



15th March, 2018

GFF - NAMILCO 'Thunderbolt Flour Power' NATIONAL U17 FOOTBALL LEAGUE

FIRST YEAR REPORT (2016 / 2017)

Overview

The nation-wide GFF-NAMILCO 'Thunderbolt Flour Power' National U-17 Football League was launched on Friday April 29, 2016, and is a five (5)-year partnership between the Guyana Football Federation Inc. (GFF) and the National Milling Company of Guyana Inc. (NAMILCO), that will see a huge investment by the Company over the period. The tournament is a key component of the GFF Executive Committee's strategic objective in its youth development thrust, which emphasizes three essential goals:

1. To streamline sponsorship agreements beyond Executive Cycles.
2. To ensure that consistent youth football is played at all levels in each Regional Member Association (RMA) throughout the year.
3. To enable the establishment of Academy Training Centers (ATC) in each RMA, which will facilitate the growth and development of Elite Coaches and Elite Players.

This nationwide league continues to complement the ATC programme that is being conducted by the GFF Technical Department throughout Guyana. In this relatively new system, the best players from the various Youth Leagues throughout the Country are entered into the Academies where they are exposed to consistent, age-specific, technical and tactical training on a weekly basis, until they transition finally into the Senior National Programme.



Signing of the Agreement in 2016

Tournament Operation

The league is designed as an Intra-Association Tournament and is being played in all of the nine (9) Regional Member Associations (RMAs), namely:

1. Bartica Football Association (Bar. FA)
2. Berbice Football Association (BFA)
3. East Bank Demerara Football Association (EBDFA)
4. East Demerara Football Association (EDFA)
5. Essequibo / Pomeroon Football Association (E/PFA)
6. Georgetown Football Association (GFA)
7. Rupununi Football Association (RFA)
8. Upper Demerara Football Association (UDFA)
9. West Demerara Football Association (WDFa)

However, based on the number of clubs within the Association, some RMA's have been able to conduct two rounds in their first year while the others have been able to conduct only one. Those conducting two rounds were the **BFA, EBDFA, RFA, and the UDFA.**



Balls for the RMA's

Objectives of the Tournament

The objectives of the tournament continue to be:

1. To provide Clubs and Associations with an opportunity to engage their young players in competitive football throughout the year.

2. To create a common and consistent coaching platform that focuses on technique and patterns of play at the early stages of a player development.
3. To provide coaches with an opportunity to improve their craft and gain valuable on-field experiences and knowledge in teaching the fundamentals of the game to young players.



National U17 Squad



Handing over of Sponsorship Cheque for the Second Tranche

League Participation and Points Standing

Participating clubs and points standing for each of the RMA's are as follows:

NO.	RMA	CLUBS	POINTS STANDING
1	Bartica Football Association (Bar. FA)	1st Round	
		Beacons FC	3
		Rising Stars FC	3
		Potaro Strikers	3
		Wolves United FC	1
		Agatash FC	1
		Lazio FC	0
		Milballer FC	0
		Riverview	0
2	Berbice Football Association (BFA)	1st Round	
		Paradise Invaders	25
		Cougars FC	24
		New Amsterdam United	21
		Corriverton Links FC	16
		Monedderlust FC	12
		Mahaicony Thunderhawks FC	11
		Litchfield Nuggets Y&S	7
		Rosignol United FC	7
		Hopetown United FC	4
		Canefield Diamond Strikers	3
		2nd Round	
		New Amsterdam United	16
		Cougars FC	15
		Hopetown United Rangers	15
		Paradise Invaders FC	13
		Young Strikers FC	9
		Corriverton Links FC	9
		Monedderlust FC	6
		Mahaicony Thunderhawks	0
3	East Bank Demerara Football Association (EBDFA)	1st Round	
		Grove Hi-Tech	24
		Kuru Kururu Warriors	16
		Yarrowkabra Jaguars	16
		Soesdyke Falcons	15
		Agricola	12
		Diamond United	10
		Herstelling Raiders	10
		Mocha Champs	3
		Friendship	0
		2nd Round	

		Grove Hi-Tech	48
		Highway United	34
		Kuru Kururu Warriors	32
		Diamond United	25
		Agricola	21
		Herstelling Raiders	20
		Soesdyke	15
		Mocha Champs	10
		Friendship	10
4	East Demerara Football Association (EDFA)	1st Round	
		Buxton United	25
		Mahaica Determinators	23
		BA / Paradise Sports Club	16
		BV / Triumph United	15
		Golden Stars	13
		Plaisance Panthers	11
		Ann's Grove United	8
		Victoria Kings	7
		Buxton Stars	4
		Buxton Youth Developers	4
5	Essequibo / Pomeroon Football Association (EPFA)	1st Round	
		Dartmouth Dominators FC	14
		Charity Extreme FC	12
		Mainstay Goldstar FC	8
		Henrietta United FC	8
		Queenstown United FC	4
		Wakapoa FC	3
		Good Hope FC	0
6	Georgetown Football Association (GFA)	1st Round	
		Fruta Conquerors FC	21
		Eastville FC	16
		Santos FC	13
		Georgetown Football Club	12
		Alpha United FC	9
		Pele FC	9
		Order & Discipline FC	3
		Camptown FC	0
7	Rupununi Football Association (RFA)	1st Round	
		Paiwomak Warriors FC	1 st
		St. Ignatius Sports Club	2 nd
		Snatchers FC	3 rd
		FC Strikers	4 th
		Gladiators FC	5 th
		Sarama FC	6 th
		Shiriri FC	7 th

		2nd Round	
		Snatchers FC	9
		Piawomak Warriors FC	6
		Guyana Rush Saints FC	4
		Tabatinga FC	4
		Surama FC	3
		FC Strikers	3
		Gladiators FC	0
		Basin FC	0
8	Upper Demerara Football Association (UDFA)	1st Round	
		Milerock FC	19
		Topp XX FC	16
		Eagles United FC	14
		Botofago FC	9
		Amelia's Ward Panthers	7
		Silver Shattas FC	6
		Netrockers FC	3
		Hi Stars FC	2
		2nd Round	
		Botofago FC	18
		Eagles United FC	16
		Milerock FC	15
		Netrockers FC	12
		Amelia's Ward Panthers	10
		Topp XX FC	9
		Hi Stars FC	6
		Silver Shattas FC	3
9	West Demerara Football Association (WDFA)	1st Round	
		Den Amstel	27
		Slingerz FC	10
		Eagles FC	9
		Beavers FC	9
		Wales United FC	4



EBDFA Presentation of Prizes

Goals Scored

The total number of matches played and goals scored thus far, are listed below:

NO.	REGIONAL MEMBER ASSOCIATION	MATCHES PLAYED	TOTAL GOALS SCORED	AVERAGE GOALS PER MATCH
1	Bartica Football Association (Bar. FA) Round 1	4	15	3.75
2	Berbice Football Association (BFA) Round 1	45	130	2.89
	Round 2	56	88	1.57
	Total	101	218	2.16
3	East Bank Demerara Football Association (EBDFA) Round 1	43	123	2.86
	Round 2	144	54	0.38
	Total	187	177	0.95
4	East Demerara Football Association (EDFA) Round 1	45	170	3.78
5	Essequibo / Pomeroon Football Association (EPFA) Round 1	23	25	1.09
6	Georgetown Football Association (GFA) Round 1	29	100	3.45
7	Rupununi Football Association (RFA) Round 1	21	138	6.57
	Round 2	20	24	1.2
	Total	41	162	3.95
8	Upper Demerara Football Association (UDFA) Round 1	36	29	0.81

	Round 2	<u>28</u>	<u>64</u>	<u>2.29</u>
	Total	64	93	3.1
9	West Demerara Football Association (W DFA) Round 1	20	73	3.65



Leading Goal Scorers

The League leading goal scorers are listed below:

NO.	REGIONAL MEMBER ASSOCIATION	PLAYER	CLUB	GOALS SCORED
1	Bartica FA	<u>1st Round</u>		
		Daniel Gardner	Potaro Strikers	4
		Kevin Reddy	Potaro Strikers	3
		Emanuel Atherly	Rising Stars	2
		McQuain Smith	Rising Stars	2
2	Berbice FA	<u>1st Round</u>		
		Shane Hamilton	Cougars FC	9
		Alex Partab	Corriverton Links	7
		Tarrique Ben	Paradise Invaders	6
		<u>2nd Round</u>		
		Dwaine Alleyne	Cougars FC	11
		Lamar Reid	Cougars FC	5
		Dave Torrington	Hopetown United R FC	5
Shakeel DeHarte	Paradise Invaders	5		
3	East Bank Dem. FA	<u>1st Round</u>		
		Tyrone Khan	Soesdyke Falcons	6
		Kevin Padmore	Grove Hi-Tech	5
		Shamar Gillis	Kuru Kururu Warriors	4
		Jonathan Riley	Kuru Kururu Warriors	4
		Tyrel Khan	Soesdyke Falcons	4
		Shawn Steele	Yarrowkabra Jaguars	4
<u>2nd Round</u>				

		Johnathan Bailey	Soesdyke Falcons	9
		Shawn Steele	Highway United	7 (11)
		Kevin Padmore	Grove Hi-Tech	7 (12)
		Tyrone Khan	Soesdyke Falcons	6 (12)
		Mellon Joseph	Highway United	5
		Shamar Gills	Kuru Kuru Warriors	4 (8)
		Tyrel Khan	Soesdyke Falcons	4 (8)
		Kashif Tinnee	Grove Hi-Tech	4
		Teon Forde	Diamond United	4
		Shoran James	Herstelling Raiders	4
4	East Demerara FA	1st Round		
		Kobe Durant	Buxton United	18
		Omari Glasgow	BV / Triumph United	11
		Teshaun Gordon	BA / Paradise SC	9
		Julius Hamilton	Mahaica Determinators	8
		Shemar Kingston	Golden Stars	6
5	Rupununi FA	1st Round		
		Romall Williams	St. Ignatius SC	19
		Sheral Daniels	Paiwomak Warriors	10
		Orlando Francis	Gladiators FC	8
		Ovid Bartholomew	FC Strikers	3
		Damian Mack	Sarama FC	3
6	West Demerara FA	1st Round		
		Ruben Dainty	Den Amstel FC	5
		Resklin Frasier	Den Amstel FC	3
		Ronaldo Macey	Slingerz FC	3
		Rivaldo Smith	Slingerz FC	3
		Odel Duncan	Slingerz FC	3
	NATIONWIDE	TOP MARKSMEN		
		Romall Williams	St. Ignatius SC	19
		Kobe Durant	Buxton United	18
		Kevin Padmore	Grove Hi-Tech	12
		Tyrone Khan	Soesdyke Falcons	12



BFA Marksmen

Technical Analysis

NO.	STATISTICS	TOTAL
1	Number of Matches Played	514
2	Playing Hours	771
3	Number of Goals Scored	1,033
4	Average Goals per Match	2.01

Playing Venues

The RMA playing venues for the first year were:

NO.	REGIONAL MEMBER ASSOCIATION	MATCH VENUES
1	Bartica Football Association (Bar. FA)	Bartica Community Centre
2	Berbice Football Association (BFA)	Rosignol Ground
		Mahaicony Ground
		Burnham Park
		Scottsburg Ground
		Paradise Ground
		#5 Ground
		Skeldon Community Ground

3	East Bank Demerara Football Association (EBDFA)	Grove Playfield
4	East Demerara Football Association (EDFA)	Golden Grove Ground
		Ann's Grove Ground
		Beterverwagting Ground
		Melanie Ground
5	Essequibo / Pomeroon Football Association (EPFA)	Charity Ground
		New Opportunity Corp Gr.
		Anna Regina Comm. Centre
		Mainstay Ground
6	Georgetown Football Association (GFA)	Tucville Ground
7	Rupununi Football Association (RFA)	St. Ignatius Ground
		Snatchers Ground
		Guyana Rush Saints FC Ground
		Piawomak Warriors FC Ground
		Surama FC Ground
		Gladiators FC Ground
8	Upper Demerara Football Association (UDFA)	Mackenzie Sports Club
9	West Demerara Football Association (WDFFA)	Den Amstel Community Centre

Areas of Concerns

Areas of concern as highlighted by the RMAs and the Federation thus far, continue to be:

1. The absence of the adequate number of certified Match Officials for matches.
2. The limited number of suitable match venues in the RMA's.
3. The cash sponsorship of \$150,000.00 given to each RMA for each round, still proves to be inadequate to cover the running expenses of the tournament. Expenses incurred are mainly from ground preparation, transportation of teams, and refreshments for players and officials. Nevertheless, the RMAs continue to be grateful for the cash input from the Main Sponsor.
4. The sore-point of the League for this first year has been the inability of many RMA's to maintain the flow of matches in a continuous League. The inactivity was blamed on the poor conditions of most venues for long periods, resulting from the inclement weather and poor drainage infrastructure.

5. Another sore point was the seeming inability or unwillingness of the RMAs to keep and send records of the activity within their jurisdictions, and to provide the requisite timely Reports to the GFF and other stakeholders.
6. The inadequacy of the RMAs reporting efforts makes it difficult to do a holistic analysis of the League, and its impact on the afore-mentioned objectives as set by the GFF.

Going Forward

The below listed activities have commenced / will commence, in the continued effort of the GFF to improve and grow the League in the new Season and beyond:

1. The GFF employed Technical Development Officers (TDOs) and Youth Development Officers (YDOs) continue to lend support to the RMA's in each area.
2. Training sessions to facilitate capacity building at the RMA's is still on the cards at the Federation level. This will result in Communication, Competitions, and Marketing Officers being appointed in each RMA. These will continually liaise with their respective counterparts at the GFF.
3. Office spaces are being identified in each area, for use by the RMA's.
4. The GFF will be allocating an additional \$50,000.00 per round to each RMA for use in the administering of the League.
5. Help is still being sought through the Minister within the Ministry of Social Cohesion, Department of Culture, Youth, and Sport for assistance in offsetting transportation costs in the RMAs with transportation challenges.
6. The National Sports Commission has undertaken a seemingly slow but sure program of the upgrade of community grounds countrywide.
7. Invitations are still being sent to non-competing sponsors to partner with the GFF in this and other leagues and events.



Conclusion

The GFF - NAMILCO “Thunderbolt Flour Power” U17 Intra-Association League has had a tremendously positive impact on the GFF's Youth Development Strategy. It has produced a solid census that informs on Guyana's player population, player development gap (Regionally), venue conditions (impact on the game), capacity gaps at the Association level and fundamental weaknesses in the Federation's members support intervention and funding programme.

We now have a robust platform to build the operational infrastructure of this competition through which the GFF and NAMILCO will derive tremendous value in years to come.

Again, kudos must be extended to NAMILCO for committing to such a mutually beneficial and immensely rewarding undertaking in support of the growth and development of Guyana’s Youth.