

NETBALL ASSOCIATION OF MALAWI

National Bingu Stadium.
Corporate Box E9,
Lilongwe,
Malawi



Tell: +265 99 2456521
+265 888 357101
Email: ykauma@gmail.com

NICO TOP 12 NATIONAL NETBALL CUP BRIEFING DOCUMENT

1. Introduction

The Netball Association of Malawi (NAM) is proud to introduce the **NICO TOP 12 NETBALL CUP**, which will be one of the highest competitive netball competitions in the country. This Cup will be made possible through one of our trusted sponsors and committed partner, NICO Holdings Company in the development of elite netball in Malawi.

As part of its long-term support for the netball, NICO Holdings Company is part of the “Rebuilding Process” of the Elite netball in the country. The company is investing K1 billion kwacha in elite-level netball development, one of which is K60 million Kwacha for the National Netball Cup to be competed for by 12 elite netball clubs in the country. The Cup will be used for showcasing talent from elite netball teams and as a podium for talent identification and selection programs, aimed at discovering and nurturing players who may eventually join the senior national netball team. It will further be used as podium for marketing NICO products and services. NICO Holdings Company’s partnership ensures continuous support for elite netball players, from their early development stages to eventual international representation.

The NICO TOP 12 NICO NATIONAL NETBALL CUP will provide a platform for elite netball teams to remain active and competitive. It will also serve as a scouting ground for national team selection. Once a competitive squad is formed, NICO Holdings Company will continue its support by facilitating the team’s participation in international netball competitions.

2. Format of Play, Team Identification and Selection Process

Format of Play

Matches will be played on knockout basis at regional and national levels with the Final Series played on a single round robin.

President: Vitumbiko Gubuduza	General Secretary: Yamikani K.Kauma	Treasurer: Cecilia Mtukule Bondwe
Vice President: Tadala Billie	Vice General Secretary: Jane Chiumia	Vice Treasurer: Anna Kaphale
Executive Members: Tamara Fweta, Margaret Maluwa, Fernando Ligola, Justice Katika		

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Regional Play-offs

Regions (Northern, Central, Eastern and Southern) will conduct play-offs to identify three top teams in the region. Regional games will be played on knockout basis on one weekend, Saturday and Sunday. Each region will produce three teams giving a total of 12 teams. The total number of games to be played in each region will be determined by the teams that will join the competition. We assume an average of 8 elite teams will play the games in each region.

The regional play-offs will be conducted on 4 consecutive weekends. NAM will allocate one weekend to each region for the play-offs

National Competitions

The 12 teams will play national games on knock out basis in round 1 and round 2 on Friday and Saturday. The best loser in round 2 will qualify for final series. Finals Series will be played on the following Sunday.

Finals Series

The four best teams, (number 1, 2, 3 and 4), will play the Finals Series where 4 games will be played as follows:

- Match 1:** Team A vs Team D
Match 2: Team B vs Team C
Match 3: Loser Match 1 vs Loser Match 2 (Third Place)

After the round-robin phase, the teams will be ranked based on their performance.

Match 4 (Finals): Winner Match 1 vs Winner Match 2

Future Seasons

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In the following seasons, NAM will follow the same format to identify teams to play at national level in this Cup.

Registration and Participation

Only teams registered with NAM will be allowed to participate in this Cup. Teams shall register with the Netball Association of Malawi (NAM) annually one month before commencement of the Cup.

Registration Fees

Teams will pay a registration fees of **One Hundred Thousand Kwach (K20, 000)** and they will register every player with **Five Thousand Kwach (K2, 000)**. NAM will determine team and player registration fees and communicate to teams before the start of every season.

The Competition Prize

The total sponsorship for this season, provided by NICO Holdings Company is Sixty million (K60, 000, 000), that will cover various operational and incentive categories.

(a) Tam Prize Money

- 1st Place Team: K5, 000, 000
 - 2nd Place Team: K3, 500, 000
 - 3rd Place Team: K2, 500, 000
 - 4th Place Team: K1, 500, 000
 - Consolation Prizes to each of the 4 teams K600, 000
- Total K14, 900, 000**

(b) Awards

- Best defender K100, 000
- Best Centre K100, 000
- Best Umpire K100, 000
- Best Shooter K100, 000
- Best Electronic Media Journalist K100, 000
- Best Print Media Journalist K100, 000
- Most Valuable Player (MVP) K100, 000

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Total K700, 000 Cup Organizing Committee

NAM will appoint an **Organizing Committee** to oversee the planning and execution of the Cup. This committee will include representatives from each of the four regions.

Disciplinary Committee

All matters of discipline during the Cup will be handled by the **NAM Disciplinary Committee**. This body will address:

- Player and team misconduct
- Match-fixing allegations
- Appeals and conflict resolutions

Playing Season

The 2025/2026 season of the **TOP 12 NICO National Netball Cup** will run between **June and August 2025**. NAM has developed a comprehensive set of **competition rules and regulations** that will govern the Cup.

Conclusion

The **Netball Association of Malawi** is committed to running the **TOP 12 NICO National Netball Cup** with the highest standards of professionalism, transparency, and inclusivity. NAM urges all participating teams to fully adhere to the Cup's regulations, demonstrate sportsmanship, and strive to elevate the standard of netball in Malawi.

Together, we aim to grow the game of netball, inspire talent, and represent Malawi proudly on both regional and international stages.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Yamikani Khungwa Kauma'.

Yamikani Khungwa Kauma
General Secretary.
Netball Association of Malawi.

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