

**Football Academies
Champions League**

Under the Patronage of
Dubai Sports Council



**دوري ابطال اكاديميات
كرة القدم**

تحت رعاية مجلس دبي الرياضي

Football_Academies Champions League

2021 - 2022

RULES AND REGULATIONS

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I. INTRODUCTION:

This sixth edition of the Dubai Sports Council Football Academies Championship will be organized at The Football Center of Dubai Sports City with the participation of the private academies and teams from Dubai Clubs over a period of 5 months.

The Championship will include competitions in 6 age groups from U8 to U19 years old and will provide the opportunity for players to increase their experience and development.

The championship is held in accordance with the FIFA and UAE FA rules & regulations.

The championship is held in accordance with the precautionary measures and health protocols approved in the Emirate of Dubai, to preserve the safety of the players and all participants in the organization.

II. OBJECTIVES:

1. Providing the opportunity to compete between academies and raising the performance level of the players.
2. Providing the appropriate conditions for scouting sports talents and engaging them in competitions.
3. Establishing an effective partnership between the Private Sports Academies and clubs.
4. Highlight and support the work done by the academies.
5. Spreading the spirit of fair play and sportsmanship among the young players.

III. DATE & VENUE

1. The first league Championship will start on 23rd October 2021 to 11th December 2021
2. The second league Championship will start on 15th January 2022 to 5th March 2022
3. All matches will be played at The Football Center of Dubai Sports City.

IV. CHAMPIONSHIP LEAGUE TIMETABLE

TERM 1 (OCTOBER TO DECEMBER)

Week	Day	Date
Week 1	Saturday	Oct 23
Week 2	Saturday	Oct 30
Week 3	Saturday	Nov 6
Week 4	Saturday	Nov 13
Week 5	Saturday	Nov 20
Week 6	Saturday	Nov 27
Week 7	Saturday	Dec 4
Week 8	Saturday	Dec 11

TERM 2 (JANUARY TO MARCH)

Week	Day	Date
Week 1	Sunday	Jan 16
Week 2	Sunday	Jan 23
Week 3	Sunday	Jan 30
Week 4	Sunday	Feb 6
Week 5	Sunday	Feb 13
Week 6	Sunday	Feb 20
Week 7	Sunday	Feb 27
Week 8	Sunday	March 6

V. PARTICIPATION IN THE CHAMPIONSHIP

C. Age Categories

Categories	Year of birth
U8	2014-2015
U10	2012– 2013
U12	2010 – 2011
U14	2008– 2009
U16	2006 – 2007
U18	2004 - 2005

- **Dispensations**

U8	(3) dispensations is by default given for overaged players, who can be over the age limit if they belong to the same school year.
U10-U12- U14 – U16 – U18	(3) dispensations are by default given for overaged players, who can be over the age limit if they belong to the same school year. Exception for the Goalkeeper (he can be 1 year max over the age)
Girls	Girls may play in boys' classes as long as the regulations for age categories are followed.

Example: a player who born September to December 2005 can play with the U16 category.

D. Number of players:

Categories	Registration		In the Scoresheet		On the ground	
	max	min	max	min	players	GK
U8	16	10	14	9	6	1
U10	16	10	14	9	6	1
U12	20	10	16	9	7	1
U14	30	15	18	14	10	1
U16	30	15	18	14	10	1
U18	30	15	18	14	10	1

E. Mandatory:

1. All the participating academies should be registered through the DSC E-services website.
2. Got the DSC Sports Establishment Certificate → (dubaisc.ae/en/eServices/Pages/default.aspx).

VI. REGISTRATION

F. Procedures:

1. The registration of teams must be done Online through the Website of the DSC Championship: ac.dubaisc.ae
2. The team's registration will be open on **September 12th 2021** and will close on **October 7th 2021**.
3. A second registration period will be open during the month of January (**From 1st until 13th January 2022**) to allow teams to complete their lists or to replace players: injured or leaving players.
4. Teams will be accepted following the next criteria:
 - 4.1. At October 7th, teams will be registered on a first come first serve basis until the number of teams per age group is full.
 - 4.2. Waiting list will be provided in case any team drop from the championship.
5. The Group and divisions will be finalized by draw during the official technical meeting with the participating academies after the closure of the registration.

G. Required documents:

For all the team's members (players and managers):

1. List of the team
2. A front and back photo of the Emirates ID card.
3. Photo (high quality).

Note: only players with Valid resident visa can register on the league / visit visa status or no resident player are not allowed to register or to play on the league.

H. Contact with the organizing committee:

- Please contact Mr. Mehdi Bkhairi
- Phone: +971 564777852
- E-mail: info@facldxb.com

VII. TECHNICAL REGULATIONS:

1- Stages of the competition:

The competition will be held in two Seasons. The first group league in the first term and the second league in the second term.

Both leagues will be held in single match format among all the participating teams in each category.

2- Pitch and ball sizes

Categories	Pitches size	Balls size
U8 - U10	55 m x 45 m	4
U12	70 m x 50 m	4
U14 - U16 - U18	Full size	5

3- Match format and Timing

Categories	Match Format	Substitutions	Match Time
U8	7-a-side game	Free	2x20
U10	7-a-side game	Free	2x20
U12	8-a-side game	Free	2x25
U14	11-a-side game	Free	2x30
U16	11-a-side game	Free	2x35
U18	11-a-side game	Free	2x40

4- Number of players in the field:

- 7-a-side game:** Each team consists of (6) players, and (1) goalkeeper.
- 8-a-side game:** Each team consists of (7) players, and (1) goalkeeper.
- 11-a-side game:** Each team consists of up to (10) players, and (1) goalkeeper.
- Matches may not start or continue if teams have fewer than four (4) players for categories (U8, U10, U12), and fewer than seven (7) players for categories (U14, U16 and U18).

5- Offside rule and other rules

The championship is held in accordance to the FIFA and UAE FA rules & regulations.

- **The offside rule is applied only for the 8-a-side game: U12 offside line**
- **The offside rule is applied for 11-a-side game: U14 - U16 - U18**
- **The offside rule is not applied in U8 / U10**
- **Goal from goal kick and from kick off is not allowed in U8 & U10 category**

6- Participation to the championship

- a. Players from the same academy are allowed to play in two age categories (in his age group and only in the age group older) (E.g. player born 2008 playing in U14 championship may also play in the U16 championship). Not in the same day. Except the dispensations mentioned before.
- b. Players are not allowed to participate with two teams in the same age category (E.g. a player playing for the A team cannot also freely play with the B team).
- c. In the same academy the player may be moved from the A team to the B team or from the B team to the A team. However, the player must then play the rest of the competition with the last team.
- d. Players registered in the championship are not allowed to be transferred in another academy during the competition.

7- Timing of the match

- a. All teams are required to be ready at the scheduled fixture time.
- b. Should a team not be present at the pitch, ready to start play at the kick-off time, the referee will wait 10 minutes of courtesy time past the designated kick-off time.
- c. In the case a team does not show up for their fixture, they will forfeit the fixture and the opponent will be awarded a 3-0 win.

8- Results and Ranking

(U8 - U10 - U12 - U14 - U16 - U18)

- a. At the end of the matches, points will be attributed as follows:
 - a.1. 3 pts for a win
 - a.2. 1pt for a draw
 - a.3. 0 pts for loss
- b. Final championship positions will be determined through total points.
- c. In case of parity of points between two or more teams at the end of the group stage or the finals stage, the qualified/ winner will be designated as follows:
 - c.1. The winner of-direct confrontation between the teams.
 - c.2. Best goal difference (scored + conceded)

- c.3. Higher number of goals scored.
- c.4. Less number of red cards and yellow cards
- c.5. Draw between the teams

VIII. TROPHIES & AWARDS

Trophies will be awarded to the winners: by team and individual

1- Team's trophies:

- a. Winners' teams' trophies: for the 1st, 2nd and 3rd in the first league.
- b. Winners' teams' trophies: for the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd, in the second league.

2- Individual's trophies:

- a. Best Scorer in each category

3- Medals:

- a. Gold Medal: for the 1st in each category
- b. Silver Medal: for the 2nd in each category
- c. Bronze Medal: for the 3rd in each category

IX. EQUIPMENT

1. All players must wear the compulsory outfit for the match, including a jersey, shorts and socks, shin pads, football cleats with the number printed on the jersey. Shin pads must be completely covered by the socks.
2. Participating teams must use their own uniforms with their distinctive colors approved by the organizing Committee (OC).
3. No player shall wear a number different from the one registered in the scoresheet of the match day.
4. All substitutes must be wearing a different color bib while resting on the bench.
5. The Goalkeeper of a team must have a different color kit from their outfield player jerseys.
6. If the Goalkeeper color is similar to one team, he is required to wear a bib provided by his team.
7. Each team should have two sets of outfits of different colors.
8. It is mandatory that team's shirts are numbered.
9. Shin pads must be worn at all times.
10. If two teams wear the same color, the team nominated second must change their outfit.
11. If the team has no alternative equipment, they must wear team bibs. All teams must have their own set of bibs in case another color is required.
12. Bibs will not be provided by the Organizing Committee

X. MEDICAL

1. It is recommended for the participating teams to have a medical staff
2. The Dubai Sports Council will provide medical support by providing ambulance services during the championship.
3. All players must obtain their own medical insurance to cover any/all medical support they may require while they are participating in DSC Football Academies Championship.

XI. DISCIPLINE

(Art 1) In the event a team has sufficient suspicion about the legality of another player on the opposing team in a certain age division and or league, then the respective coach has the right to ask the organizing committee for player verification which will take place after the match has concluded.

Teams will be only allowed to request verification of Emirates ID or passport from another team in case they have suspicion of the validity of an opposing player and under the following conditions.

- a) The team that is requesting player verification must pay a deposit of 100 AED (cash) to the coordinator on site. When the deposit is in possession of the OC they will proceed with player verification.
- b) If in the end, the protesting team has wrongfully accused the opposing team/player, the amount (100 AED cash) will not be refunded.
- c) If in the end, the protesting team was right, the total amount of 100 AED cash will be refunded and the offending team will be disqualified from the DSCAC.
- d) If the offending player/team leaves without succumbing to the verification, the concerned team will be disqualified from the DSCAC.
- e) If in the event, a team is asked for a **player emirates ID** are not present, the offending team will endure the 3-0 loss.
- f) A coach only has the right to request verification if they have complied and completed the full registration process.

Art (2): No academy/club will be allowed to postpone matches freely. If the team is unable to fulfil fixtures on set days, then the team must notify the organizing committee two days prior to the kick-off time and advise they will not be able to fulfil the fixture in which they will forfeit the match 3-0. Postponing matches will result as the following scenarios:

- a) Postponed matches due to coming late: not accepted (3-0)
- b) Postponed matches due to the absence of the team: not accepted (3-0)
- c) Postpone matches due to the external competition of players with different teams including school teams: not accepted: (3-0)
- d) Postponed matches due to a team external participation only should be under the following conditions:
 1. A copy of the official invitation of the tournament
 2. The official approval of the opposing team
 3. The designation of the postponed match venue
 4. Advanced payment of the referee fees by the concern team who request the postponed
 5. Advanced payment of the ambulance fees by the concern team who request the postponed

Art (3): Yellow and Red cards will be implemented into, U12, U14, U16 & U18 age groups as follow:

- a) A player is cautioned and shown a yellow card if he/she commits any of the following offences:
 1. Unsporting behaviour
 2. Dissent by word or action
 3. Persistent infringement of the Laws of the Game
 4. Delaying the restart of play
 5. Failure to respect the required distance when play is restarted with a corner kick, throw-in, or free kick
 6. Entering or re-entering the field of play without the referee's permission
 7. Deliberately leaving the field of play without the referee's permission
 8. Display of any clothing other than game kit

- b) A player is shown a red card if he/she commits any of the following offences:
 1. Serious foul play
 2. Violent conduct
 3. Spitting at an opponent or any other person
 4. Denying the opposing team, a goal or an obvious goal scoring opportunity by deliberately handling the ball (this does not apply to a goalkeeper within his own penalty area)
 5. Denying an obvious goal scoring opportunity to an opponent moving towards the player's goal by an offence punishable by a free kick or a penalty kick
 6. Using offensive, insulting, or abusive language and/or gestures
 7. Receiving a second caution in the same match

- c) A player who commits any of the above mistakes or offences, will get the following penalties:
 1. Player, who receives three (3) yellow cards throughout the championship, will be subject to one full game day ban from all Championship play in all categories following official notice from the Organizing Committee.
 2. Player, who receives a red card after two (2) yellow cards in a single game, will be subject to the same penalty as above.
 3. Player, who receives a direct red card, he/she will be ban from Championship play for one (1) game day minimum from all categories and these red card incidents will be subject to further bans on a case-by-case basis.
 4. If a player is suspended for a second successively (2nd) direct red card following the suspension of a previous direct red card, he/she will suffer a minimum two (2) full game day bans from all categories following the notice of the organizing committee and these incidents will be subject to further bans on a case-by-case basis.

Art (4): In all cases of red cards or suspensions, the organizing committee (OC), will decide upon consequences after reviewing the matches' referee report.

Art (5): A team shall be deemed to have lost a match 3-0, unless the current result is more than that in which the current result will stand, under the following circumstances/violations:

- a) If a team allows a player to play in the presence of a suspension or if they are not legally allowed to partake.

- b) If it allows player to play in certain match with the card of another player
- c) If a team fails to attend a match without the sufficient notice or if a team shows up with less than the required number of players or if they show up more than 10 minutes after the scheduled kick-off time without acceptable justification.
- d) If a team fails to comply with the rules regarding player promotion from two teams in the same age category.

Art (6): If the match is discontinued for any reason, any yellow or red cards shown to any player during the played time shall follow to be valid and in effect.

Art (7): Any team officials behaving inappropriately or found to have unsporting spirit shall be penalized by the committee with all or some of the following penalties:

- a) Warning
- b) Suspension for a one week in case of recidivism.
- c) Definitively suspension from the championship in case of violence.

Art (8): Objections are filed after the match to the organizing committee. No objections to the performance of the referees shall be admitted.

Art (9): All the provisions mentioned herein shall be subject to the UAE football Association regulations

XII. GENERAL PROVISIONS:

1. The implementation, interpretation and enforcement of rules are deemed to be final by the organizing Committee (OC). Any dispute of the rules should be advised to the Organizing Committee of the DSC Championship. All the teams are required to accept the decisions of the Championships Management.
2. The organizing Committee (OC) reserve the right to change or modify rules of the championships and implement disciplinary actions upon teams and/or individuals.
3. All participants are under the responsibility of their respective academy and must abide by the highest standards as per Annex 1.
4. After a decision of the organizing Committee (OC) of excluded one team of the competition. That team will not be able to request the refund of any payment done to the championship.
5. The organizing Committee (OC) has the right to postpone the matches, due to a major reason, for a maximum of 4 weeks, if this decision is taken for more than 4 weeks, the championship will be cancelled, championship tables will not be valid, and teams will not be refunded.
6. Dubai Sports Council accept no liability or financial responsibilities for injuries or accidents sustained during the course of the championships by any player, official or supporter.
7. All personal property brought to the championships is entirely the responsibility of its owner. Dubai Sports Council accept no liability or financial responsibilities for the loss or damage to property during

XIII. ANNEXES

Annex 1 – health protocol regarding “COVID 19” pandemic.

1. PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES TAKEN BY THE ORGANIZING COMMITTEE:

In order to preserve the safety of the contestants, the Organizing Committee will apply the following Health protocol:

A. Sanitization:

- a. Sanitization of all fixtures, equipment, and tools
- b. Sanitization of the washrooms and toilets after every use or once every hour (minimum)
- c. Sanitization of equipment's after each match

B. Physical distancing

- a. Signals will define distances between players during the reception process.
- b. Players or Staff should not shake hands before and after the match

C. Wearing masks:

- a. Players: They must wear masks before the match and until the warm-up period begins. (the substitutes on the bench must keep the mask)
- b. All teamwork members including the organizing committee, technical committee, referees, coaches, managers, administrators and attendees: are required to wear a mask for the duration of the event

D. : Facilities' Restrictions

- a. Changing rooms, lockers and showers are not Permitted to use
- b. Washrooms/Toilets permitted [to be sanitized after every use or minimum of once every hour]

E. conduct to be observed by players

a. Sanitization and contact

- a.1. Use hand-sanitizer before, within, and after entering facility.
- a.2. Avoid physical contact and touching your face and eyes
- a.3. Avoid touching of objects, equipment and surfaces unnecessarily
- a.4. No group gatherings within and around the facility.
- a.5. No sharing of personal belongings or equipment (shin pads, footwear, water bottles, etc)

b. Respect of distances from the others

- b.1. Players will warm up in a designated area and pitch to reduce contact at the facility.
- b.2. Always keep a recommended safe distance from others.
- b.3. At no point players from pitch one and two mix.
- b.4. During the game the substitutes are maintaining social distance in their designated area. The coach will enforce this.
- b.5. Parents will not be allowed to enter and playing the facility and must stay in the carpark

c. **Entering and exiting the pitch.**

- c.1. Queuing for the pitch entry. Players and coaches are on the social distance spots outside the entrance
- c.2. Players do not enter until all players from the 1st group have left the pitch.
- c.3. Players, coaches and officials must exit the pitch via the
- c.4. Warm up. Each team will have 7 minutes to warm up in the pitch selected for the match.
- c.5. Substitutes 2 meters' social distance required on the bench.

d. **Parents.**

Parents Are not allowed to enter to the pitches

2. SPECIAL MEASURES IN CASE OF POSITIVE TEST IN ONE TEAM:

In case of positive test for the Covid 19, the concerned academy has to take the following actions:

- 1. Reporting immediately to the organization committee about positive and suspected cases. (date, number, names, precautionary measures)
- 2. Informing families about the necessity of respecting safety measures and encouraging them to monitor for any symptoms, including fever, sore throat, dry cough or breathing difficulties and seeking medical support (as attached document).
- 3. Covid-19 follow-up tests for the rest of the technical staff and players
- 4. Isolating people who have been in close contact with the positive cases (players, staff etc...) for three days
- 5. Suspension of sports activity for members who have tested positive
- 6. No resumption of activity until a negative test is presented after 14 days to the Organizing Committee
- 7. Sterilization of the location and equipment by a sterilization company certified by Dubai Municipality.

Annex 2 – DSC Academies Championship – Players Code of Conduct

All players agree to follow the rules of play and conduct set by Dubai Sports Council Football Academies Championship. Any failure of this rule may result in suspension of participation. Also, all participants and parents waive(s) all rights to any photos, videos taken or recorded for the use by the Dubai Sports Council in TV, newspapers, social media and Publication.

Annex 3 – DSC Academies Championship – Coaches Code of Conduct

Dubai Sports Council is dedicated to raising the standard of service to youth in football through the enforcement of the Coach's Code of Conduct & Ethics. The Coach's Code of Conduct & Ethics defines the expectations for adults serving as coaches in the Dubai Sports Council Football Academies Championship. We firmly believe that for the sports experience to be positive, we all have the responsibility to promote high standards of behavior in the game to create a fair, safe and enjoyable environment in which the game can take place.

Every coach is required to play his part and observe the Dubai Sports Council Football Academies Championship Coach's Code of Conduct & Ethics.

On and off the pitch, I will:

- Show respect to others involved in the game including match officials, opposition players, coaches
- and spectators.
- Co-operate with the OC or officials to comply with the schedule and Championships procedures.
- Promote Fair Play and high standards of behavior.
- Always respect the match official's decision.
- Never engage in public criticism of the match officials.
- Never engage in, or tolerate, offensive, insulting or abusive language or behavior. When working with players, I will:
- Never engage in or tolerate any form of bullying.
- Encourage each player to accept responsibility for their own behavior and performance.
- Co-operate fully with others in football (e.g. officials, paramedics, club officers) for each player's
- best interests.

Academy Representation and Consideration for Participation in the Dubai Sports Council Football Academies Championship:

Each academy/team representative is acknowledging compliance of all the rules and regulations in this document when full registration is complete

