

# St. Kitts-Nevis Football Association

Founded 1932

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7<sup>th</sup> January, 2010

To: All Division One Member Clubs  
Copy to: All SKNFA Clubs and Stakeholders  
From: Stanley Jacobs  
General Secretary – SKNFA

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Dear Division One Clubs;

The SKNFA takes this opportunity to wish everyone a blessed and prosperous 2010.

As we embark upon the resumption of the 2009/10 football season it is important for us to work together to address the many problems that plague the smooth organization of football matches within the SKNFA Division One. While the SKNFA accepts full responsibility for the shortcomings of the league thus far, one must also recognized that it is only by working together can we achieve the kind of synergy necessary for the success of Division One football.

Over the past two months the SKNFA has engaged all the relevant stakeholders in discussions in an effort to resolve the problems confronting Division One Matches. These include discussions with the Referees Committee, the Referees Association along with the SKNFA Competitions Committee. During these discussions a number of issues that were impacting the smooth running of the Division One League were highlighted. These include the following;

1. Field preparation and maintenance
2. Lack of lighting at grounds to finish matches
3. Late registration of teams
4. Referees no show for matches (see items, 5,6 and 7)
5. Shortage of Referees for the volume of matches
6. Days off for Referees
7. Referees and players concerns over the scheduling of matches in known hot spots for gang activities.

In order to resolve these problems and ensure a smooth functioning of Division One football the SKNFA will need the cooperation of all the stakeholders involved.

In regards to field preparation and maintenance, the SKNFA simply do not have the resources to prepare and maintain every single football field throughout St. Kitts. However, the SKNFA would wish to see member clubs take ownership of their

respective grounds to ensure that such grounds are kept to a standard that can facilitate Division One matches. This includes ensuring that the fields are cut, marked

and the goal nets are properly installed. A number of member clubs have already taken the initiative to prepare and maintain their respective grounds by purchasing goal post nets through the SKNFA. In addition, the SKNFA has also assisted some member clubs in the procurement of paint for the marking of their fields.

The SKNFA has put in place a program to assist member clubs prepare and maintain their grounds in a cost effective way. Through this program member clubs can purchase goal nets and paints from the SKNFA at an extremely reduce cost. In addition, the SKNFA can facilitate the marking of fields, however member clubs may be asked to pay the cost of marking such fields.

As we look forward to the resumption of the 2009/10 Division One Football season, the SKNFA will continue its dialog with all stakeholders in an effort to improve the level of service that is provided to member clubs. The SKNFA Competitions Committee is currently engaged in discussions with the Referees Association to come up with solutions to the problems outlined above to ensure that such problems are not repeated in 2010.

The SKNFA Competitions Committee will also embark on a program of regular inspection of grounds to ensure that matches are only schedule for venues that are properly maintained. That is; fields that are properly cut, marked and goal nets installed.

To this end the SKNFA seeks the cooperation of all member clubs. Although the challenges may be great the SKNFA is of the view that if we all work together we can all help to improve the standard and quality of football in St. Kitts and Nevis.

Goal Nets cost EC\$300.00 each

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'S. Jacobs', written over a horizontal line.

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Stanley Jacobs  
General Secretary  
St. Kitts Nevis Football Association