

Regulations for the Women`s Baltic League 2020

Preamble

The present regulations govern the rights, duties and responsibilities of all parties participating and involved in the preparation and organization of the Baltic League.

The Baltic League will not change the system of the Lithuanian, Estonian and Latvian Championships, also not the system how the Lithuanian, Estonian and Latvian clubs qualify for the UEFA club competitions.

Neutral treatment of masculine and feminine nouns

Where the masculine form is used for functions such as player, coach, referee, assistant referee, delegate, team official, supporter, etc., the feminine form also applies, and vice versa.

I Entries – Duties

Article 1

Entries

- 1.01 The Baltic League (hereinafter the Competition) will be arranged every year.
- 1.02 Two best clubs from Latvia, Estonia and Lithuania according to the results of the domestic championships can enter the Baltic League the next year. In case one of these clubs do not want or is not able to enter the competition, the replacement will be done under the sportive principles.

Duties

- 1.03 On entering the Competition, participating clubs and their respective national associations undertake, in particular:
 - a) to comply with Baltic League's statutes, regulations and its decisions;
 - b) to stage all matches in the Competition in accordance with the present regulations, and to field their strongest teams;
 - c) to observe the principles of fair play;
 - d) to fulfill their commitments and responsibilities towards the international media;

II Cup and Medals

Article 2

Cup

- 2.01 A cup donated by the Baltic League organizers is presented to the winning club.

Medals

- 2.02 Thirty gold medals are presented to the winning club, thirty silver medals to the runners-up and thirty bronze medals to the third place team. Additional medals may not be produced.

III Organization – Responsibilities

Article 3

Baltic League organization

- 3.01 The Baltic League Committee is the highest operational management organ. It is responsible for all decisions concerning the present regulations. The Committee consists of one assigned member from each National Association.
- 3.02 The following bodies are competent for matters related to the competition.
 - a) The Baltic League Committee (hereinafter the Committee).
 - b) The Baltic League Marketing Group.
 - c) The Baltic League Appeal Committee.
 - d) The Baltic League Disciplinary Committee.
- 3.03 The Baltic League Administration manages the Competition according to these regulations.

The Baltic League's responsibilities

- 3.04 The Baltic League Committee and The Baltic League Administration will create the best possible conditions for staging the Competition, covering, among other aspects, the promotion, coordination and administration of the Competition, the entry procedure and authorization to take part, the match system, the *Laws of the Game*, refereeing, control and disciplinary matters, and the exploitation of the commercial rights as defined in paragraph 20.01.
- 3.05 The Baltic League Committee insures its own area of responsibility, in accordance with the present regulations.

Responsibilities of the associations and clubs

- 3.06 The clubs are responsible for the behavior of their players, officials, members, supporters and any person carrying out a function at a match on their behalf.
- 3.07 The host club (or the host association) is responsible for order and security before, during and after the game. The host club (or the host association) may be called to account for incidents of any kind and may be disciplined.
- 3.08 The host club in all cases exempts The Baltic League from any claims for damages or liability resulting from the staging of the matches, regardless of whether the matches in question actually take place or not.
- 3.09 Matches may be played either on the ground of the host club or on another ground in the same or another city within the territory of its national association. If the match is being played on another ground in the same or another city or country, the venue is subject to the approval of the Baltic League Committee.
- 3.10 The host club must stage the relevant matches at the ground in accordance with the instructions of the Baltic League and in cooperation with the national association concerned. However, the club is considered solely accountable for all its obligations in this respect, unless the relevant body or bodies decide(s) otherwise.
- 3.11 Matches can be played on both surfaces (natural and artificial).

IV Competition System

Article 4

Number of rounds

- 4.01 The Competition will run as round robin tournament. With Final four tournament staged in association entitled as organizers. Match for 5 th and 6 th place is optional and subject to confirm between opponents .

Match system

- 4.02 The clubs 6 (six) will play each opponent once. Three points are awarded for a win, one point for a draw and no points for a defeat.

Match days

- 4.03 In 2020 matches must be played according to the fixed schedule which was approved **in Pärnu on 16 th December 2019** by contestants and Baltic League Committee.

14.-15.03 or 21.-22.03 I round

25.- 26.04 II round

16. – 17.05 III round

20. – 21.06 IV round

4. – 5.07 or 11. – 12.07 V round

31.07 – 02.08 Final Four

Equality of points

- 4.04 If two or more teams are equal on points, their position within the league will be established according to the following criteria, in the order given.
 - a) Match result between the teams in question;
 - b) Better goal difference;
 - c) Higher number of goals scored in the tournament matches played among the teams in question;
 - d) Higher number of wins;
 - e) Lower number of conceded red and yellow cards (red card - 3 points; yellow card - 1 point, expulsion for two yellow cards in one match - 3 points);
 - f) Drawing of lots.

V Match Administration

Article 5

Match dates

- 5.01 Matches must be played according to the schedule fixed in paragraph IV, 4.03. Scheduled might change only upon confirmation from The Baltic League Committee.

Match venues

- 5.02 The venues of the matches will be fixed by the host clubs and announced to their opponents and all the participating associations within the set deadline. In case venue of the upcoming match has changed , the host club should inform visiting team and organizers 5 working days prior to the match.

Kick-off times

- 5.03 The kick-off times must be announced to the opponents and all the participating associations within the set deadline.

Arrival of the teams

- 5.04 The teams must arrive at the venue of the match at least one day prior the match and at least 90 minutes before the kick-off to the stadium.

VI Stadiums and Match Organization

Article 6

Stadium conditions

- 6.01 The Baltic League Committee may refuse to permit matches to be played at stadiums which do not measure up to international standards. Stadiums must be in good condition in terms of both their playing surface and facilities and fully comply with the *Laws of the Game*. They must conform to the safety and security prescriptions of the competent civil authorities.
- 6.02 The changing and personal hygiene facilities for players and referees must meet current requirements, namely:
- separate, clean and properly maintained shower facilities (at least five showers per team and a minimum of one shower for the referees);
 - individual and separate (from those intended for supporters) seated toilets for the teams and referees;
 - sufficiently large dressing-rooms for the delegations (at least 25 seats and one massage table per delegation);
 - a sufficiently large dressing-room for the referees (at least four seats and a desk);

Safety

- 6.03 The clubs taking part in the Competition must ensure that the stadiums they use undergo a periodic safety check, including a determination of the capacity, by the competent authorities, or by a body recognized by the latter.
- 6.04 In the interests of the safety of players and match officials, participating clubs must provide access to the field of play that guarantees the safe entry and exit of these persons.

Artificial turf

- 6.05 In accordance with Law 1 of the *Laws of the Game*, matches may be played on artificial turf, provided that such artificial turf meets all of the following conditions:
- a) the artificial turf meets any of the applicable FIFA quality standards for artificial turf, currently corresponding to the "FIFA Quality", the "FIFA Quality Pro" in accordance with the "FIFA Quality Concept - Handbook of Test Methods and Requirements for Artificial Turf Football Surfaces" as well as all requirements under the applicable national laws and regulations;
 - b) the artificial turf has passed all the necessary tests (laboratory and field tests) and has obtained the required FIFA license;
 - c) the artificial turf has passed all the necessary yearly tests, conducted by a FIFA accredited laboratory, confirming that it still meets the applicable FIFA quality standards;
 - d) the surface of the artificial turf must be of a green color;
 - e) the use of artificial turf meets any other requirements set out in these regulations with regard to the field of play and the stadium.
- 6.06 The owner of the artificial turf and the host club are fully responsible for meeting the above requirements, in particular those related to:
- maintenance work and ongoing improvement measures; and
 - safety and environment measures as set out in the "FIFA Quality Concept - Handbook of Test Methods and Requirements for Artificial Turf Football Surfaces".
- 6.07 The owner of the artificial turf and the host club must obtain sufficient warranties and/or guarantees related to the material and the installation from the manufacturer and the installer of the artificial turf.
- 6.08 The Baltic League cannot be held responsible for any damages to third parties resulting from the use of the artificial turf.

Floodlights

- 6.09 Matches may be played in daylight or under floodlights. For matches where floodlighting is required, the light average must correspond to Ev (lux) 500 towards the main camera(s) and Ev (lux) 300 towards areas of secondary interest.

Clocks

- 6.10 Clocks in the stadium showing the amount of time played may run during the match, provided they are stopped at the end of normal time in each half, i.e. after 45 and 90 minutes respectively. This stipulation also applies in the event of extra time being played (i.e. after 15 and 30 minutes).

Giant screens and enouncement

- 6.11 Transmissions of any images and/or messages on giant viewing screens inside and outside the stadium are allowed. However, transmissions, images or messages should be approved by Baltic League committee prior to match.

6.12 At the matches there must be an enunciation in at least 2 languages, in local language and in English.

Match balls and ballboys

6.13 Balls used must conform to the requirements laid down in the *Laws of the Game*.

6.14 For the matches at least 8 match balls must be provided by the host club.

6.15 For the matches 8 ballboys/girls must be provided by the host club.

Alcoholic drinks at the stadiums

6.16 It is allowed to sell light alcoholic drinks, which concentration of alcohol is lower than 6%.

Article 7

Unfit fields of play, bad weather

7.01 If the host club deems that the field of play will not be fit for play, it must notify the visiting team, the referees and the official delegates prior to their departures. Otherwise, the host club is responsible for their travel, board and lodging expenses. The Baltic League Committee must be notified at the same time. The Baltic League Committee makes the necessary decision.

7.02 If any doubt arises as to the condition of the field of play after the visiting team's departure from home, the referee will decide on the field of play itself whether or not it is fit for play.

7.03 If the referee declares that the match cannot commence because the field is not fit for play, or because of the weather conditions, the match must in principle be played the following day. Such re-arranged fixtures are subject to the approval of the Baltic League Committee.

Match abandoned

7.04 If a match is abandoned before the end of normal time, because the field is not fit for play, or because of the weather conditions, a 90-minute replay must in principle be played the following day. In consultation with the clubs concerned, the match may, however, be replayed on another date set by the Baltic League Committee within two hours of the referee's decision to abandon the match. In case of dispute, the Baltic League Committee shall fix the date and the kick-off time of the match. This decision will be final.

Reasons beyond control

7.05 If the match cannot commence or is abandoned before the end of normal time or during any extra time for reasons beyond control, a 90-minute replay must in principle be played on a new date set by the Baltic League Committee. This decision will be final.

Article 8

Principles of protocol and organization

Match arrangements

8.01 At all matches in this Competition, the players are invited to shake hands with their opponents and the referees after the line-up procedure as well as after the final whistle, as a gesture of fair play.

8.02 Only six team officials and nine (9) substitute players are allowed to sit on the substitutes' bench, i.e. a total of 15 persons. The names of all these persons and their functions must be listed on the match sheet.

8.03 If space so permits, up to five additional technical seats are allowed for club staff providing technical support to the team during the match (kit manager, assistant physiotherapist, etc.). Such seats shall be outside the technical area and positioned at least five meters behind or to the side of the benches but with access to the dressing rooms. The names of all these persons and their functions must be listed on the match sheet.

8.04 Smoking is not allowed in the technical area during the match. Any violation of this rule will be reported to the Disciplinary Committee.

8.05 An adequate number of ground staff and police must be present, to guarantee safety and security in the stadium.

8.06 The host club must ensure an appropriate medical service at matches, including a stretcher and a sufficient number of carriers. Stretchers should be kept by the substitutes' benches.

8.07 No spectators are allowed in the area between the stands and the touch-line or goal-line.

Media arrangements

8.08 The host club grants a free entrance to the matches for media representatives.

8.09 The host club provides media representatives with adequate working conditions and information.

8.10 It is a common practice that players, coaches and representatives of clubs are ready to communicate with the media and do not damage the image of the Baltic League in interviews given to the media.

8.11 Players, coaches and representatives of clubs are not allowed to try to influence referees in interviews given to the media.

8.12 If the teams arrange to hold official training sessions in the stadium where the match will take place, they should, in principle, be open to the media. If the coach requires a degree of privacy, he may arrange for part of the training session to be closed but must allow media access for at least 15 minutes.

- 8.13 Interviews are not permitted before, during or after the match on the field of play itself or in its immediate vicinity. However, the host club may designate an area between the substitutes' benches and dressing rooms in which "flash" interviews can take place at half-time and at the end of the match. A "flash" interview during the half-time interval may only be conducted in the designated area with the coaches of the two teams involved in the match, or their assistants, subject to their prior consent. Players, including those on the substitutes' bench, may not be interviewed during the half-time interval. Interviews are also allowed with coaches and players upon their arrival at the stadium, on their way from the team bus to the dressing-room area.
- 8.14 The post-match press conference at the venue must start no later than 15 minutes after the final whistle. The host club is responsible for providing the necessary infrastructure (interpreting and technical equipment). Both clubs are obliged to make their team manager/coach, and one or two players, available for this press conference.
- 8.15 The team dressing rooms are off-limits to representatives of the media before, during and after the match.
- 8.16 No representatives of the written press or radio journalists are allowed in the playing area or the area between the boundaries of the field and the spectators.
- 8.17 In terms of the mass media, photographers, TV cameramen, and the personnel required to operate an electronic television camera of the host broadcaster – all equipped with special permits for the event – are allowed in the area between the boundaries of the field and the spectators, where they will carry out their work in the specific locations assigned to them.

VII Laws of the Game

Article 9

- 9.01 Matches are played in conformity with the *Laws of the Game* promulgated by the International Football Association Board (IFAB) and published by FIFA.

Substitution of players

- 9.02 The substitution of **nine (9)** players per team is permitted in the course of the match. However, no more than three stoppages during the second half are allowed. The use of substitution boards to indicate the substitution of players is compulsory. The substitution boards must be numbered on both sides.
- 9.03 During the game, substitute players are allowed to leave the technical area to warm up. At the pre-match organizational meeting, the referee will determine exactly where they should warm up (behind the first assistant referee or behind the advertising boards behind the goal) and how many substitute players are allowed to warm up simultaneously. In principle, three substitutes and physio per team shall be allowed to warm up at the same time; exceptionally, if space so permits, the referee can allow the seven substitutes of each team to warm up simultaneously in the determined area.

Match sheet

- 9.04 Before the match, each team will receive a match sheet on which the numbers and full names of the 25 players in the squad can be entered, together with the full names of the officials seated on the substitutes' bench and on the additional technical seats. The match sheet must be properly completed in block capitals and signed by the competent club official.
- 9.05 The 11 players marked in column P must commence the match. Up to nine players can be marked in column S and they are designated as substitutes. Rest of the players must be marked as A and they will take no part in the match. The numbers on the players' shirts must correspond with the numbers indicated on the match sheet. The goalkeepers and team captain must be identified.
- 9.06 Both clubs must hand their match sheets to the referee at least 60 minutes before kick-off.
- 9.07 If the match sheet is not completed and returned in time, the matter will be submitted to the Disciplinary Committee.
- 9.08 **Nine** of the substitutes listed on the match sheet may take part in the match. A player who has been substituted may take no further part in the match.

Replacement of players on the match sheet

- 9.09 After the match sheets have been completed and signed by both teams and returned to the referee, and if the match has not yet kicked off, the following instructions apply.
- If any of the players listed on the match sheet in the column P are not able to start the match for any reason, they may be replaced by any of the seven substitutes. Such replacements will reduce the quota of substitute players accordingly. During the match, **nine** players may still be replaced.
 - If any of the nine substitutes listed on the match sheet are not able to be fielded due to physical incapacity, they may be replaced by a player listed in the column A on the match sheet.
 - If none of the goalkeepers listed on the match sheet can be fielded due to physical incapacity, they may be replaced by registered goalkeepers listed in the column A on the match sheet.

Article 10

Half-time interval, break before extra time

- 10.01 The half-time interval lasts 15 minutes.

VIII Player Eligibility

Article 11

- 11.01 A player is eligible to play in the Competition if he is eligible to play for his club in the domestic Premier League. A player must be 16 by the end of the calendar year when the match is played.
- 11.02 Each player taking part in the Competition must be in possession of a valid passport or identity card, containing a photograph and giving full particulars of his date of birth (day, month, year). If a player is not in possession of a valid passport or identity card, he will not be allowed to take part in the Competition.
- 11.03 For the purpose of identification the referee will arrange a visual check of each player participating in a match.

Deadlines

- 11.04 All players must undergo a medical examination.
- 11.05 Each team must send the list of 25 eligible players two days before each match to all the participating national associations by e-mail (nina.travkina@lff.lv) and this must be signed by person responsible for women's football within the national association.

List of players

- 11.06 The list of players (maximum 30 players) may contain exactly so many players as its national association allows them to have in Premier League.

Player numbers

- 11.07 All registered players must wear set numbers between 1 and 99. No number may be used by more than one player.

Responsibility

- 11.08 When submitting player registration lists, the national association and club concerned must vouch for the content and are responsible for ensuring that the aforementioned provisions are respected.
- 11.09 The Baltic League Committee decides on questions of player eligibility. Challenged decisions are dealt with by the Disciplinary Committee.
- 11.10 A maximum 6 (six) foreign players could be present on the pitch at the same time.

IX Kit

Article 12

UEFA Kit Regulations

- 12.01 The *UEFA Kit Regulations* (edition 2012) apply to any kit (sports equipment) used in the stadium during the entire Competition.

Changing of kits

- 12.02 The teams will wear their first kits to the matches. If both teams' shirts and/or socks are same colored, the visiting team will change the shirts and/or socks.

Disclaimer

- 12.03 The Baltic League Committee declines all responsibility and authority in the event of conflicts arising from contracts between a club and its sponsors and/or a club and a manufacturer on account of the provisions of the *UEFA Kit Regulations* regarding the sponsor advertising and/or the manufacturer identification.

X Match officials

Article 13

Appointments

- 13.01 The home club's national association appoints referee, two assistant referees and fourth official. Preferably referees with women FIFA category, following by Men National or 1st category. All of the persons' names mentioned must be informed to all the national associations and the clubs concerned with the match at least two days before the match.

Referee's report

- 13.02 Directly after the match, the referee completes an official report, signs it and submits it to his/her national association by e-mail (nina.travkina@lff.lv), who is obliged to send it to all Baltic league committee members. In addition, the originals must be sent by post within 48 hours of the end of the match. The referee must always keep a copy of his report and both match sheets.
- 13.03 On his report, the referee reports in as much detail as possible on any incidents before, during, or after the match, such as:

- a) misconduct of players, leading to caution or expulsion;
- b) unsporting behavior by officials, members, supporters, or anyone carrying out a function at a match on behalf of an association or club;
- c) any other incidents.

XI Disciplinary Law and Procedures

Article 14

Yellow and red cards

- 14.01 As a rule, a player who is sent off the field of play is suspended for the next match in the Competition. The Disciplinary Committee is entitled to augment this punishment.
- 14.02 A player is suspended for the next match automatically after her third yellow card. Every participating association keeps the table of all of the yellow and red cards.

Article 15

Matches abandoned, disqualified and unregistered players

- 15.01 Participating clubs are obliged to show up to the stadium at the designated time. The team that does not show up to the match will be awarded with the result -:+. The kick-off of the match cannot be delayed over 45 minutes.
- 15.02 In case of disqualified or not registered player playing for the team, the result will be annulled and the club will get a loss -:... (number of goals scored against). The goals scored by the opponent team will be held good, also as all the cautions and expulsions.

Article 16

Declaration of Protests

- 16.01 Participating associations and their clubs are entitled to protest. The party protested against and the disciplinary inspector have party status.
- 16.02 Protests must reach the Disciplinary Committee in writing, stating the reasons, within 24 hours of the match and it must be noted down to the match report.
- 16.03 This 24-hour time limit cannot be extended.
- 16.04 The protest fee is EUR 300. It must be paid at the same time as the protest is filed.

Article 17

Reasons for protest

- 17.01 A protest is directed against the validity of a match result. It is based on a player's eligibility to play, a decisive breach of the regulations by the referee, or other incidents influencing the match.
- 17.02 Protests concerning the state of the field of play must be submitted to the referee by the relevant officials before the match. If the state of the field of play becomes questionable in the course of the match, the team captain must inform the referee in the presence of the captain of the opposing team, orally without delay.
- 17.03 Protests cannot be lodged against factual decisions taken by the referee.
- 17.04 A protest against a caution or expulsion from the field of play after two cautions is admissible only if the referee's error was to mistake the identity of the player.

Article 18

Appeals

- 18.01 The Appeals Committee deals with appeals lodged against decisions of the Disciplinary Committee.

XII Financial Provisions

Article 19

The officials' costs

- 19.01 For all matches in this Competition, the national association of the host club, on behalf of the Baltic League, assumes the costs of referee, two assistant referees and fourth official, transport of referee, two assistant referees and fourth official as well as broadcasting costs. National Association assigned as Baltic league organizers for particular year arranges and assumes the costs of marketing and branding materials.

The clubs' costs

- 19.02 For all matches in this Competition clubs assume the costs of accommodation, food and transport themselves, same for final 4 tournament. For international match practice for referees - each association is eligible to propose referee team to officiate final four matches taking in account the geography of the teams qualified for Final four.

XIII Marketing Rights

Article 20

20.01 All marketing rights concerning The Baltic League belong to the Football Associations of Lithuania, Estonia and Latvia.

XIV Intellectual Property Rights

Article 21

21.01 The Baltic League is the exclusive owner of all intellectual property rights of the Competition, including but not limited to any current or future rights of the Baltic League's names, logos, brands, medals and trophies. Any use of the aforementioned rights requires the prior written consent of the Baltic League and must always conform to Baltic League's instructions and guidelines on correct usage.

21.02 All rights to the fixture list, as well as any data and statistics in relation to the matches in the Competition, are the sole and exclusive property of the Baltic League.

XV Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS)

Article 22

22.01 In case of litigation resulting from or in relation to these regulations, the provisions regarding the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) laid down in the UEFA Statutes apply.

XVI Unforeseen Circumstances

Article 23

23.01 The Baltic League Committee will decide on any matters not provided for in these regulations, as well as in cases of force majeure. Such decisions are final.

XVII Closing Provisions

Article 24

24.01 All annexes form an integral part of these regulations.

24.02 These regulations come into force on their approval by the Baltic League Committee and apply for the 2019 season.

ANNEXES

Article 25 STADIUMS

Stadiums must be in good condition in terms of both their playing surface and facilities and fully comply with the *Laws of the Game*. They must conform to the safety and security directives of the competent civil authorities.

In addition to the provisions stipulated in the Competition regulations (Article 7), the following requirements must be met:

1.1. General requirements

- a) The playing fields should be freshly mowed.
- b) Pitches should in principle measure 105 x 68 m.
- c) One replacement goal must be available in the stadium.
- d) The stadiums must be equipped with two covered benches at pitch level each providing seating room for 13 people in total. These benches must be positioned at least four metres from the touchline and must not present a risk for the safety of the players. If possible, covered seats for two persons must also be provided between the substitutes' benches.
- e) Each stadium must provide adequate public first aid and fire-fighting equipment as well as sanitary facilities for both sexes and must meet Baltic League's requirements for the safety and security of spectators.
- f) Each stadium must be equipped with a public address system.
- g) At least one massage table must be provided in each dressing room.

The teams and the referees must be provided with the necessary facilities in order to enable them to take a hot shower after the match.

Article 26 MATCH ORGANISATION

The following principles apply.

1.2. Match arrangements

Please refer to Article 9 of the Competition regulations.

A minimum of eight ball girls/boys should be provided for each match.

8 match balls should be made available per match.

1.3. Pre-match procedure

The following principles apply.

Match day:

Arrival at the stadium:

- 90' Teams, referees, official match delegate or referee observer

Match sheet to be completed by:

- 60' Both teams

Match timetable:

- 60' to -15' Warm-up on the pitch

- 6' Stud check in the corridor

- 4' Teams come onto the field and stand in line facing the VIP box

- 3' Hand-shaking procedure and team photos

- 1' Coin toss

0' Kick-off

This timetable may be adapted to take account of the distance between the dressing rooms and the playing field.

Half-time interval:

15'

After the final whistle:

Both teams, referee and assistant referees gather in the centre circle, shake hands with each other and wave goodbye to the spectators.

Article 27 FAIR PLAY

Fair Play Definition

The idea of playing a game fairly and treating an opponent in a sporting manner is one of the finest elements to be found in any sport. In fact, it was sport that gave birth to the now widely used expression and concept of fair play. It remains as vital an ingredient of our sport today as it ever did, and most spectators would agree that only a fair match can be an entertaining one.

The concept of fair play can be broken down into the following principles, which apply as much to the players as to other individuals connected with the game:

- a) The *Laws of the Game* and the regulations of the various competitions must be respected.
- b) Every effort should be made to behave in a sporting manner towards opponents, referees and any other persons involved in matches, such as spectators, officials of other clubs and associations, and representatives of the media.
- c) Anyone else involved in matches should be encouraged to behave in the manner outlined above before, during and after a match, irrespective of the result of the match and the decisions taken by the match officials.