

GUIDELINES NATIONAL FOOTBALL PROGRAM

The WTGF GENERAL FOOTBALL RULES represent “best practices” and are provided to assist in the establishment or additional development of transplant football programs throughout the world.

National Transplant association/hospital/city/region/country, organizer, trainer/coach and football player are encouraged to follow the WTGF General Football Rules, to understand and be familiar with them.

At all times, participants must respect the etiquette and traditions of their sport/discipline. This includes being properly dressed and equipped and conducting themselves in a sportsmanlike manner.

All participants must be approved by the trainer or referee.

Mixed training and teams of both male and female players is allowed.

1. For the “first” training sessions

- a. The trainer/coach should have received a signed medical form from the player’s transplant doctor approving his/her participation.
- b. Training should start with a briefing from the trainer/coach to all participants, followed by a warm up.
- c. All participants should follow regular training sessions for the first 6 months to arrive at an acceptable fitness level.

2. Rules for exhibition matches (incl. all rules for the training sessions)

- a. All referees should have signed the agreement to confirm that they have understood, accept, and pledge to follow the WTGF General Football Rules.
- b. The referee and a minimum of two linesmen with flags will inspect the safety of the field
- c. Medical officers must be available on the field, easily visible and with appropriate designation on their apparel.
- d. The match will be divided in to two halves, each lasting 30 minutes with a rest period of 15 minutes or more according to the judgement of the referee.

3. Costs participation on National level

- a. Participating organizations should be paid members of the national transplant association that is recognized by the WTGF within that country.
- b. The trainer/coach is appointed by the National Transplant association/hospital/city/region/country.
- c. Games may be played 7x7 or 11x11 on a half or full field. There are benefits and negatives to either choice. With smaller teams on small fields, the play is faster with more contact—on a larger field there is more space but possibly harder contact.

4. Medical approval form

- a. Before the first training session, the trainer/coach should have received a signed medical form from the player's transplant doctor approving his/her participation.
- b. Medical forms can be found at <https://wtgf.org/>

5. Insurance

- a. Participants are required to arrange their own insurance policy.

6. PR and Communication

- a. create a football page on your National Transplant association/hospital/city/country website.
- b. inform transplant doctors in the hospitals.
- c. create flyers to distribute at hospitals in the patients waiting area (± A4 size, 210 x 297mm).
- d. create information for publicity on the TV screens in hospitals (information in loops), if available.
- e. inform the national kidney, heart, liver, lung, etc. associations and the national football association.
- f. invite participators to write articles.
- g. Challenge local football teams, doctors, nurses, press to participate in exhibition matches.

For more information visit the WTGF website <https://wtgf.org/> or email us at football@wtgf.org