# Hong Kong Football Association 2021-2022 Jockey Club Women's Football League Competition Amendment

Updated on 20th May 2022

In view of the COVID-19 epidemic situation in Hong Kong, the Government tightened the social distancing measures including sports premises are required to be temporary closed from 7<sup>th</sup> January to 20<sup>th</sup> April 2022. As a result, the Jockey Club Women's Football League matches cannot be hold as scheduled. Taking into consideration of the remaining calendar of 2021-22 season, there is not enough time to complete the original league playing format. Therefore, the 'League Cup' with a knockout format will be organized.

#### **General Provisions**

1. 2021-2022 Jockey Club Women's Football League Competition Regulations and the Articles issued by Hong Kong Football Association (hereinafter referred to as the "HKFA") shall apply, except otherwise stated in this Competition Amendment.

## **Application**

2. It is optional for the participating clubs of 2021-2022 Jockey Club Women's Football League to participate in the League Cup. Interested clubs shall submit the participation form.

#### **Match Organizations**

- 3. The League Cup will be held from 28<sup>th</sup> May 2022 to July 2022. (The competition period could be adjusted due to the weather condition or other special reasons)
- 4. The duration of each match is 90-minutes and each match lasts for two (2) equal halves of 45-minutes. Players are entitled to an interval at half time, not exceeding 15-minutes.
- 5. Competition System

## A. League Cup – First Division (Total 7 Participating Teams)

Seven teams of the First Division will be divided into two groups (Group A & B) by lot drawing. Group A comprises of four teams while Group B comprises of three teams. The Group stage shall be played under a single round robin system.

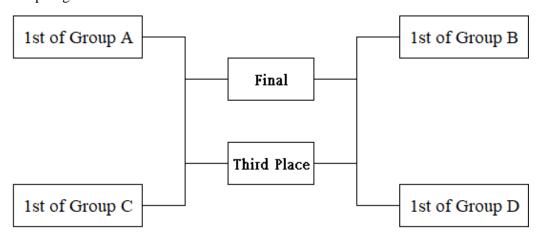
The first-placed team of each group shall qualify for the League Cup Final while the second-placed team of each group shall qualify for the League Cup Play-off for third place after the completion of Group Stage.

A penalty shootout and a penalty kick as defined in the Laws of the Game will be applied to determine the winner of the competition if any match ends in a tie during the knockout stage of the competition.

## B. League Cup – Second Division (Total 14 Participating Teams)

Fourteen teams of the Second Division will be divided into four groups (Group A, B, C & D) by lot drawing. Group A and B comprise of four teams while Group C and D comprise of three teams. The Group stage shall be played under a single round robin system.

The first-placed team of each group shall qualify for the League Cup Semi-finals after the completion of Group stage.



A penalty shootout and a penalty kick as defined in the Laws of the Game will be applied to determine the winner of the competition if any match ends in a tie during the knockout stage of the competition.

- 6. HKFA has the right to change or alter the competition system based on the number of participating teams. HKFA reserves the right to modify the competition system if necessary.
- 7. If any team withdraws from the competition during group stage, the related match record (except all disciplinary record) which its playing team has participated shall be expunged from the league table.

If any team withdraws from the competition during knockout stage, the completed match record will not be affected and the remaining match schedule will continue according to the fixture.

# **Ranking System in Group Stage**

- 8. During the group stage of the League Cup, the winner of a match shall be awarded three (3) points. Each participating team shall be awarded one (1) point if a match ends in a draw. No point shall be awarded to the loser of a match.
- 9. The final position of each participating team in the group table shall be determined by the number of points obtained in the group stage matches, the team obtained the highest number of points being at the top of the table while the team obtained the lowest number of points being at the bottom.

- 10. If any two (2) or more playing teams have obtained the same number of points, the positions of the teams concern shall be determined as follows by order of priority:
  - 1) Number of points obtained in the matches of the Competition between/among the teams concerned, higher or highest placed team shall be the team with the higher or highest number of points;
  - 2) Goal difference, that is to say, the difference between the total number of goal scored by and against a team in the matches of the Competition between/among the teams concerned, and higher or highest placed team shall be the team with the higher or highest goal difference;
  - 3) Number of goals scored by a team in the matches of the Competition between/among the teams concerned and higher or highest placed team shall be the team with more or most goals scored;
  - 4) If, after having applied Art. 10. (1) to 10. (3), playing teams still have an equal ranking, Art. 10. (1) to 10. (3) are reapplied exclusively to the matches between the playing teams in question to determine their final rankings. If this procedure does not lead to a decision, Art. 10. (5) to 10. (8) apply;
  - 5) Goal difference, that is to say, the difference between the total number of goal scored by and against a team in all its matches of the Competition, and higher or highest placed team shall be the team with the higher or highest goal difference;
  - 6) Number of goals scored by a team in all its matches of the Competition and higher or highest placed team shall be the team with more or most goals scored;
  - 7) Least number of yellow and red cards. Each team will receive points for receiving red and yellow cards as indicated below:
    - i. Each yellow card (1 point)
    - ii. Each red card as a consequence of two yellow cards (3 points)
    - iii. Each direct red card (3 points)
    - iv. Each yellow card followed by a direct red card (4 points)

      The team receiving the least number of points will be ranked the highest.
  - 8) Drawing of lots.

#### **Promotion and Relegation**

11. Promotion and Relegation is not applicable in the League Cup.

#### **Competition Venue and Date**

12. Due to the limited venue availability and the tight match schedule, the request of match re-scheduling will not be accommodated.

#### **Player Registration and Qualification**

13. Limitation on Player Registration:

Each participating club can process the player registration on or before 8th June 2022.

14. The submission deadline of "Participating Players List":

Each participating club can amend the list of players on their respective "Participating Players List"  $\underline{on}$  or before  $8^{th}$  June 2022.

## **Registration of Game Supervisors**

15. Each participating club can amend the registration of Game Supervisors on or before 8<sup>th</sup> June 2022.

# **Disciplinary Matters**

- 16. All red card, yellow card and suspension records from the Jockey Club Women's Football League in 2021-2022 season will be carried forward to the League Cup.
- 17. If any team withdraws from the League Cup once HKFA confirmed its participation, the relevant matters will be referred to the Disciplinary Committee for further action.

## **Trophies and Medals**

18. Trophies and medals for each Division shall be awarded as follow:

# <u>League Cup – First Division</u>

The champion, the runners-up, the third place and the fourth place will each be awarded a trophy and 37 medals.

#### <u>League Cup – Second Division</u>

The champion, the runners-up, the third place and the fourth place will each be awarded a trophy and 37 medals.

#### Language

19. The Chinese version (of this Competition Amendment) shall prevail should there be any inconsistency or contradiction in between the English version and the Chinese version.

#### **Modification and Interpretation on the Articles**

20. The HKFA Board has the right to modify, add, delete and interpret any article provided in this Competition Amendment.

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