

Date: 2014 July 21

To: Kingston Women's Soccer Club (KWSC) Members
From: KWSC Board

Re: Notification of Rule Amendment to KWSC Outdoor Rule 6.17

Procedure to Determine the Winner of a Playoff Match Tied at the End of Regulation Time

Background

In previous KWSC outdoor season playoffs when a playoff match was tied at the end of regulation time, the procedure to determine a winner has been to then proceed to overtime and then if still tied, to subsequently proceed to penalty kicks.

This procedure has been amended and going forward, overtime will not be used as part of the procedure to determine the winner of a KWSC playoff 2014 outdoor match.

KWSC 2014 Outdoor playoffs

For KWSC 2014 outdoor playoffs and going forward, where a KWSC playoff match is tied in score at the end regulation time, teams shall proceed immediately to penalty kicks to determine the winner of the match.

The procedure for penalty kicks will be in accordance with FIFA procedure to determine a winner with kicks from the penalty mark. Subject to the conditions outlined in the FIFA procedure, both teams take 5 penalty kicks. If, after both teams have taken five kicks, both have scored the same number of goals, or have not scored any goals, kicks continue to be taken in the same order until one team has scored a goal more than the other from the same number of kicks. [Link to FIFA procedure](#)

The KWSC rule has been amended for the following main reasons:

- **Safety and Unlit Fields** – There are only a few fields in Kingston with lights and most KWSC games must be played on unlit fields during the evenings. In August when playoffs are scheduled, light available in the evenings lessens. KWSC has encountered lighting issues where both overtime and penalty kicks were necessary to break a tie. In one recent case a KWSC game was continued into darkness to break a tie when it should have been abandoned by the referee. Going directly to penalty kicks to break a tie will mitigate this safety risk; there should be sufficient light available during KWSC scheduled playoff games to safely allow for the determination of a game winner.
- **Field Scheduling Costs** – Field bookings this year are now based upon an hourly rate rather than a game rate. KWSC must do advance bookings and pay for what has been booked. To book enough hourly field time to cover off the possibility of 20 minutes of overtime, plus the breaks in between, plus penalty kicks for each game adds cost and the KWSC budget does have cost built in to pay for this.

Amended KWSC Outdoor Rule 6.17 in its entirety is as follows:

- 6.17** Provided playoffs are stipulated in the approved budget, playoffs may be scheduled, with the format to be determined by the Board of Directors. Generally, the playoff format methodology to be used is based upon regular season standings whereby the highest standing team is matched against the lowest standing team, second highest against second lowest, and so forth. With winners advancing to subsequent rounds until an eventual playoff winner is determined.

Where a KWSC playoff match is tied in score at the end regulation time, teams shall proceed immediately to penalty kicks to determine the winner of the match.

The procedure for penalty kicks will be in accordance with FIFA procedure to determine a winner with kicks from the penalty mark. Subject to the conditions outlined in the FIFA procedure, both teams take 5 penalty kicks. If, after both teams have taken five kicks, both have scored the same number of goals, or have not scored any goals, kicks continue to be taken in the same order until one team has scored a goal more than the other from the same number of kicks.

All teams must be in good standing to be eligible to participate in playoffs. Further, to be eligible to play, a player must have played in a minimum of five (5) regular season games for the team they are registered with.