

AFC Solidarity Cup 2016

Draw Mechanism

A. ENTRIES

The following Member Associations will participate in the AFC Solidarity Cup 2016.

TEAMS FROM PRELIMINARY JOINT QUALIFIERS ROUND 1 (6)

The following six (6) Member Associations will participate in the AFC Solidarity Cup 2016 following their elimination from 2018 FIFA World Cup Russia™ and AFC Asian Cup UAE 2019™ Preliminary Joint Qualification Round 1 (listed below in alphabetical order):

No.	Teams
1	Brunei DS
2	Macau
3	Mongolia
4	Nepal
5	Pakistan
6	Sri Lanka

TEAMS FROM AFC ASIAN CUP UAE 2019™ QUALIFIERS PLAY-OFF II (3 or 2)

The following three (3) Member Associations will participate in the AFC Solidarity Cup 2016 depending on the results of the AFC Asian Cup UAE 2019™ Qualifiers Play-off II:

No.	Teams
1	Losing team of Paring 2.1 (Maldives vs Laos)
2	Losing team of Paring 2.2 (Bangladesh vs Bhutan)
3	Losing team of Paring 2.3 (Timor-Leste vs Chinese Taipei)

However, if Bhutan is the Losing Team of Pairing 2.2 above, the following two (2) Member Associations will participate in the in the AFC Solidarity Cup 2016 as Bhutan Football Federation did not express interest to participate in the Competition:



No.	Teams
1	Losing team of Paring 2.1 (Maldives vs Laos)
2	Losing team of Paring 2.3 (Timor-Leste vs Chinese Taipei)

B. MODE OF COMPETITION

Depending on the Results of the AFC Asian Cup UAE 2019™ Qualifiers Play-off II Pairing 2.2 be concluded on 11 October 2016 and due to no interest from Bhutan to participate in this Competition, one of the following two options will apply for the AFC Solidarity Cup 2016:

OPTION 1: COMPETITION FORMAT WHERE THERE ARE EIGHT (8) PARTICIPATING TEAMS:

Bhutan is the Losing Team of AFC Asian Cup UAE 2019™ Qualifiers Play-off II Pairing 2.2, leaving two (2) Member Associations to participate in the in the AFC Solidarity Cup 2016 from the AFC Asian Cup UAE 2019™ Qualifiers Play-off II.

Rounds	Number of Teams	Format	Qualification
Group Stage	6 teams from Preliminary Joint Qualifiers Round 1 + 2 teams from AFC Asian Cup UAE 2019™ Qualifiers Play-off II	Centralised Group (2 groups of 4 teams)	Winner and runner-up of each group (total 4 teams) qualify to the Knock-out Stage of AFC Solidarity Cup 2016
Knock-out Stage	<p><u>The four (4) Participating Teams shall play the Semi Finals as follows:</u> Semi-Final 1 (SF1): Winner of Group A vs Runner-up of Group B; Semi-Final 2 (SF2): Winner of Group B vs Runner-up of Group A;</p> <p><u>The two (2) losers of the Semi Finals shall play the 3rd/4th Match as follows:</u> 3rd/4th Match: Loser of SF1 vs Loser of SF2;</p> <p><u>The two (2) winners of the Semi Finals shall play the Final as follows:</u> Final: Winner of SF1 vs Winner of SF2</p>		

OPTION 2: COMPETITION FORMAT WHERE THERE ARE NINE (9) PARTICIPATING TEAMS:

Bhutan is not the Losing Team of AFC Asian Cup UAE 2019™ Qualifiers Play-off II Pairing 2.2, leaving three (3) Member Associations to participate in the in the AFC Solidarity Cup 2016 from the AFC Asian Cup UAE 2019™ Qualifiers Play-off II.

Rounds	Number of Teams	Format	Qualification
Group Stage	6 teams from Preliminary Joint Qualifiers Round 1 + 3 teams from AFC Asian Cup UAE 2019™ Qualifiers Play-off II	Centralised Group (1 group of 4 teams and 1 group of 5 teams)	Winner of each group (total 2 teams) qualify to the Knock-out Stage of AFC Solidarity Cup 2016
Knock-out Stage	The two (2) winners of each Group shall play the Final as follows: Final: Winner of Group A vs Winner of Group B		

C. SEEDING FOR THE DRAW

The seeding of the teams from the Preliminary Joint Qualifiers Round 1 will be based on the latest FIFA rankings available at the time of the draw. Therefore, FIFA ranking released on **11 August 2016** shall be applied and teams will be divided into 3 pots according to the rankings.

Pot	FIFA Ranking	Seeding	Teams
Pot 1	188	1	Nepal
	193	2	Sri Lanka
Pot 2	194	3	Pakistan
	195	4	Macau
Pot 3	198	5	Brunei DS
	202	6	Mongolia

There will be no ranking applied for the teams from the AFC Asian Cup UAE 2019™ Qualifiers Play-off II and both teams will be seeded into single pot.

Pot	Teams
Pot 4	Losing team of Paring 2.1 (Maldives vs Laos)
	Losing team of Paring 2.2 (Bangladesh vs Bhutan)
	Losing team of Paring 2.3 (Timor-Leste vs Chinese Taipei)

D. GROUPINGS

The Participating Teams will be drawn into following groupings:

Group A	Group B
A1.	B1.
A2.	B2.
A3.	B3.
A4.	B4.
A5.	

The following match sequence applies for the matches of the Group Stage (the number designates the position in each group)

Group of five (5) teams:

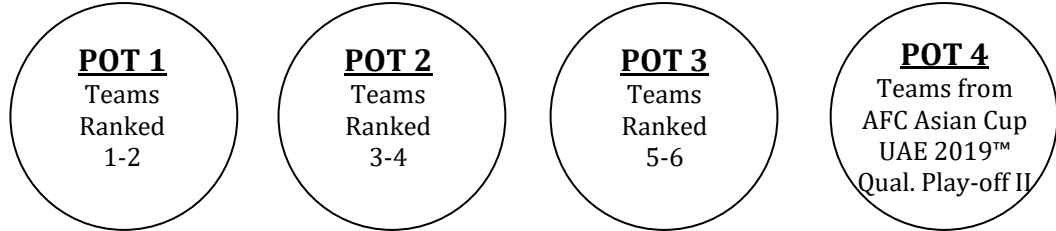
1st Match Day	:	3 vs 2	5 vs 4
2nd Match Day	:	4 vs 1	5 vs 3
3rd Match Day	:	1 vs 5	2 vs 4
4th Match Day	:	2 vs 5	3 vs 1
5th Match Day	:	4 vs 3	1 vs 2

Group of four (4) teams:

1st Match Day	:	1 vs 4	2 vs 3
2nd Match Day	:	4 vs 2	3 vs 1
3rd Match Day	:	1 vs 2	3 vs 4

E. DRAW PRINCIPLES

1. There will be four (4) Pots as following:



2. Due to no interest from Bhutan to participate in this Competition, “Losing Team of Pairing 2.2” (Bangladesh vs Bhutan) in Pot 4 will be drawn in position 5 of Group A. This will guarantee to have both groups with four teams in case Bhutan is the Losing Team of AFC Asian Cup UAE 2019™ Qualifiers Play-off II Pairing 2.2 as per Option 1.
3. After drawing “Losing Team of Pairing 2.2” to position 5 of Group A:
 - a. all other teams will be placed in the position according to the Pot Number they are drawn from (teams from POT 4, POT 3, POT 2 and POT 1 shall be placed in position 4, 3, 2 and 1 respectively in each group)
 - b. The first and second ball drawn from each Pot shall be placed in Groups A and B respectively.

F. DRAW MECHANICS

1. The draw will take place in the following sequence:
POT 4 → POT 3 → POT 2 → POT 1
2. **POT 4:** The draw will start with “Losing Team of Pairing 2.2” which will be placed in position A5. The next ball drawn from Pot 4 will be placed into Position A4. The remaining ball will be placed in Position B4.
3. **POT 3:** The first ball drawn from Pot 3 will be placed in position A3. The remaining ball will be placed in position B3.
4. **POT 2:** The first ball drawn from Pot 2 will be placed in position A2. The remaining ball will be placed in position B2.
5. **POT 1:** The first ball drawn from Pot 1 will be placed in position A1. The remaining ball will be placed in position B1.

This concludes the Draw for the AFC Solidarity Cup 2016.