

REGULATIONS

INTERNATIONAL BEACH SOCCER TOURNAMENT «OPEN BEACH SOCCER LEAGUE - 2012»

GRAND-PRIX «SPRING»

**Saint-Petersburg
2012**

1. AIMS OF THE TOURNAMENT

The International football tournament ‘Open Beach Soccer League, Gand-Prix ‘Spring’’ is staged to:

- determine the winners of the tournament;
- strengthen international sports relations.

2. VENUE AND DATES OF THE TOURNAMENT

The Tournament will be hosted in the ‘Dinamit’ Beach Center, St. Petersburg from 17th to 23rd of April, 2012 (Arrival date: 17th of April, Departure date: 23rd of April).

3. MANAGEMENT OF THE TOURNAMENT ORGANISATION

The general management of the tournament organization and hosting is conducted by the Ministry of Sports, Tourism and Youth policy of the Russian Federation (hereinafter Minsporttourism of Russia), Football Union of Russia (hereinafter – FUR) and Beach Soccer Federation of St. Petersburg. The Organising Committee agreed by the FUR is formed to host the tournament.

Director of the tournament and the Panel of Referee is responsible for conducting the tournament. The staff of the Main Panel of Referee is agreed by the FUR.

4. PARTICIPANTS

The Organising Committee invites 12 beach soccer clubs and national teams to participate in the tournament.

The Delegation consists of 25 people, including 20 players and 5 officials (head of delegation, coaches, doctor, masseur, operator). The Participating clubs covers all their costs.

5. PROGRAMME

The Group stage will follow a Round Robin system with 3 groups of 4 teams.

The 3 group winners and the best runner-up play the semi-final. The two runners-up and the two best third-ranked teams from the group stage play 5th – 8th place matches following the knock-out system. The other teams play 9th – 12th place matches following the knock-out system.

Ranking shall be determined as follows:

- greater number of points obtained in the group stage;
- greater goal difference;
- greater number of goals scored in the group stage;
- lower number of red cards received during the group stage;
- lower number of yellow cards received during the group stage;
- drawing lots.

The teams that qualify for the Semi-finals will be drawn against each other with the following restriction:

- Teams that played in the same group cannot be drawn against each other in the semi-finals.

Programme of the Tournament:

Date	Kick-off	Programme
April 17		Day of arrival, accreditation, training sessions, team arrival meeting, technical meeting, draw
April 18 «Dinamit» Beach Center	10.00 - 13.00 16.00 - 22.00	Training sessions Group matches Opening ceremony
April 19 «Dinamit» Beach Center	10.00 - 13.00 16.00 - 23.00	Training sessions Group matches
April 20 «Dinamit» Beach Center	10.00 - 13.00 16.00 - 22.00	Training sessions Group matches Semi-Finals Draw
April 21 «Dinamit» Beach Center	10.00 - 17.00	9 th – 12 th Place Match 5 th – 8 th Place Match Semi-Finals
April 22 «Dinamit» Beach Center	10.00 11.15 12.30 13.45 15.00 16.15 17.30	11 th Place Match 9 th Place Match 7 th Place Match 5 th Place Match 3 rd Place Match Final Closing ceremony
April 23		Departure day

6. COMPETITION FORMAT

All matches shall be played according to the FIFA Beach Soccer Laws of the Game authorized and publicized by FIFA.

Ranking in groups during the group stage shall be determined by the greater number of points obtained in the group matches (victory in regular time – 3 points, victory in overtime or penalty shoot out – 2 points, defeat – 0 points).

In case two or more teams have the same number of points obtained in the group matches, their ranking shall be determined as follows:

- greater number of points obtained in the group matches between the teams concerned;
- greater goal difference resulting from the group matches between the teams concerned;
- greater number of goals scored in the group matches between the teams concerned;
- greater number of victories;
- greater goal difference in all group matches;
- greater number of goals scored in all group matches;
- lower number of red cards received during the group stage;
- lower number of yellow cards received during the group stage;
- drawing lots in case two or more teams are equal on the basis of the above mentioned criteria.

30 minutes before the match starts coaches shall enter the first and the last name of each player indicating his number. The coach shall enter 12 players (including 2 goalkeepers).

Any team found guilty of fielding an ineligible or disqualified player shall forfeit the match. Victory and the score of 10-0 will be awarded to the opposing team.

In case a Club does not present itself ready to play at the stipulated match schedule starting point without any reasonable excuse, the team will be declared the loser of that match. Victory and the score of 10-0 will be awarded to the opposing team. The team concerned shall be excluded from the tournament and if it played only one match during the group stage the match result will be canceled.

During the tournament and upon the decision of the Main Panel of Referee the following disciplinary sanctions shall be imposed on the players:

- a) if a player receives two yellow cards, he will be automatically suspended from the team's following match;
- b) if a player is sent off as a result of:
 - two yellow cards in the same match, he will automatically be suspended from the team's following match (previously received cautions shall not be cancelled);
 - a last ditch foul, he will automatically be suspended from the team's following match;
 - violent play, he will automatically be suspended from two matches;
 - insulting or abusive language, he will automatically be suspended from two competition matches;
 - violent behavior, he will be suspended for three competition matches.

If a player is sent off as a result of other reasons, the Main Panel of Referee will impose disciplinary sanctions on the basis of the FUR Disciplinary Regulations and the present Regulations.

7. REFEREES

The Main Panel of Referee is responsible for refereeing of the competition. The Main Panel of referees is responsible for appointing referees for the matches in this competition.

The Referee, at least 30 minutes before the match starts, shall check the last name of the players listed in the protocol as well as the readiness of the stadium and the corresponding services to host the match. The Referee and the teams' delegation members are responsible for observing the rules of players' eligibility. Before the start of the match the Referee, in cooperation with the teams' representatives, shall select contrasting colours of the kits (shirts, shorts and goalkeeper kits). If the colours of the kits are confusingly similar, the team ranked first in the match calendar shall have the right to choose the colour.

Within 30 minutes after the match the coaches and the Referee shall validate the match protocol. In case of cautions, expulsions and injuries as well as disorderly behavior at the stadium, the Referee shall enter the detailed information about the abovementioned incidents into the protocol before it is signed by the teams' representatives.

Protests against factual decisions taken by the referee are inadmissible.

The Main Panel of Referee considers official protests and appeals lodged within an hour of the match. The protests shall be considered only if they are entered in the match protocol.

8. ENTRIES FOR THE TOURNAMENT

On entering the competition the club shall submit a list of players and delegation members.

The list of players shall be submitted to the Organising Committee of the tournament not later than April 9, 2012 using the official form for this purpose. The entry lists shall be signed by the representative of the National (Regional) Beach Soccer Association and by the team's doctor. The Club may make amendments to this list till April 13, 2012 at the latest. No amendments are allowed during the competition.

The list of players shall be sent electronically to the following e-mail: info@beachsoccer.ru. The originals shall be submitted at the technical meeting on April 17, 2012.

Fax +7 812 430-40-30

Contact information:

Organising Committee

+ 7 921 965 31 54 (Chairman – Sergey Nechaev)

+ 7 921 998-83-38 (Executive director of the tournament – Igor Perekrest).

Football Union of Russia

+ 7 495 926-13-00 ext. 71-17 (Director of the Tournament – Sergey Shamray)

Each participating club shall have two sets of playing kits, of different colours. The players have to be numbered from 1 to 22 (number 1 must be worn by A goalkeeper).

9. TROPHY AWARDS AND DIPLOMAS

The 'OBSL-2012 GP 'Spring' Trophy will be awarded to the winner of the tournament.

A small-size 'OBSL-2011 GP 'Spring'' trophy and a commemorative plaque will be presented to the teams ranked second and third.

A commemorative diploma will be presented to each of the referees who take charge of the matches.

10. SECURITY

The tournament is hosted in sports facilities that meet the requirements of the corresponding regulatory legal acts applied on the territory of the Russian Federation and aimed at providing public order and security of participants and spectators within the acts of readiness of sports facilities to host sports events, approved in accordance with the established procedure.

11. INSURANCE

Each national team and club player as well as a delegation member shall have an accident, life and health insurance to participate in international competitions. The originals of insurance contracts shall be submitted to the Main Panel of Referee.

The participating team is responsible for insurance coverage for all delegation members.

12. COMMERCIAL RIGHTS

Rights to advertise goods, work and services at the venue; rights to appoint the manufacturer of the sport kit, equipment used during the tournament; as well as the rights to cover the tournament by broadcasting its imagery and (or) sound by any means as well as by recording the broadcasting and (or) photo coverage of the tournament are exclusive rights of the FUR and shall be used by third-parties only with the FUR approval. St. Petersburg Beach Soccer Federation owns the rights to exploit the name and marks of the tournament.

13. UNFORSEEN CIRCUMSTANCES

Any matters not provided for in these regulations, such as cases of force majeure, are settled by FUR, Russian Ministry of Sports, Tourism and Youth Policy, the Organising Committee and the Directorate of the Tournament, whose decisions are final.