

**QUALIFICATION OF PLAYERS**  
**(DOMESTIC COMPETITIONS)**  
**(Amended September 30, 2021)**

1.
  - (a) Any bona-fide member of a club shall be eligible to play for the club in the Association (subject to clauses in these rules and other policies and regulations generally) provided the player has not, in the current season played for another club in the Association or has previously been registered for another club in the Association.
  - (b) If a player has played or remains on the Association register of players for a club, permission for his release must be obtained from the club to which the player is attached.
  - (c) Under no circumstances can a visitor, in any capacity, be eligible to play in league and/or Cup games or any other match sanctioned under the auspices of the Association. The Club is liable for any breach of this clause regardless, if the Association issues a player ID card.
2. For the purposes of these regulations a bona-fide playing member of a club is one who, has signed a full and accurately completed registration form and has complied with the regulations regarding the release and registration of players and has submitted this registration form to the administrative office of the Association and obtained a registration I.D. card issued only by the Association prior to playing.
3. A player having taken part in matches for any club affiliated to the Association shall not be released to or be allowed to play for any other Club in the Association without gaining the approval of his current Club and submitting the relevant release form to the Association signed by the appropriate Executive Officer of that Club (see article 8).
4.
  - (a) A fee of **\$45.00** for a three (3) year period shall be paid in advance to the Association by each registered (senior) player as laid down in Article 17 of these rules.
  - (b) A fee of **\$10.00** shall be paid in advance to the Association for the registration of all youth players which shall be valid until the players' sixteenth birthdate.
5. In the event of a player signing a Release form, and having a registration submitted for more than one club, the Administrative Office shall inform the player and it shall be the responsibility of the player to determine which registration is valid and should be accepted by the Association. The Clubs involved will be duly informed.
6. It shall be deemed misconduct for a club to:
  - (a) Play a person who has played for another club in the same season except as set out in Article 12 of these regulations.
  - (b) Submit a signed registration form for a player who has willfully neglected to complete it accurately or fully.

7. (a) The Executive Council shall have the power to accept the registration of any player and to refuse, cancel, or suspend the registration of any player they consider guilty of registration irregularities or any conduct they deem undesirable and to disqualify the player in question from participation in any or all games in the Association and/or otherwise deal with the player at their discretion.
8. (a) The Release/Registration period for players shall be from **May 1<sup>st</sup> to July 15<sup>th</sup>**. Release/Registration Forms can be obtained from the administrative office of the Association and returned with a fee of **\$100.00**.

(i) Any player who has not participated in any games for the Club which he/she is registered and who fails to obtain a release from their Club in accordance with Article 8 (a) shall be eligible for a late release & player registration from **November 15<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup>**. Late Release/Registration Forms can be obtained from the Administrative Office of the Association and must be returned with a fee of **\$120.00**.

(ii) Should November 15<sup>th</sup> fall on a day that is not a business day i.e., a weekend or a public holiday then the late transfer period should commence on the previous business date.

(iii) Any player, whose registration card has expired and has not, obtained a new registration card from the administrative office for period of 2 or more years, shall be eligible for a release at any time during the current season from his previously registered club in accordance with Article 3. Release/Registration Forms can be obtained from the administrative office of the Association and must be returned with a fee of **\$120.00**.

**NOTE:** The Player Release List will to be sent to all Clubs before **July 30<sup>th</sup>**,

(iv) Any player desiring to register with a club can do so at any time and must submit the required player registration forms to the Association's administrative office with the accompanied fee of **\$45.00** per player.

(v) Any player whose player ID card has expired and wishes to re-register with their former club they can do so at any time during the current football season. All Registration Forms must be submitted to the administrative office of the Association with a fee of **\$45.00**.

(b) According to the General Rules for Divisional Competitions under **Registrations, Entry and Withdrawal of Membership Organizations** a club must register a minimum of 18 players per team.

(c) In the case where a player who has graduated through a club's football program (U-7 thru U23) without transferring and is eligible to or has registered as a senior player wishes to be released from his club the club may request compensation for his development:

The compensation shall be in accordance with the following fee structure, of which, \$100.00 will be retained by the Association:

- a) Age 16-21 - a fee up to \$1,000.00
- b) Before Age 23 - a fee up to \$750.00
- c) Before Age 25 - a fee up to \$500.00

- d) After Age 25 - the Club shall have no claim to compensation under this Article.
  - i. If the player's new club is unable to comply with the above release fees and the player does not wish to return to his former club, then the two clubs concerned, and the player shall meet to resolve this matter. If no resolution is agreed upon then it shall be resolved by an Ad Hoc Committee appointed by the Executive Council.
  - iii. If a player is released to a new club, in accordance with items 8(c) (a-c) and wishes a release from his new club after less than two seasons then the two clubs concerned, and the player shall meet to resolve the matter. If no resolution is agreed upon then it shall be resolved by an Ad Hoc Committee appointed by the Executive Council.
  - iii. Nothing contained in this Article shall prevent an individual releasing to another club from participating in a purely non-playing capacity.
- (d) Should a club object to the release of a player, then the club shall state its objections, in writing, along with documented evidence, including registration forms, in support of said objections, to the administrative office of the Association, AND TO THE PLAYER CONCERNED, within seven days of the objection date contained on the Release Form.
- (e) Upon receipt of the club's consent, or upon its failure to give written objection within seven days, the administrative office of the Association may, on behalf of the Executive Council, release the player who shall be deemed eligible to register for any Club in accordance with all registration procedures.
- 9. (a) In the event a Club objects to the Release of a player, the matter shall be referred to the Executive Council for a decision.
- (b) If a Club objects further to the decision of the Executive Council, then at the request of the Club and in accordance with procedures for hearing appeals the matter shall be deferred to an Appeal Committee.
- 10. A club shall keep a list of players it has registered with the Association.
- 11. A register containing the names of all members registered for each club, with the date of registration, shall be kept by the administrative office of the Association and shall be open to the inspection of any duly appointed officer of any membership organization at a time mutually arranged with the Administrative Office.
- 12. Any club wishing to field a player of another club as a guest player in any special match or matches, i.e., friendly games against foreign opponents, must apply in writing to the Association 48 hours prior to the match. Such application must be accompanied by the written consent of the player and the club with which the player is registered.

13. Any club playing an unregistered or otherwise ineligible player or players shall forfeit the match and may be fined/or otherwise dealt with in accordance with the Association's Disciplinary Code. In the case of a knock-out competition or other competition under the control of the Association, the club will be dealt with in accordance with the regulations of the competition concerned.
14. I.D. registration of all players shall take place each year, according to the schedule determined by the administrative office of the Association. There shall be a late I.D. registration period from November 15 - 30<sup>th</sup>. (NOTE: Nothing in this article should be taken as evidence to preclude the General Secretary from granting registration rights at times other than the above due to unforeseen or unusual circumstances, proved to the satisfaction of the Association.)
15. All protests regarding the qualification of players in any match must be made to the Association within 48 hours of the match in question. Should that period fall on a Saturday, Sunday, or Holiday, then the protest must be made on the first working day following.
16. Each club registering a player in accordance with these rules shall receive a player's registration card for the player containing such information as the Association from time to time deem necessary. This card shall remain the property of the Bermuda Football Association and the club shall be responsible to the Association for any misuse of the card.
17. The registration period for all players registered under these regulations shall be for three years. Should the player register during the playing season, then the registration shall be valid for the unexpired portion of that playing season plus the number of years totaling three. Upon expiration of the three-year registration period, the player shall be required to obtain a new I.D. registration card valid for a further three (3) years. All I.D. registration cards shall be issued in accordance with all release and registration procedures as laid down in these regulations.
18. In any match played under the authority of the Association only those players and officials listed on the team sheet for that match shall be eligible for free admission into the grounds. Clubs are responsible for copies of their team sheets being presented to the gatekeepers prior to the game. Field Operators must inform the Association of their main entry for players and officials. Any player or official found in breach of this regulation shall have their cards confiscated and the club fined a minimal of **\$25.00** and the player or players suspended at the discretion of the Executive Council or any committee acting on its behalf.
19. Not later than sixty (60) minutes prior to the scheduled kick-off time for each match, the club shall present to the Match Commissioner or referee, the team sheet containing the full first and last names of all players and officials who will participate in the match together with their registration cards, in the same order as they appear on the team sheet.
20. No player shall be permitted to participate in any match under the auspices of the Association without being in possession of a valid Players Photo ID Card. The ID Cards of all players participating in any match must be presented to the Match Commissioner prior to the start of the match. The General Secretary, in unusual circumstances, may grant players the right to sign the team sheet by notifying the Match Commissioner either verbally or in writing before the match.

21. At the conclusion of the match, the team manager or designate shall collect from the referee all the registration cards of the players and officials.
22. It shall be a violation of these rules to deface, alter or transfer a registration card. Such action shall be deemed misconduct and dealt with in accordance with the rules of the Association.
23. In the case of a registration card being lost, stolen, or defaced, the club must notify the Association in writing within 24 hours of the occurrence and a new card shall only be issued to the club on payment of \$10.00.
24. It shall be deemed misconduct and a violation of these rules for any club to present to the Match Commissioner or designate, a registration card of a player or official serving suspension in accordance with a decision of the Executive Council or a Committee acting on its behalf, or the player's registration having expired.
25. The Executive Council may amend these rules from time to time as they deem expedient.