the penalty shootouts.

Each penalty kick is taken by a different player and all eligible players must take a penalty kick before any player can take a second one.

An eligible player may change places with the goalkeeper at any time when penalty kicks are being taken.

Only the eligible players and match officials are permitted to remain on the field of play when penalty kicks are being taken.

All players, except the player taking the penalty kick and the two goalkeepers must remain in midfield, *i.e.* the center circle.

In line with the above, the goalkeeper who is the team-mate of the kicker must remain outside the penalty area in which the penalty shootouts are being taken, specifically where goal line meets the penalty area boundary line.

If, at the end of the match and before kicks start to be taken from the penalty mark, one team has a greater **number of players than their opponents**, they must reduce their numbers to equate with that of their opponents and the team captain must inform the referee of the name and number of each player excluded.

Unless otherwise stated, the relevant Laws of the Game and International F.A. Board Decisions apply when kicks from the penalty mark are being taken.

CHAPTER III REGISTRATION

A. Players

Article 12

Each participating Club shall ensure that all players of its representative team were born on or after 1st January 2006.

Each participating Club shall register a minimum of 20 players and 5 Delegation members (officials). It is mandatory that the Delegation includes a Coach, a Doctor and a Delegation Head who can be an official not included in the list or one taken from such list without exceed the limit of 5 officials allowed.

The registration of players shall be through the digital platform “SIID” where the Clubs will have to fulfill all the requirements.

Mexican Club could register a Player or a member of the Technical Staff who does not have a unique identification number (NUI), or who is not active. They must comply with all the requirements indicated in the Competition Regulations of the Mexican Clubs (Grassroots Tournaments Sub 23, Sub 18, Sub 16 and Sub 14 Season 2023 – 2024), regarding each case. The Club must comply with all the requirements that the “SIID” requires, in accordance with the established guidelines for the tournament.

The registration for these Players and/or members of the Technical Staff will be valid only during this Tournament.

B. Registration Period

Article 13

The registration period will be from July 20 to Saturday August 05 2023 through the digital platform “SIID”.

The League shall issue each player and Club official with an official accreditation bearing a photograph. Each participating Club will receive a maximum of 25 accreditations (20 for the listed players and 5 for their officials).

Active Players and Officials of the Mexican Clubs, must send the list of participants in the Tournament to the Affiliation and Registration Department, no later than August 5, 2023, in order to that it be verified

CHAPTER IV
MATCHES**A. Line Up**

Article 14

The line up is the list of players and officials that are allowed to take part in a match and to be included in the Referees list, even though they do not participate in the match.

Article 15

There is unlawful line up infraction when:

- 15.1 A player or an official that is not in the Line up and takes part in a match.
- 15.2 A player or an official that is not registered for the Tournament takes part in a match.
- 15.3 If there is an alteration, modification or falsification of the Tournament accreditations.
- 15.4 The participation of any player, either as a part of the start list or of the substitute's bench that the Disciplinary Committee or any authority of the Tournament, FIFA or TAS has previously penalized.

B. Disciplinary actions

Article 16

The Disciplinary Committee will penalize the unlawful line up.

Article 17

The unlawful line up will be penalized as follows:

- 17.1 The infringer Team will lose the match. The three points, will be adjudicated to the other Club.
- 17.2 In case of a 0-0 tie, the Club that commits the fault, will lose the match and the Club that acted legally will win the match 1-0.
- 17.3 In the event of an 1-1 tie and/or with a higher tied score, the goals scored by the Club that acted legally must be respected. The final result for the offending Club will be 0 (zero), while for the Club that acted legally the goals scored in the match will be respected.
- 17.4 If the Club that acted legally loses the match with no goals scored, that team will win the game and the score will be 1-0. In case of losing the match scoring goals, their number of goals scored will be respected and only the goals scored by the offending Club will be annulled.

CHAPTER V UNIFORMS

A. Uniforms

Article 18

The Clubs shall use the registered uniforms.

The League will inform the Clubs of the colors that they shall wear for each match.

In case of confusion, the Referees Committee, listening to the League opinion, will decide the colors that the Club shall wear.

The basic compulsory equipment of a player comprises the following separate items:

1. A jersey or shirt with sleeves – if undergarments are worn, the color of **the sleeve must be the same main color as the sleeve of the jersey or shirt**; shorts – if undershorts or tights are worn, **they must be of the same main color as the shorts**; stockings – if tape or similar material is applied externally it must be the same color as that part of the stocking it is applied to; shin guards, footwear.
2. A player must not use equipment or wear anything that is dangerous to himself or another player (including any kind of jewelry).
3. The Goalkeeper shall use different colors than the rest of the Team.
4. It is prohibited to use hair bands, caps, wristbands or any other article with commercial advertising not authorized by the Club.
5. Players will not use or wear any object that could be dangerous to themselves or other Players (including any type of jewelry)

Article 19

The Clubs must use in each official match the uniform that for that purpose has been designated by the Referees Commission.

B. Uniforms Specifications

Article 20

Players shall use a number on the back of the jerseys and in the front part of the shorts. It is not permitted to change the player number during the Tournament. One player may not use the number of another player.

Article 21

The Clubs are allowed to wear sponsor advertising on the uniforms, when the colors, numbers and the official emblem of the Club must be identifiable.

A number (the number that the player use in their local tournaments) must appear on the back (centered) of any shirt and on the front of any shorts used as Playing Equipment.

Based on the principle of light and dark contrast of used Colors and irrespective of the prevailing conditions, such as weather and light, the Color used for any number appearing on Playing Equipment must be clearly legible and distinguishable from a distance for all Players, Match Officials, spectators and media from the Colors used for the respective Playing Equipment item. This distinction may be achieved by displaying the numbers on a single- colored patch. The number may be surrounded by a border or shadow outline.

The size of the number on the back of each shirt used by Players in any men's Match must be between 25cm and 35cm in height and positioned in the center of the back of the shirt.

The size of the number on the back of the shirts used by Players in any match must be between 20cm and 35cm in height.

The number on the front of the shorts may be positioned on either leg. The size of the number must be between 10cm and 15cm in height.

CHAPTER VI FOOTBALLS

A. Specifications

Article 22

The official footballs of the Tournament will be size number 5 and will be issued by the League.

Article 23

Through physical tests the Referees shall verify the weight and measures of the official footballs.

In every venue, there will be an official gauge, available for the tests mentioned above. The bounce test shall be done physically.

CHAPTER VII OFFICIAL MATCHES

Article 24

The matches will last 70 minutes, divided into 35 minutes halves, with a rest period of 15 minutes between the two halves.

All the matches will be played according to the Rules of the Game issued by the International Football Association Board and published by FIFA.

The venues will be:

Centro de Alto Rendimiento (CAR) of the Federación Mexicana de Fútbol Asociación, A.C. (FMF), located in: Camino a Santiago Tlalpan, Dolores Tlali 16810, Ciudad de México, tel. (+52) 55 1608 6312

The Final Match will take place in “Estadio Azteca” (Azteca Stadium) in Mexico City.

The matches will be played according to the official calendar issued by the League.

Article 25

Sixty minutes before the starting time of every match, the participant Clubs shall give to the Referee the line up list with the names of the players, the bench substitutes and the officials, as well as the accreditations.

No player can participate without giving the accreditation to the Referee

A. Kick-off times

Article 26

The International Tournament matches will be played at 10:00 a.m. and 12:15 p.m.

Article 27

A match is played by two Club, each consisting of not more than eleven players, one of whom is the goalkeeper.

A match may not start if either Club consists of fewer than eleven players.

Eleven players must be at the field at least 6 minutes before the kick-off time.

A match may not continue if either Club consists of fewer than seven players. If there is the case, the League shall act according to the LIGA MX Regulations.

The other 9 players may be at the bench as substitute players with the 5 officials.

Up to a maximum of 7 substitutes may be used in any match played in the Tournament.

A player that has been substituted is not allowed to reenter into the field.

B. Changes, suspensions, non-appearances and retirements

Article 28

The changes, suspensions, non-appearances and retirement cases circumstances will be solved by the League.

C. Sudden Cardiac Arrest

Article 29

All Matches shall implement the Sudden Cardiac Arrest Protocol. This Protocol was created to have the appropriate care and procedures for treatment if necessary.

CHAPTER VIII REFEREES

Article 30

The referees, assistant referees and fourth officials (hereinafter referred to collectively as “match officials”) for the competition shall be appointed for each match by the FMF Referees Committee.

A FIFA Referee and the most qualified Assistant and 4th Officials will referee the final Match.

CHAPTER IX CEREBRAL CONMOTION PROTOCOL

ARTÍCULO 31

During the International Basic Forces Tournament, 2023 Edition, the Concussion Protocol will be applied in all matches.

CHAPTER X GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Article 32

The League will pay all the food and lodging expenses to every Delegation of 25 members.

The transportation in Mexico City will be Leagues responsibility.

The League will have available an insurance policy against personal accidents for the 25 Delegation members.

All the Delegations are responsible for the travel expenses and any other insurance except the one mentioned above.

In every venue there will be an Ambulance available for any emergency.

CHAPTER XI GENERAL MATTERS

Article 33

All the participants shall observe these Regulations. The League shall be responsible for the interpretation and application of the rules.

For this tournament the provisions of these Regulations shall be observed, being in charge of the interpretation and application of the League.

Also, they apply supplementary provisions of the LIGA MX Competition Rules, General Rules of Competition of the FMF and regulations of the International Federation of Association Football (FIFA).

Matters not provided for in these Regulations and cases of force majeure shall be decided by the League, whose decision is final.

These Regulations exist in Spanish and English. In case of any discrepancy in the interpretation of the Spanish and English texts of these Regulations, the Spanish text will be authoritative.

A. Trophy

Article 34

After the Final Match, the League will give the Trophy to the winner, which recognizes it as the Champion of the Tournament.

CHAPTER XII SPECIAL SANCTIONS SECTION

A. Competent Authority

Article 35

Pursuant article 78 of the FMF Statutes the FMF Disciplinary Committee has the jurisdiction of preserving the integrity and the reputation of this competition and will apply the necessary suspensions for the offenses committed against the FMF Code of Discipline.

In case of any violation to the disciplinary regulations of this competition committed by the Players, Coaches and other Officials, the Disciplinary Committee will issue suspensions only, not fines.

Two yellow cards accumulation will mean an automatic one-game suspension.

Enforcement

This Rules and Regulations were approved by the LIGA MX / EXPANSION MX.

The End/