LEBANESE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

STATUTES

Approved

by the General Assembly of Lebanon F.A

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1 - Definitions

The terms given below denote the following:

* **LFA:** **Lebanese Football Association.**
* **AFC:** **Asian Football Confederation.**
* **FIFA:** **Fédération Internationale de Football Association.**
* **Association:** **a football association recognised as such by FIFA and by the relevant confederation. It is a member of FIFA, unless a different meaning is evident from the context.**
* **League:** **an organisation that is subordinate to the association.**
* **Regional association:** **an organisation that is subordinate to an association.**
* **Confederation:** **a group of associations recognised by FIFA that belong to**

the same continent (or assimilable geographic region).

* **Club: a member of the association or a member of the league recognised by the association that enters at least one team in a competition.**

* **Official: any board member (including the members of the Executive Committee), committee member, referee and assistant referee, coach, trainer and any other person responsible for technical, medical and administrative matters in FIFA, a confederation, an association, a league or a club as well as any other persons obliged to comply with the FIFA Statutes (except players and intermediaries).**

* **Player: a football player registered by the LFA.**

* **Congress: the supreme and legislative body of the LFA.**

* **Executive Committee:** The Executive and strategic body of the LFA.

* **Member:** a legal person that has been admitted into membership of the LFA by the Congress.

* **Delegate:** a natural person validly representing a Member at the Congress.

* **Association football:** the game controlled by FIFA and organised by FIFA, the confederations and/or the associations in accordance with the Laws of the Game.

* **Laws of the Game:** the laws of association football issued by The IFAB in accordance with the relevant provisions of the FIFA Statutes.

* **The IFAB:** The International Football Association Board (IFAB).

* **Ordinary courts:** state courts which hear public and private legal disputes.

* **CAS:**	**Court of Arbitration for Sport based in Lausanne (Switzerland).**
* **WAFF:**	**West Asian Football Federation**
* **Stakeholder:**	**a person, entity or organisation which is not a Member and/or a body of the LFA, but which has an interest or concern in the activities of the LFA, or which may be affected by the actions, objectives and policies of the LFA, in particular clubs, leagues, players and coaches.**

I. General Provisions

Article 1: Legal form, headquarters and trade-marks

1. **Name: the Lebanese Football Association (LFA).**
2. **The LFA is a private organisation of an associative nature according to the official declaration No. 2896 dated 18/09/1946. The LFA, founded in 1922, acquired authentication of foundation (passé Verbal) No. (2795) on 12/12/1924 established in compliance with the legislation of Lebanon. It is formed for an unlimited period.**
3. **The headquarters of the LFA are located in Beirut.**
4. **The LFA is a member of FIFA, of AFC and of WAFF.**
5. **The flag of the LFA is coloured with white and includes the logo of the LFA in the centre.**
6. **The logo of the LFA is two concentric circles, one**

bigger than the other, centred by a green cedar tree which holds a football. The area between the two circles is coloured with red and includes the name of the LFA in Arabic and English.

7. The abbreviation of Lebanese Football Association is the LFA.

8. The flag, logo and abbreviation are legally registered at the ministry of Economy in Lebanon.

Article 2: Objectives

The objectives of the LFA are:

a) to improve the game of football constantly and promote, regulate and control it throughout the territory of Lebanon in the light of fair play and its unifying, educational, cultural and humanitarian values, particularly through youth and development programmes;

b) to organise competitions in association football, futsal and beach soccer at national level, by defining precisely, as required, the areas of authority conceded to the various leagues of which it is composed;

c) to draw up regulations and provisions and ensure their enforcement;

d) to protect the interests of its Members;

e) to respect and prevent any infringement of the Statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of FIFA, of AFC and of the LFA as well as the Laws of the Game, and to ensure that these are also respected by its Members;

f) to promote integrity, ethics and fair play with a view to preventing all methods or practices, such as corruption, doping or match manipulation, which might jeopardise the integrity of matches, competitions, players, officials and Members or give rise to abuse of association football, futsal or beach soccer;

g) to promote and strengthen good governance principles and practices at national level and encourage its Members to adopt their own good governance principles;

h) to promote the development of women's football and the full participation of women at all levels of football governance;

i) to control and supervise all friendly football matches of all forms played throughout the territory of Lebanon;

j) to control and supervise association football, futsal and beach soccer at national level and to control and supervise all forms of international football matches played throughout the territory of Lebanon, in accordance with the relevant Statutes and regulations of FIFA and of the confederations;

k) to manage international sporting relations connected with association football, futsal and beach soccer;

l) to host competitions at international and other levels.

Article 3: Human rights and child protection

1 - The LFA is shall respect all internationally recognised human rights and shall strive to promote the protection of these rights.

2 - The LFA shall protect children and minor players by adopting and implementing the regulations and policies of FIFA and the Asian Football Confed-

eration (AFC) relating to their protection. The Association shall prevent all forms of exploitation, trafficking, abuse, or neglect and shall ensure that the best interests of the child are the primary consideration in all decisions and measures concerning them. The Association shall issue the regulations, policies, and procedures necessary to implement the provisions of this Article, which shall be binding on all members, clubs, and persons under its jurisdiction

Article 4: Non-discrimination and equality

Discrimination of any kind against a country, private person or group of people on account of race, skin colour, ethnic, national or social origin, gender, disability, language, religion, political opinion or any other opinion, wealth, birth or any other status, or any other reason is strictly prohibited and punishable by suspension or expulsion and/or other disciplinary measures.

Article 5: Neutrality and institutional independence

1. The LFA is neutral in matters of politics and religion.

2. The Members of the LFA shall be neutral in matters of politics and religion and shall ensure that their own members remain neutral.

3. the LFA shall remain independent and shall avoid any form of undue political interference. The LFA shall manage its affairs independently and shall ensure that its own affairs are not influenced by any third parties.

Article 6: Promoting friendly relations

1. the LFA shall promote friendly relations between its Members, clubs, officials and players and in society for humanitarian objectives.

2. The LFA shall provide the necessary institutional means to resolve any internal dispute that may arise between the Members, clubs, officials and players.

Article 7: Players

1. The status of players and the provisions for their registration shall be regulated by the Executive Committee in accordance with the FIFA Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players.

2. Players shall be registered in accordance with the regulations of the LFA.

Article 8: Laws of the Game

1. The LFA and each of its Members shall play association football in compliance with the Laws of the Game issued by The IFAB. Only The IFAB may lay down and alter the Laws of the Game.
2. The LFA and each of its Members shall play futsal in accordance with the Futsal Laws of the Game issued by FIFA. Only FIFA may lay down and alter the Futsal Laws of the Game.
3. The LFA and each of its Members shall play beach soccer in accordance with the Beach Soccer Laws of the Game issued by FIFA. Only FIFA may lay down and alter the Beach Soccer Laws of the Game.

Article 9: Conduct of bodies, Officials and others

1. All bodies and officials of the LFA shall observe the Statutes, regulations, directives, decisions and the Code of Ethics of FIFA, of AFC and of the LFA in their activities.

2. Every person and organisation involved in the game of association football, futsal and beach soccer in the territory of Lebanon is obliged to observe the Statutes and regulations of FIFA, of AFC, of the LFA and any other relevant statutes, as well as the principles of fair play, loyalty, integrity and sportsmanship.

Article 10: Official languages

1. The official language of the LFA shall be Arabic. Official documents and texts shall be written in this language. In the event of any divergence in the interpretation of texts in different languages, the text written in Arabic shall be authoritative.

2. The official language at the Congress shall be Arabic.

3. As for the LFA Statutes, the English version shall be authorative in the event of any divergence in the interpretation of texts between Arabic and English.

II. MEMBERSHIP

Article 11: Admission, suspension and expulsion

1. **The Congress shall decide whether to admit, suspend or expel a Member.**
2. **Admission may be granted if the applicant fulfils the requirements of the LFA in accordance with these Statutes.**
3. **Membership is terminated by resignation or expulsion. Loss of membership does not relieve the Member from its financial obligations towards the LFA or other Members of the LFA, but leads to the loss of all rights in relation to the LFA.**
4. **The LFA shall ensure that all relevant stakeholders are represented within its Congress. The interests of women's football shall also be adequately represented in the Congress.**

Article 12: Members

The Members of the LFA are:

1) Clubs of the First Division;

2) Clubs of the Second Division;

3) Clubs of the Third Division;

4) Regional Associations;

5) Men's Futsal League;

6) Beach Soccer League;

7) Women's football League.

Article 13: Admission

1. Any legal entity wishing to become a Member of the LFA shall apply in writing to the general secretariat of the LFA.

2. The application must be accompanied by the following mandatory items:

   a) a copy of its legally valid statutes or constitutional document and, if applicable, regulations;

   b) a declaration that it will comply at all times with the Statutes, regulations and decisions of the LFA, FIFA and AFC and ensure that these are also respected, if applicable, by its own members, officials and players;

c) a declaration that it will comply with the Laws of the Game in force as laid down by The IFAB, as well as the Beach Soccer Laws of the Game and the Futsal Laws of the Game as laid down by FIFA;

d) a declaration that it will refer in the last instance (i.e. after exhaustion of all internal channels within the LFA) any dispute of national dimension arising from or related to the Statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of the LFA only to CAS, which shall definitely settle the dispute to the exclusion of any ordinary court;

e) a declaration that any dispute of international dimension arising from or related to the Statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of FIFA or of AFC may only be submitted in the last instance to CAS, as specified in the Statutes of FIFA and of AFC;

f) a declaration that it recognises the jurisdiction of CAS, as specified in the Statutes of FIFA and of AFC, and its decisions;

g) a declaration that it is located and registered, if legally required, on the territory of Lebanon;

h) a declaration to the effect that the legal composition of the applicant guarantees that it can make decisions independently of any external entity;

i) a declaration to the effect that the members of its own bodies were elected or appointed as a result of a procedure that guarantees the complete independence of the election or appointment;

j) a list of officials, specifying those who are authorised signatories with the right to enter into legally binding agreements with third parties;

k) if applicable, a declaration that it undertakes to organise or participate in friendly matches only with the prior consent of the LFA;

l) if applicable, a declaration that it will play all official home matches on the territory of Lebanon.

Article 14: Request and procedure for application

1. The procedure for admission shall be regulated by special regulations approved by the Executive Committee.
2. The Executive Committee shall request that the Congress either admit an applicant or not. The applicant may state the reasons for its application to the Congress.
3. The new Member shall acquire membership rights and duties as soon as it has been admitted. Its delegates are eligible to vote and be elected with immediate effect.

Article 15: Members' rights

1. The Members of the LFA have the following rights:
   a) to take part in the Congress, to receive its agenda in advance, to be called to the Congress within the prescribed time, to exercise their rights to participate in the debates and discussions and to exercise their voting rights;

b) to draw up proposals for inclusion in the agenda of the Congress;

c) to nominate candidates for elections and/or appointment to the relevant bodies of the LFA;

d) to be informed of the affairs of the LFA through its official bodies;

e) to take part in competitions and/or other sporting activities organised by the LFA;

f) to exercise all other rights arising from the Statutes and regulations of the LFA.

2. The exercise of these rights is subject to other provisions in the Statutes and applicable regulations of the LFA.

Article 16: Members' obligations

1. The Members of the LFA have the following obligations:

a) to comply fully with the Statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of FIFA, AFC and the LFA at all times and to ensure that these are also respected by its members;

b) to ensure the election of its decision-making bodies at least every four years;

c) to take part in competitions (if applicable) and other sporting activities organised by the LFA;

d) to pay their membership subscriptions;

e) to respect the Laws of the Game as laid down by The IFAB, as well as the Beach Soccer Laws of the Game and the Futsal Laws of the Game as laid down by FIFA, and to ensure that these are also respected by its members through a statutory provision;

f) to adopt a statutory clause specifying that any dispute of national dimension arising from or related to the Statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of the LFA may only be referred in the last instance (i.e. after exhaustion of all internal channels within the LFA) to CAS, which shall definitely settle the dispute to the exclusion of any ordinary court;

g) to adopt a statutory clause specifying that any dispute of international dimension arising from or related to the Statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of FIFA or of AFC may only be submitted in the last instance to CAS,

as specified in the Statutes of FIFA and of AFC;

h) to manage their affairs independently and ensure that their own affairs are not influenced by any third parties in accordance with art. 20 of these Statutes;

i) to ensure that their bodies are either elected or appointed according to a procedure that guarantees the complete independence of the election or appointment;

j) to communicate to the LFA any amendment to its statutes and regulations as well as the list of its officials who are authorised signatories with the right to enter into legally binding agreements with third parties;

k) not to maintain any relations of a sporting nature with entities that are not recognised or with Members that have been suspended or expelled;

l) to observe the principles of loyalty, integrity and good sporting behaviour as an expression of fair play through a statutory provision;

m) **to observe the mandatory items specified under art. 12 par. 2 of these Statutes for the duration of their affiliation;**

n) **to administer a register of members which shall regularly be updated;**

o) **to ratify statutes that are in accordance with the requirements of these Statutes;**

p) **to comply fully with all other duties arising from the Statutes and other regulations of FIFA, AFC and the LFA.**

2. **Violation of the above-mentioned obligations by any Member may lead to sanctions provided for in these Statutes.**

3. **Violation of par. 1 h) above may also lead to sanctions, even if the third-party influence was not the fault of the Member concerned. Each Member of the LFA is responsible towards it for any and all acts of the members of their bodies caused by the gross negligence or wilful misconduct of such members.**

Article 17: Suspension

1. The Congress may suspend a Member at the request of the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee may, without a vote of the Congress, temporarily suspend with immediate effect a Member that seriously and/or repeatedly violates its obligations. A suspension approved by the Executive Committee shall last until the next Congress, unless the Executive Committee has revoked such suspension prior to the Congress.

2. A suspension of a Member by the Congress requires a three-quarters majority of the Members present and eligible to vote.

3. A suspension of a Member by the Executive Committee shall be confirmed at the next Congress by a three-quarters majority of the delegates representing the Members present and eligible to vote. If it is not confirmed, such suspension shall be automatically lifted.

4. The Congress may lift the suspension of a Member at the request of the Executive Committee. The lifting of the suspension of a Member by the

Congress requires a three-quarters majority of the delegates representing the Members present and eligible to vote.

5. A suspended Member shall lose its membership rights. Other Member shall not entertain sporting contact with a suspended Member. The Disciplinary and Ethics Committee may impose further sanctions.

6. A Member which does not participate in the sporting activities of the LFA for two consecutive seasons shall be suspended from voting at the Congress until it has fulfilled its obligations in this respect.

Article 18: Expulsion

1. The Congress may expel a Member at the request of the Executive Committee or another Member if, without limitation:

   a) it fails to fulfil its financial obligations towards the FIFA, AFC and the LFA;

   b) it seriously violates its own Statutes, Codes, Rules, decisions, Regulations and Standing

Orders or those of the AFC or FIFA or the LFA;

c) If it does no longer represent association football in the country, or has been liquidated, is bankrupt or has been dissolved.

2. The presence of a majority (more than 50%) of the delegates representing the Members eligible to vote at the Congress is necessary for a vote to expel a Member to be valid.

3. The motion for expulsion must be adopted by a three-quarters majority of the delegates representing the Members present and eligible to vote.

4. An expelled Member shall not be eligible for membership of LFA again until after one year from the date of the termination of its membership.

5. An expelled Member shall not be eligible for claiming the ownership of any part of LFA property, and shall return to LFA, in a proper and intact manner, any documents, records or attachments.

Article 19: Resignation

1. A Member may resign with effect from the end of sporting season. Notice of resignation must reach the general secretariat no later than six months before the end of the sporting season.

2. The resignation is not valid until the Member wishing to resign has fulfilled its financial obligations towards the LFA and its other Members.

Article 20: Independence of Members and their bodies

1. Each Member shall manage its affairs independently and with no undue influence from third parties.

2. The Members' bodies shall be either elected or appointed. The Members' statutes shall provide for a democratic procedure that guarantees the complete independence of the election or appointment.

3. Any Members' bodies that have not been elected or appointed in compliance with the provisions of par.2 above, even on an interim basis, shall not be recognised by the LFA.

4. Decisions passed by bodies that have not been

elected or appointed in compliance with par.2 above shall not be recognised by the LFA.

Article 21: Status of clubs, leagues, regional associations and other groups of clubs

1. Clubs, leagues, regional associations or any other groups of clubs affiliated to the LFA shall be subordinate to and recognised by the LFA. There shall only be one top-tier national league on the territory of Lebanon.

2. These Statutes define the scope of authority and the rights and duties of the entities mentioned in par.1 above, those statutes and regulations shall be in line with the requirements and obligations of the Statutes and regulations of the LFA. The LFA shall have the primary responsibility to regulate matters relating to refereeing, the fight against doping, the registration of players, club licensing, the imposition of disciplinary measures, including for ethical misconduct, as well as measures required to protect the integrity of competitions.

3. The entities mentioned in par. 1 above shall take all decisions on any matters regarding their

membership independently of any external body. This obligation applies regardless of their corporate structure.

4. **In any case, no natural or legal person (including holding companies and subsidiaries) shall exercise control over more than one club or group of clubs whenever the integrity of any match or competition could be jeopardised.**

III. Honory President and Honorary Member

Article 22: Honorary president and honorary member

1. **The Congress may bestow the title of honorary president or honorary member upon any person for meritorious service to football.**
2. **The Executive Committee shall make these nominations.**
3. **The honorary president or honorary member may take part in the Congress. They may join the debates but are not entitled to vote.**

IV. Organisation

Article: 23 Bodies

1. **The Congress is the supreme and legislative body of the LFA.**
2. **The Executive Committee is the Executive body of the LFA.**
3. **The general secretariat is the executive, operational and administrative body of the LFA.**
4. **Standing and ad hoc committees shall advise and assist the Executive Committee and the general secretariat in fulfilling their duties.**
5. **The club licensing bodies are in charge of the club licensing system within the LFA.**
6. **The independent committees fulfil their functions in accordance with these Statutes and applicable regulations. The independent committees are the Audit and Compliance Committee, the electoral committees and the judicial bodies.**

7. The judicial bodies are the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee and the Appeal Committee.

8. The bodies shall be either elected or appointed by the LFA itself without any undue external influence and in accordance with the procedures described in these Statutes. The members of the bodies shall not have previously been found guilty of any criminal offence incompatible with the position.

9. Any member of the bodies must withdraw from the debate and from taking a decision if there is any risk or possibility of a conflict of interest. In particular, members of the bodies shall always be aware of, and comply with, the relevant provisions of the FIFA Code of Ethics on conflicts of interest and adjust their conduct as necessary (e.g. abstain from performing their duties, notify the chairperson in cases of potential conflicts of interest, etc.).

Article 24: Dismissal of a member of a body

1. The Congress may dismiss a member of a body. The Executive Committee may also dismiss a member of a body provisionally, with the excep-

tion of the members of the independent committees. The provisional dismissal approved by the Executive Committee shall be confirmed by the next Congress, unless the Executive Committee has lifted it in the meantime. If the next Congress is of an elective nature, a dismissed member shall be allowed to be an elective candidate (provided that he fulfils the relevant eligibility criteria) on a conditional basis depending on the final decision of the Congress on his dismissal which shall be taken before the election.

2. **The motion for dismissal must be justified and shall be sent to the Members of the LFA along with the respective agenda.**

3. **The member of the body in question has the right to defend himself in front of the Executive Committee and/or the Congress.**

4. **The motion for dismissal shall be decided by means of secret ballot at the Executive Committee and/or the Congress. For the motion to be passed, a majority of two-thirds of the valid votes cast is required.**

5. The member dismissed (provisionally or not) is relieved of his functions with immediate effect.

A. Congress

Article 25: Definition and composition

1. The Congress is a meeting at which all of the Members regularly convene. It represents the supreme and legislative authority of the LFA. Only a Congress that is duly convened has the authority to make decisions.
2. The Congress shall be constituted in accordance with the principles of representative democracy and shall take into account the importance of gender equality in football.
3. The Congress may be ordinary or extraordinary.
4. The President shall chair the Congress in compliance with these Statutes, the Standing Orders of the Congress as well as any applicable regulations.
5. The Executive Committee may appoint observers who take part in the Congress without the right to debate or to vote.

6. **The honorary presidents or honorary members may take part in the Congress. They may join the debates but are not entitled to vote.**

7. **The Congress may take place via available telecommunication technologies in the event of force majeure or exceptional circumstances. In such a case, the necessary approvals of the delegates can be done by electronic signatures. An elective Congress cannot be held via available telecommunication technologies (i.e. virtually).**

Article 26: Delegates and votes

1. **The Congress is composed of 52 Members each with 1 voting delegate. The number of delegates is allocated as follows:**

   a) **for the 12 clubs of the First Division: 12 delegates (The clubs are defined based on the results of the previous sporting season and have 1 vote each);**

   b) **for the 12 clubs of the Second Division: 12 delegates (The clubs are defined based on the results of the previous sporting season and have 1 vote each);**

c) for the clubs of the Third Division: 12 delegates with one vote each to be determined according to specific regulations proposed by the Executive Committee and approved by the Congress;

d) for the five regional associations: 14 delegates with one vote each and distributed as per the following distribution (Beirut: 2; Mount Lebanon: 3; Bekaa: 3; South: 3; North: 3);

e) for the Men's Futsal League: 1 delegate;

f) for the Beach Soccer League: 1 delegate;

g) for the women's football league: 1 delegate.

2. Delegate must belong to the Member that they represent and be appointed or elected by the appropriate body of that Member. The 12 clubs of the First Division as well as the 12 clubs of the Second Division mentioned in par. 1 a) and b) above shall be defined based on the final results of the sporting season which shall precede the relevant Congress. The delegates representing the clubs of the Third Division mentioned in par. 1 c) above shall appointed on the basis of regulations issued by the Executive Committee.

3. **The delegates of the Member of the Congress shall be Lebanese, at least 18 years old, a full and active member in the administrative committee of the club. They shall hold an official endorsement letter signed by both the President and the General Secretary of the club and stamped by its official seal, with the exception of the President of the relevant Member who may attend without an endorsement letter. They must also be able to produce evidence of this upon request.**

4. **Each delegate has one vote in the Congress. Only the delegates present are entitled to vote. Voting by proxy or by letter is not permitted.**

5. **The members of the Executive Committee and the General Secretary shall take part in the Congress without voting rights. During their terms of office, members of the Executive Committee may not be appointed as delegates to the Congress.**

Article 27: Areas of authority

The Congress has the following areas of authority:

1) **adopting or amending these Statutes and the Standing Orders of the Congress;**

2) appointing three Members to check the minutes of the Congress;

3) electing the President and members of the Executive Committee;

4) electing the independent committees (i.e. Audit and Compliance Committee and electoral committees) and judicial bodies, upon proposal of the Executive Committee;

5) appointing scrutineers to count the votes and to assist the General Secretary in distributing the ballot papers issued for the elections;

6) approving the annual audited financial statements, including the consolidated financial statements and the annual report;

7) approving the budget;

8) approving the activity report (containing the activities of the LFA since the last Congress);

9) appointing the independent and external auditors upon proposal of the Executive Committee;

10) fixing the membership subscriptions upon proposal of the Executive Committee;

11) bestowing the title of honorary president or honorary member, upon proposal of the Executive Committee;

12) admitting, suspending or expelling a Member;

13) dismissing a member of a body of the LFA;

14) dissolving the LFA;

15) passing decisions at the request of a Member in accordance with these Statutes or passing any decision entrusted to the Congress in accordance with these Statutes.

16) Transferring the Head Quarters of the LFA to another location following a resolution made by the Congress of the LFA.

Article 28: Quorum

1. Decisions passed by the Congress shall only be valid if a majority (more than 50%) of the delegates representing the Members eligible to vote are present.

2. If a quorum is not achieved, a second Congress shall take place after 24 hours with the same agenda.

3. **A quorum is not required for the second meeting of the Congress unless an item on the agenda proposes the amendment of these Statutes, the election of the President or members of the Executive Committee, the election of the independent committees, the dismissal of a member of a body, the suspension or expulsion of a Member or the dissolution of the LFA.**

4. **Once it is declared that the Congress has been convened and composed in accordance with these Statutes, the quorum shall not be influenced by delegates departing.**

Article 29: Decisions

1. **A decision that requires a vote shall be reached by a show of hands or by means of an electronic count, unless decided otherwise by the Congress. If a show of hands does not result in a clear majority in favour of a motion, the vote shall be taken by calling the roll.**

2. **Unless otherwise stipulated in these Statutes, a majority (more than 50%) of the valid votes cast is sufficient for a decision to be valid. Blank ballot**

papers, invalid votes or electronic votes manipulated in any way as well as abstentions shall be disregarded when calculating the majority.

Article 30: Elections

1. **Elections shall be conducted by secret ballot. The Congress may decide to proceed otherwise (e.g. showing of hands or acclamation) in case there is only one candidate for a particular position.**

2. **Elections shall be conducted in accordance with the Electoral Code of the LFA and shall be supervised by the Electoral Committee.**

3. **Voting for the positions of the Executive Committee shall be conducted by position, begining with the election of the President, followed by the election of the female member, and then the election of the remaining Executive Committee members.**

   The candidacy of each candidate for any position must be seconded by at least one member, except for the President, whose candidacy must be seconded by at least four (4) members.

Each Member shall second only one candidate for each position. If a member seconds more than one candidate for the same position, only the first secondment registered with the General Secretariat shall be considered valid.

4. **Only Members of the Congress with the right to vote have the right to present support letters for candidates to the Executive Committee.**

5. **A majority (more than 50%) of the valid votes cast is necessary for the election of the President and the female member. If there are more than two candidates for the position of President or of female member, whoever obtains the lowest number of votes is eliminated after each ballot until only two candidates are left.**

6. **For the election of all other members of the Executive Committee, the candidate(s) who receive(s) the most votes in respect of the free seat(s) shall be elected.**

7. **The 1st and 2nd vice presidents shall be appointed from amongst the members of the Executive Committee by those same members on the occasion of the first Executive committee meeting**

which shall take place following the relevant elective Congress. The appointment of the 1st and 2nd vice-presidents shall be conducted by secret ballot. A majority (more than 50%) of the valid votes cast is necessary for the 1st and 2nd vice-presidents to be appointed by the Executive Committee. If no member obtains a majority (more than 50%), whoever obtains the most votes for a particular vice-presidents position shall be elected.

8. **For the election of the independent committees (i.e. Audit and Compliance Committee and electoral committees) and judicial bodies, the candidate(s) who receive(s) the most votes in respect of the free seat(s) shall be elected. These elections may be conducted en bloc. However, at the request of at least 10 delegates representing the Members, a separate vote for a specific candidate shall take place.**

9. **In case of a tied vote in any elections of any body, two new ballots shall be conducted in accordance with the procedure set forth in this article. If the tied vote remains, the relevant position shall remain vacant until a new elective Congress**

convenes to proceed with new elections according to these Statutes.

10. Blank ballot papers, invalid votes or electronic votes manipulated in any way as well as abstentions shall be disregarded when calculating the majority.

11. Candidatures for any of the positions of the Executive Committee shall be sent to the general secretariat at least 20 days before the relevant elective Congress. The official list of candidates must be passed to the Members of the LFA at least 15 days before the Congress at which the Executive Committee shall be elected. The provisions of this paragraph shall also apply when elections take place during an Extraordinary Congress.

12. Candidatures for any of the positions of the independent committees (i.e. Audit and Compliance Committee and electoral committees) and judicial bodies must be passed to the Members of the LFA at least 15 days before the Congress at which the members in question shall be elected.

Article 31: Ordinary Congress

1. **The Ordinary Congress shall be held every year.**

2. **The Executive Committee shall fix the place and date. The Members shall be notified in writing at least 45 days in advance.**

3. **Any proposal that a Member wishes to submit to the Congress shall be sent to the general secretariat in writing, with a brief explanation and signed by minimum of 5 Members, at least 20 days before the date of the Congress.**

4. **The formal convocation shall be made in writing at least 15 days before the date of the Congress. This convocation shall contain the agenda, LFA activity report, the financial statements, the independent and external auditors' report and any other relevant documents.**

Article 32: Ordinary Congress agenda

1. **The General Secretary shall draw up the agenda based on proposals from the Executive Committee and the Members.**

2. The Congress agenda shall include the following mandatory items (in chronological order):

a) a declaration that the Congress has been convened and composed in compliance with these Statutes;

b) approval of the agenda;

c) an address by the President;

d) appointment of Members to check the minutes;

e) appointment of scrutineers;

f) suspension or expulsion of Members (if applicable);

g) approval of the minutes of the preceding Congress;

h) activity report (containing the activities since the last Congress);

i) presentation of the consolidated and revised balance sheet and the profit and loss statement as well as the report of the independent and external auditors;

j) approval of the audited financial statements;

k) approval of the budget;

l) votes on proposals for amendments to these Statutes and the Standing Orders of the Congress (if applicable);

m) discussion of proposals submitted by the Members and the Executive Committee in accordance with the procedure stipulated under art. 21 par. 2 of these Statutes;

n) appointment of the independent and external auditors (if applicable) upon proposal of the Executive Committee;

o) dismissal of a member of a body of the LFA (if applicable);

p) election of the President and members of the Executive Committee (if applicable);

q) elections of the independent committees, i.e. the Audit and Compliance Committee, electoral committees and judicial bodies (if applicable);

r) admission for membership (if applicable).

3. The Congress shall not take a decision on any point not included in the agenda.

4. **The agenda of an Ordinary Congress may be altered, provided three-quarters of the delegates representing the Members present at the Congress and eligible to vote agree to such a motion.**

Article 33: Extraordinary Congress

1. **The Executive Committee may convene an Extraordinary Congress at any time.**

2. **The Executive Committee shall convene an Extraordinary Congress if one-third of the Members of the LFA make such a request in writing. The request shall specify the items to be included in the agenda. An Extraordinary Congress shall be held within 30 days of receipt of the request. If an Extraordinary Congress is not convened, the delegates representing the Members who requested it may convene the Congress themselves. In doing so, they shall inform all the Members of the LFA and the Executive Committee of the date and location of the Extraordinary Congress, along with the items to be included in the agenda in accordance with par. 3 below.**

3. **The Members shall be notified of the place, date**

and agenda at least seven days before the date of an Extraordinary Congress.

4. When an Extraordinary Congress is convened on the initiative of the Executive Committee, it must draw up the agenda. When it is convened upon the request of the Members, the agenda must contain the points raised by those Members.

5. The agenda of an Extraordinary Congress must not be altered.

Article 34: Amendments to the Statutes and Standing Orders of the Congress

1. The Congress is responsible for amending these Statutes and the Standing Orders of the Congress.

2. Any proposals for an amendment to these Statutes and the Standing Orders of the Congress must be submitted in writing with a brief explanation to the general secretariat by a Member or by the Executive Committee. A proposal submitted by delegates representing a Member is valid, provided it has been supported in writing by at least 9 other delegates representing the Members.

3. **For a vote on an amendment to the Statutes and to the Standing Orders of the Congress to be valid, a majority (more than 50%) of the delegates representing the Members eligible to vote must be present.**

4. **A proposal for an amendment to these Statutes and to the Standing Orders of the Congress shall be adopted only if two-third of the delegates representing the Members present and eligible to vote agree to it.**

Article 35: Minutes

The General Secretary shall be responsible for recording the minutes at the Congress. The minutes shall be checked by those Members designated, and finally approved at the next Congress.

Article 36: Effective dates of decisions

Decisions passed by the Congress shall come into effect immediately after the close of the Congress, unless otherwise stipulated in these Statutes or unless the Congress fixes another date for a decision to take effect.

B. Executive Committee

Article 37: Composition

1. **The Executive Committee shall consist of 12 members as follows:**

   a) **President;**

   b) **1st vice-president;**

   c) **2nd vice-president;**

   d) **8 members;**

   e) **1 female member**

2. **The President, the vice-presidents and the other members of the Executive Committee shall be elected by the Congress in accordance with art. 20 of these Statutes. They shall undergo an integrity check, to be conducted by the Electoral Committee, prior to their election or re-election.**

3. **The candidates for any of the positions on the Executive Committee shall:**

   a.. **have held the Lebanese citizenship for more than (10) ten years.**

   b.. **be older than (18) eighteen years.**

c.. not have been found previously guilty of a criminal offence.

d.. not be a member of any body of any other national sports associations, except the Lebanese Olympic Committee.

e.. To send a full candidature and attach to it a copy of his civil registration, a copy of judicial record, proving that the candidate acquires all his civil rights and is not convicted by any offence or felony, and financial fees determined by the internal organisation regulations.

4. A candidate may stand for election for only one position. If a candidate submits nominations for more than one position, all such nominations shall be deemed null and void.

5. The mandate of the President, vice-presidents and members of the Executive Committee shall be for four years. Their mandates shall immediately begin after the end of the Congress which has elected them and expire at the end of the Congress at which their successors are elected. No person may serve as President for more than three terms of office (whether consecutive or not). All other

members (including any vice-president) of the Executive Committee may serve for no more than three terms of office (whether consecutive or not). Any partial term of office shall count as one full term.

6. **All members shall fulfil the prerequisites stipulated in art. 22 par. 8 of these Statutes.**

7. **A member of the Executive Committee may not at the same time be a member of an independent committee and may not be appointed/elected as a delegate representing a Member at the Congress.**

8. **If a position or up to 50% of the positions of the Executive Committee become vacant, except for the position of President, the Executive Committee shall fill the position(s) in question until the next Congress, when replacement(s) for the position(s) will be elected for the remaining period of office.**

9. **If more than 50% of the positions of the Executive Committee become vacant, the President with the General Secretary shall convene an Extraordinary Congress within the prescribed period of time to elect the relevant replacement for the remainder of the original term.**

10. **Any position within the Executive Committee shall be considered vacant in case of death, resignation or if the member concerned is permanently prevented from performing his official function.**

Article 38: Meetings

1. **The Executive Committee convenes a meeting at least once a month by an invitation of the President via the General Secretary.**

2. **The President shall convene the Executive Committee meetings. If a majority (more than 50%) of the Executive Committee members request a meeting, the President shall convene it so that the meeting is held within seven days of the receipt of the request. If the President does not convene the requested meeting by the aforementioned deadline, the other members of the Executive Committee shall convene it themselves, but must send the agenda to all members of the Executive Committee at least two days before the meeting in line with par. 3 below.**

3. **The President, assisted by the general secretariat, shall compile the agenda. Each member of the**

Executive Committee is entitled to propose items for inclusion in the agenda. The members of the Executive Committee must submit the items they wish to be included in the agenda for the meeting to the general secretariat at least five days before the meeting. The agenda must be sent out to the members of the Executive Committee at least two days before the meeting.

4. **The General Secretary shall take part in the meetings of the Executive Committee in a consultative role and without voting rights. If the General Secretary is unable to attend a meeting, he may nominate a representative to attend the meeting on his behalf, subject to the approval of the Executive Committee.**

5. **The meetings of the Executive Committee shall not be held in public. The Executive Committee may, however, invite third parties to attend. Those third parties shall not have voting rights, and may only express an opinion with the permission of the Executive Committee.**

6. **The President may also convene the Executive Committee on an urgent basis to deal with any**

matter requiring immediate settlement between two meetings of the Executive Committee. If the members of the Executive Committee cannot meet physically, decisions may be passed through other modern means of written communication (e.g. emails or messaging apps).

7. The President shall direct the deliberations, put forward the propositions and decides the termination of discussions and voting. The President also reserves the right to suspend the meeting for a period of fifteen (15) minutes as a maximum.

Article 39: Powers

The Executive Committee shall have the following powers:

1) passing decisions on all cases that do not come within the sphere of responsibility of the Congress or are not reserved for other bodies by law or under these Statutes.

2) preparing, with the assistance of the general secretariat, and convening the Ordinary and Extraordinary Congress.

3) appointing the chairpersons, deputy chairpersons and members of the standing committees.

4) deciding to set up ad hoc committees, if necessary, at any time.

5) approving and issuing the regulations for the organisation of standing committees and ad hoc committees.

6) appointing and dismissing the General Secretary upon proposal of the President.

7) proposing the independent and external auditors to the Congress.

8) appointing replacements for vacancies in the independent committees until the next Congress.

9) approving and issuing regulations governing the conditions of participation in and the staging of competitions organised by the LFA.

10) appointing the coaches for the representative teams and other technical staff.

11) approving and issuing the Internal Organisation Regulations of the LFA.

12) ensuring that these Statutes are applied and adopting the executive arrangements required for their application.

13) dismissing a member of a body or suspending a Member of the LFA provisionally until the next Congress;

14) delegating tasks under its authority to other bodies.

15) appointing observers who may take part in the Congress without the right to debate or to vote.

Article 40: Decisions

1. The Executive Committee shall not engage in valid debate unless at least seven of its members are present.

2. The Executive Committee shall reach decisions by a majority (more than 50%) of the valid votes cast. Voting by proxy or by letter is not permitted

3. Any member of the Executive Committee must withdraw from the debate and from taking a decision if there is any risk or possibility of a conflict of interests.

4. The decisions taken shall be recorded in the minutes.

5. The decisions taken by the Executive Committee

shall come into effect immediately, unless the Executive Committee decides otherwise.

C. President

Article 41: President

1. The President represents the LFA. He is primarily responsible for:
   a) implementing the decisions passed by the Congress and the Executive Committee through the general secretariat;
   b) ensuring the effective functioning of the bodies in order that they achieve the objectives described in these Statutes;
   c) supervising the work of the general secretariat;
   d) the relations between the LFA and its Members, FIFA, AFC, WAFF, political bodies and other organisations.
2. Only the President may propose to the Executive Committee the appointment of the General Secretary. The President may also propose the dismissal of the General Secretary to the Executive Committee.

3. **The President shall preside over the Congress and the Executive Committee meetings and those committees of which he has been appointed chairperson.**

4. **The President shall have an ordinary vote on the Executive Committee, and whenever votes are equal shall have a casting vote.**

5. **If the President is absent or unavailable, the senior vice-president shall deputise. If the senior vice-president is absent or unavailable, the 2nd vice-president shall deputise. If the 2nd vice-president is absent or unavailable, the longest serving member in the Executive Committee shall deputise.**

6. **If the position of the President becomes vacant in the sense of art. 27 par. 8 of these Statutes, the senior vice-president shall deputise until the next Congress. This Congress shall elect a new President for the remaining period of office.**

7. **Any additional powers of the President shall be contained in the Internal Organisation Regulations of the LFA.**

Article 42: Representation and signature

1. **The President or the general Secretary with the president's directives signs correspondences addressed to the Members, the Associations, FIFA and AFC.**
2. **The President and the General Secretary jointly sign all correspondences addressed to the various departments of the Lebanese Government.**
3. **The President and General Secretary jointly sign all transfers and cheques.**
4. **The President is entitled to sign contracts for LFA. The Executive Committee may set up organisation regulations regarding the joint signature of officers, in particular, in case of the President's absence.**

D. General secretariat

Article 43: General secretariat

The general secretariat is the executive, operational and administrative body and shall carry out the work of the LFA under the direction of the General Secretary.

The members of the general secretariat are bound by the Internal Organisational Regulations of the LFA and shall fulfil the given tasks in good faith.

Article 44: General Secretary

1. **The General Secretary is the chief executive officer of the LFA.**

2. **The General Secretary shall be appointed by the Executive Committee upon proposal of the President on the basis of an agreement governed by private law and shall have the necessary professional qualifications and/or experience.**

3. **The General Secretary shall be responsible for:**

   a) **implementing decisions passed by the Congress and Executive Committee in compliance with the President's directives;**

   b) **attending the Congress and meetings of the Executive Committee and the standing and ad hoc committees;**

   c) **organising the Congress and meetings of the Executive Committee and other bodies;**

d) compiling the minutes for the meetings of the Congress, Executive Committee and standing and ad hoc committees;

e) managing and keeping the accounts;

f) correspondence with the President's directives

g) the relations with the Members, committees, FIFA, AFC and WAFF, under the direction of the President;

h) organising the general secretariat;

i) the appointment and dismissal of staff working in the general secretariat, with the prior approval of the President;

j) providing the electoral committees with logistic and operative support for the elections.

4. Any additional responsibilities and duties assigned to the General Secretary shall be stipulated in the Internal Organisation Regulations of the LFA.

5. The General Secretary shall not be a Congress delegate or a member of any other body.

E. Standing committees

Article 45: Standing committees

1. **The standing committees are:**
   a. **Finance Committee;**
   b. **Organising Committee for LFA Competitions;**
   c. **Technical and Development Committee;**
   d. **Referees Committee;**
   e. **Committee for Women's Football;**
   f. **Players' Status and Legal Committee;**
   g. **National Teams Committee;**
   h. **Stadiums' and Security Committee;**
   i. **Futsal Committee;**
   j. **Beach Soccer Committee.**
2. **The Chairmen of the standing committees shall be members of the Executive Committee. The members of each standing committee shall be appointed by the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall ensure appropriate female representation on standing committees.**

The chairmen, deputy chairmen and the members of the standing committees shall be designated for a term of office of four years.

3. **Each chairman shall represent his standing committee and conduct business in compliance with the relevant provisions of the Internal Organisation Regulations of the LFA approved by the Executive Committee.**

4. **Each chairman shall fix the dates of meetings in collaboration with the General Secretary, ensure that all tasks are carried out and report back to the Executive Committee.**

5. **The Executive Committee and each standing committee, the latter with the approval of the Executive Committee, may, if necessary, set up a bureau and/or sub-committee to settle urgent matters. Any discussions and decisions of the bureau and/or sub-committee shall be reported to the relevant standing committee as soon as it is practicable to do so.**

6. **Each standing committee may propose to the Executive Committee amendments to the relevant**

provisions of the Internal Organisation Regulations of the LFA that concern its committee.

Article 46: Finance Committee

The Finance Committee shall monitor the financial management and advise the Executive Committee on financial matters and asset management. It shall analyse the budget and the financial statements prepared by the General Secretary and submit them to the Executive Committee for approval. It shall consist of a chairperson, a deputy chairperson and five members.

Article 47: Competitions Committee

The Competitions Committee shall organise the LFA's competitions of association football at any level in compliance with the provisions of these Statutes and the regulations applicable to the LFA's competitions. The Committee shall consist of a chairperson, a deputy chairperson and five members.

Article 48: Technical and Development Committee

The Technical and Development Committee shall primarily analyse the basic aspects of football training and technical development in football. It shall also be in charge of the LFA's development programmes, devising and proposing appropriate strategies, monitoring these strategies and analysing the support and programmes provided to the Members of the LFA and providing advice to the Executive Committee on development matters in general. It shall consist of a chairperson, a deputy chairperson and five members.

Article 49: Referees Committee

The Referees Committee shall implement the Laws of the Game. It shall appoint the referees for matches in competitions organised by the LFA, organise refereeing matters within LFA in collaboration with the administration and monitor the education and training of referees. It shall consist of a chairperson, a deputy chairperson and three members, all of whom shall be ex-referees except for the chairperson

Article 50: Committee for Women's Football

The Committee for Women's Football shall organise LFA's women's football competitions and deal with all matters relating to women's football. It shall consist of a chairperson, a deputy chairperson and five members.

Article 51: Players' Status and Legal Committee

1. **The Players' Status and Legal Committee shall set up and monitor compliance with transfer regulations in accordance with the FIFA Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players and determine the status of players for the various competitions of the LFA. The Executive Committee may approve special regulations governing the Players' Status Committee's powers of jurisdiction. The Players' Status and Legal Committee shall also provide advice in legal matters to the Executive Committee. It shall consist of a chairperson, a deputy chairperson and five members.**
2. **Players' status disputes involving the LFA, its Members, clubs, players, officials, intermediaries**

and licensed match agents shall be settled in the last instance by CAS in accordance with these Statutes and subject to any applicable national law.

Article 52: Stadiums and Security Committee

The Stadiums and Security Committee shall ensure that the conditions of the stadiums and the related facilities are always at their best and shall arrange and supervise the entry of the attendees through football matches. The Stadiums and Security Committee shall also deal with all matters relating to security. It shall consist of a chairperson, a deputy chairperson and 2 members

Article 53: Futsal Committee

The Futsal Committee shall deal with all matters relating to futsal. It shall consist of a chairperson, a deputy chairperson and 2 members

Article 54: Beach Soccer Committee

The Beach Soccer Committee shall deal with all matters relating to beach soccer. It shall consist of a chairperson, a deputy chairperson and 2 members

Article 55: Ad hoc committees

The Executive Committee may, if necessary, create ad hoc committees for special duties and a limited period of time. The Executive Committee shall appoint a chairperson, a deputy chairperson and the appropriate number of members. The duties and function of ad hoc committees are defined in special regulations approved by the Executive Committee. An ad hoc committee shall report directly to the Executive Committee.

F. Club licensing bodies

Article 56: Club licensing bodies

1. **The club licensing bodies shall be in charge of the club licensing system within the LFA in accordance with the Club Licensing Regulations of the LFA and AFC.**
2. **The club licensing bodies consist of a first instance body and an appeal body.**
3. **Decisions passed by the club licensing appeal body may only be appealed before CAS in accordance with the provisions in these Statutes.**

V. Independent Committees

Article 57: Institutional independence

The independent committees as well as their individual members shall conduct their activities and perform their duties entirely independently but always in the interests of the LFA and in accordance with its Statutes and regulations.

Article 58: Audit and Compliance Committee

1. **The Audit and Compliance Committee shall consist of a chairperson, a deputy chairperson and one member. Its members shall be knowledgeable and experienced in financial and/or regulatory and legal matters and may not be involved in any decision affecting the operations of the LFA.**
2. **The Audit and Compliance Committee shall advise, assist and oversee the Executive Committee in monitoring the LFA's financial and compliance matters, set up compliance mechanisms and monitor compliance with the relevant**

regulations of the LFA. It shall also supervise the general secretariat in financial and compliance issues. The Audit and Compliance Committee shall ensure the completeness and reliability of the financial accounting and review the consolidated financial statements and the independent and external auditor's report. The Audit and Compliance Committee shall furthermore monitor the LFA's financial, and compliance matters and suggest to the appropriate bodies any action that it deems necessary as a result of such monitoring. The Audit and Compliance Committee shall, with the assistance of the general secretariat, implement a compliance programme within the LFA.

3. **Details on the Audit and Compliance Committee's responsibilities, its internal cooperation and other procedural matters are stipulated in the Internal Organisation Regulations of the LFA.**

4. **The Audit and Compliance Committee shall be elected by the Congress for a period of four years and may only be relieved of their duties by the Congress. They shall not belong to any other body of the LFA and they shall undergo an integrity**

check, to be conducted by the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee, prior to their election or re-election and shall fulfil the independence requirements contained in par. 5 below.

5. The chairperson, deputy chairperson and members of the Audit and Compliance Committee as well as any of their immediate family members may not exercise or have exercised during the four years preceding their initial terms any executive function at the LFA, one of the LFA's Members, a league or a club (including any of their affiliated companies/organisations), nor have or have had in the four years preceding their initial term any material business relationship with the LFA, one of LFA's Members, a league or a club (including any of their affiliated companies/organisations). Immediate family member shall mean, with respect to a person, such person's spouse or domestic partner, parents, grandparents, uncles, aunts, children (including any stepchild or adopted child), grandchildren, son-, daughter-, father- or mother-in-law, and including anyone else, whether

by blood or otherwise, with whom the individual has a relationship akin to a family relationship for which such person provides financial support.

6. If the chairperson, the deputy chairperson or a member of the Audit and Compliance Committee permanently ceases to perform his official function during his term of office, the Executive Committee shall appoint a replacement to serve until the next Congress.

Article 59: Electoral committees

1. The electoral committees are the bodies in charge of organising and supervising the election process in accordance with the Electoral Code of the LFA. The electoral committees consist of the Electoral Committee and the Electoral Appeal Committee.

2. The composition and function of the electoral committees shall be governed by the Electoral Code of the LFA.

Article 60: Judicial bodies

1. The judicial bodies are:

   a) the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee;

   b) the Appeal Committee.

2. The judicial bodies are to be composed in such a way that the members, together, have the knowledge, abilities and specialist experience that is necessary for the due completion of their tasks and duties. The chairpersons and deputy chairpersons of the judicial bodies shall be qualified to practise law.

3. The term of office of all members shall be four years. The members may be re-elected or relieved of their duties at any time, although they may only be relieved of their duties by the Congress.

4. The judicial bodies shall be elected by the Congress upon proposal of the Executive Committee and shall not be members of any other body of the LFA.

5. The chairpersons and deputy chairpersons of the judicial bodies shall fulfil the independence criteria

that are stipulated in art. 58 par. 5 of these Statutes.

6. If the chairperson, the deputy chairperson or a member of a judicial body permanently ceases to perform his official function during his term of office, the Executive Committee shall appoint a replacement to serve until the next Congress, in which the Congress shall appoint a new member of the respective judicial body for the remaining period.

7. The responsibilities and function of the judicial bodies shall be stipulated in the Disciplinary and Ethics Code of the LFA.

Article 61: Disciplinary and Ethics Committee

1. The function of the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee shall be governed by the Disciplinary and Ethics Code of the LFA.

2. The Disciplinary and Ethics Committee may pronounce the sanctions described in these Statutes and the Disciplinary and Ethics Code of the LFA on Members, officials, players, clubs, licensed match agents and intermediaries.

3. These provisions do not affect the powers of the Congress and the Executive Committee with regard to the suspension and expulsion of Members.

4. The Executive Committee shall issue the Disciplinary and Ethics Code of the LFA, which shall be in accordance with the principles laid down in the FIFA Disciplinary Code and the FIFA Ethics Code.

5. The Disciplinary and Ethics Committee is composed of a chairman, vice-chairman and 2 members.

Article 62: Appeal Committee

1. The function of the Appeal Committee shall be governed by the Disciplinary and Ethics Code of the LFA.

2. The Appeal Committee is responsible for hearing appeals against decisions from the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee that are not declared final by the relevant regulations of the LFA.

3. Decisions pronounced by the Appeal Committee

may only be referred to CAS in accordance with the provisions in these Statutes.

4. The Appeal Committee is composed of a chairman, vice-chairman and 2 members.

VI. Disciplinary Measures

Article 63: Disciplinary Measures

The disciplinary measures are primarily:

A. for natural and legal persons:

1) **a warning;**
2) **a reprimand;**
3) **a fine;**
4) **the return of awards.**

B. for natural persons:

1) **a caution;**
2) **an expulsion;**
3) **a match suspension;**
4) **a ban from the dressing rooms and/or the substitutes' bench;**
5) **a ban from entering a stadium;**
6) **a ban on taking part in any football-related activity;**

7) social work;

8) compliance training.

C. for legal persons:

1) a transfer ban;

2) playing a match without spectators;

3) playing a match on neutral territory;

4) a ban on playing in a particular stadium;

5) annulment of the result of the match;

6) expulsion from a competition;

7) a forfeit;

8) deduction of points;

9) relegation to a lower division;

10) replaying a match.

VII. Arbitration

Article 64: Arbitration

1. **Disputes within the LFA or disputes affecting Members of the LFA, leagues, members of leagues, clubs, members of clubs, players and officials may only be referred in the last instance (i.e. after exhaustion of all internal channels within the LFA) to CAS, which shall settle the dispute definitively to the exclusion of any ordinary court, unless expressly prohibited by the legislation in Lebanon. Appeals to CAS shall be lodged within 21 days of receipt of the relevant decision.**

2. **Disputes of international dimension arising from or related to the Statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of FIFA or AFC may only be submitted in the last instance to CAS as specified in the Statutes of FIFA and of AFC.**

Article 65: Jurisdiction

1. The LFA shall have jurisdiction on internal national disputes, i.e. disputes between parties belonging or affiliated to the LFA.
2. FIFA and/or AFC shall have jurisdiction on international disputes, i.e. disputes between parties belonging to different associations and/or confederations, in accordance with the relevant regulations.
3. The LFA shall ensure its full compliance and that of all those subject to its jurisdiction with any final decision passed by a FIFA body, an AFC body, or CAS.

VIII. Finance

Article 66: Financial period

1. The financial period of the LFA shall be one year and shall begin on 1 January and end on 31 December.
2. The revenue and expenses of the LFA shall be managed so that they balance out over the financial period. The LFA's major duties in the future shall be guaranteed through the creation of reserves.
3. The General Secretary is responsible for drawing up the annual consolidated accounts of the LFA with its subsidiaries as at 31 December.

Article 67: Revenue

The revenue of the LFA comprises:

a) Members' annual subscriptions;

b) receipts generated by the marketing of rights to which the LFA is entitled;

c) fines imposed by the authorised bodies;

d) other subscriptions and receipts in keeping with the objectives pursued by the LFA;

e) donations;

f) any other revenue related to football activities;

g) funding from FIFA and from AFC.

Article 68: Expenses

The LFA shall bear:

a) the expenses stipulated in the budget;

b) other expenses approved by the Congress and expenses that the Executive Committee is entitled to incur within the scope of its authority;

c) all other expenses in keeping with the objectives pursued by the LFA.

Article 69: Independent auditors

The independent auditors appointed by the Congress shall audit on a yearly basis the accounts approved by the Finance Committee in accordance with the appropriate principles of accounting and present a report to the Congress. The independent auditors shall be appointed for a period of five years.

Article 70: Membership subscriptions

1. Membership subscriptions are due on 1st January. The annual subscription for new Members for the year in question shall be paid within 20 days of the close of the Congress at which they are admitted.
2. The Congress shall fix the amount of the annual subscription every year on the recommendation of the Executive Committee. The amount shall be determined by the Executive Committee.

Article 71: Settlement

The LFA may debit any Member's assets and accounts to settle claims.

Article 72: Levies

LFA may demand that a levy be paid by its Members for matches.

Article 73: Publication of financial data

The LFA shall publish on its official website the financial documents referred to under art. 32 par. 2 i), j) and k) of these Statutes once the relevant items have been approved by the Congress.

IX. Competitions And Rights In Competitions And Events

Article 74: Competitions

1. **The LFA shall organise and coordinate the following official competitions held within its territory:**
   a. **First division league**
   b. **Second division league**
   c. **Third division league**
   d. **Fourth division league**
   e. **Fifth division league**
   f. **Lebanon Cup**
   g. **Super Cup**
   h. **Elite Cup**
   i. **Challenge Cup**
   j. **Aspires (U-20) league**

k. Youth (U-18) league

l. Juniors (U-16) league

m. Kids (U-15) league

n. Kids (U-14) league

o. Kids (U-12) league

p. Grassroots (U-12) league

q. Grassroots (U-11) league

r. Districts league

s. Futsal first division league

t. Futsal second division league

u. Futsal Third Division league

v. Futsal Youth League

w. Futsal Lebanon Cup

x. Futsal Super Cup

y. Women football league

z. Women football Lebanon cup

aa. Women Football Super Cup

bb. Girls U-19 league

cc. Girls U-17 league

dd. Girls U-15 league

ee. Beach Soccer league

2. The Executive Committee may delegate to the LFA's subordinate leagues the authority to organise competitions (e.g. by means of a proper and comprehensive agreement for elite football). The competitions organised by the leagues shall not interfere with those competitions organised by the LFA. Competitions organised by the LFA shall take priority.

3. The Executive Committee may issue special regulations to this end.

Article 75: Club licensing

The Executive Committee shall issue regulations regarding a club licensing system governing the participation of clubs in the competitions of the LFA and AFC, in compliance with the minimum requirements of the club licensing system as set up by AFC and FIFA.

Article 76: Rights

1. The LFA and its Members are the original owners of all of the rights emanating from competitions and other events coming under their respective jurisdiction, without any restrictions as to content, time and place. These rights include, among others, every kind of financial rights, audio-visual and radio recording, reproduction and broadcasting rights, multimedia rights, marketing and promotional rights and incorporeal rights such as emblems and rights arising under copyright law.

2. The Executive Committee shall decide how and to what extent these rights are utilised and shall draw up special regulations to this end. The LFA shall ensure that the sale of such rights is carried out in a transparent manner and in compliance with the Statutes and regulations of the LFA as well as mandatory national laws.

Article 77: Authorisation to distribute

1. The LFA and its Members are exclusively responsible for authorising the distribution of image and sound and other data carriers of

football matches and events coming under their respective jurisdiction, without any restrictions.

2. The Executive Committee shall issue special regulations to this end.

X. International Matches and Competitions

Article 78: International matches and competitions

1. **The authority for organising international matches and competitions between representative teams and between leagues, club teams and/or scratch teams lies solely with FIFA, the confederation(s) and/or the association(s) concerned. No such match or competition shall take place without the prior permission of FIFA, the confederation(s) and/or the association(s) concerned in accordance with the FIFA Regulations Governing International Matches.**

2. **The LFA is bound by the international match calendar compiled by FIFA.**

Article 79: Contacts

The LFA, its Members, players, officials, licensed

match agents and intermediaries may not play matches or make sporting contacts with associations that are not members of FIFA or provisional members of a confederation without the approval of FIFA.

Article 80: Approval

1. **Clubs, leagues or any other group of clubs that are affiliated to the LFA may only join another association with the authorisation of the LFA, the other association, the respective confederation(s) and FIFA.**

2. **Clubs, leagues or any other group of clubs that are affiliated to the LFA cannot participate in competitions on the territory of another association without the authorisation of the LFA, the other association, FIFA and the respective confederation(s) according to the FIFA Regulations Governing International Matches.**

XI. Final Provisions

Article 81: Meetings

Meetings may be held by teleconference, by video conference or by another means of communication.

Article 82: Unforeseen contingencies and force majeure

The Executive Committee shall have the power to decide on all cases of force majeure and on all matters not provided for in these Statutes; such decisions shall take into account the relevant regulations of FIFA and of AFC, as well as any applicable mandatory laws.

Article 83: Publication of corporate documents

The LFA shall make available on its official website the following documents and information:

a) Statutes and Standing Orders of the Congress;

b) Electoral Code;

c) Disciplinary and Ethics Code;

d) Internal Organisation Regulations;

e) most important/key decisions;

f) its strategy;

g) agenda for Congress meetings;

h) circular letters.

Article 84: Dissolution

1. Any decision relating to the dissolution of the LFA requires a majority of three-quarters of all of the Members of the LFA, which must be obtained at a Congress specially convened for the purpose. If quorum is not achieved in the first meeting, the Congress shall take place within three months as of the date of the first meeting and on the same conditions. The dissolution is decided by a majority of three-quarters votes.

2. If the LFA is disbanded, its assets shall be transferred to the Lebanese Olympic Committee. It shall hold these assets as a trustee in accordance with the relevant professional duties until the LFA is re-established. The final Congress may, however, choose another recipient for the assets on the basis of a three-quarter majority.

Article 85: Enforcement

These Statutes were adopted at the LFA 91st Congress in Beirut on 12 August 2026 and come into force on 12 August 2026. The former Statutes of the LFA are hereby repealed.

Article 86: Transitional provisions

1. **The Members as defined under art. 12 of these Statutes, shall be granted a period of 3 months, as from the adoption of these Statutes, to comply with the mandatory requirements stipulated in art. 12 par. 2, as well as art. 16 par. 1 f), g), j), n) and o) of these Statutes. Any Member which does not comply with all of these requirements within the aforementioned timeframe, shall automatically lose its right to vote at the Congress and the delegate(s) of the Member in question shall not be taken into account when establishing the quorum. The Member in question shall only regain its right to vote at the Congress once it has fully complied with its obligations as mentioned in this paragraph.**

2. **The requirement to undergo an integrity check as**

mentioned in art. 27 par. 2 of these Statutes and the criteria defined in art. 27 par. 4 of these Statutes shall not apply to the members of the Executive Committee that are in place at the time of adoption of these Statutes but shall be complied with by any candidate running for any of the position on the Executive Committee following the adoption of these Statutes.

3. **The term limits as defined in art. 27 par. 2 of these Statutes shall only apply as from the elections of the members of the Executive Committee which shall take place following the adoption of these Statutes.**

Beirut 12/08/2026

For the LFA

Hachem Haidar
President

Jihad El Chohof
General Secretary

Annexe A - Questionnaire For Integrity Checks

Part 1: General provisions

1. **The integrity checks with regard to candidates for, and holders of, official positions within the LFA that are subject to such checks (candidates or holders) shall be conducted by the relevant body in accordance with the provisions of these Statutes and this annexe.**

2. **Candidates or holders are obliged to comply with the screening and self-disclosure process as outlined in parts 2 and 3 below. Prior to the screening process, every candidate or holder shall give his written consent to said process through a form provided by the relevant body conducting the integrity check. If such written consent is not provided, the candidate or holder shall be deemed not to have passed the integrity check.**

3. **Candidates or holders shall act in good faith at all**

times and shall fully collaborate to establish the relevant facts upon reasonable notice. If the candidate or holder concerned does not cooperate with the body competent to conduct the integrity check, the candidate or holder shall be deemed not to have passed the integrity check.

4. The candidate or holder shall be deemed not to have passed the integrity check, if he:

a) has been subject to criminal convictions or disciplinary sanctions by a state court, in particular if the offence in question was a substantive issue and not a minor infraction or procedural misconduct;

b) has been found guilty and/or sentenced by the FIFA Ethics Committee or any other sporting body with a sanction that would seriously put into question the discharge of the office concerned.

5. Subject to the relevant provisions regarding disclosure and forwarding of the information and related data obtained in the context of integrity checks in accordance with this annexe, all such

information and related data must be treated as strictly confidential by the body conducting the integrity check concerned.

Part 2: Screening process

1. At the beginning of the screening process, every candidate or holder shall undergo an identification check («ID check»). In this context, the candidate or holder shall submit a valid copy of his passport to the body in charge of performing the integrity check. The ID check shall include verification/ identification of the following elements:
   a) name(s) and surname(s);
   b) address of residence;
   c) date and place of birth;
   d) nationality/nationalities.
2. Every candidate or holder shall complete the questionnaire contained in part 3 below.
3. The body in charge of performing the integrity check may conduct independent research and/or investigations in order to obtain further relevant information on a particular candidate or holder, which may include information on intermediaries

and related parties, mandates, potential conflicts of interest and significant participations as well as civil and criminal proceedings/investigations.

Part 3: Questionnaire

First name(s):	
Surname(s):	
Address of residence:	
Date and place of birth:	
Nationality/nationalities:	
Profession:	

1. Have you previously been convicted by a final decision of any intentional indictable offence or of any offence corresponding to a violation of the rules of conduct set out in part II section 5 of the FIFA Code of Ethics?

   No ☐ Yes ☐

   If yes, please specify:

2. Has a sports governing body ever imposed any disciplinary or similar sanction or measure on you in the past for actions which amount to a violation

of the rules of conduct set out in part II section 5 of the FIFA Code of Ethics?

No ☐ **Yes** ☐

If yes, please specify:

3. **Are you the subject of any pending civil, criminal or disciplinary proceedings or investigations?**

   No ☐ **Yes** ☐

   If yes, please specify:

4. **I am fully aware that I am subject to the provisions of the Disciplinary and Ethics Code of the LFA and to the provisions of the Statutes and other regulations of the LFA that may address integrity issues, and I fully comply with such provisions.**

5. **I currently hold the following positions in football:**

6. **The following facts and circumstances may give rise to potential conflicts of interest regarding me (cf. in particular art.22 par.9 of these Statutes):**

7. **Remarks and observations which may be of potential relevance in the context of the integrity check:**

8. **I am fully aware and agree that this questionnaire**

is made available to the members of the appropriate body of the LFA.

9. **I am fully aware and confirm that I must notify the body conducting the integrity check of any relevant facts and circumstances arising after the integrity check has been completed.**

10. **I am fully aware and confirm that I am obliged to collaborate fully to establish the relevant facts with regard to the integrity check to which I am subject. In particular, I will comply with requests for any documents, information or any other material of any nature held by me. In addition, I will comply with the procurement and provision of documents, information or any other material of any nature not held by me but which I am entitled to obtain.**

11. **I am fully aware and confirm that the body conducting the integrity check may also request information on possible sanctions (questions 1 and 2 above) directly from FIFA or the relevant confederation as well as from other institutions such as the Court of Arbitration for Sport in Lausanne, Switzerland, or the International**

Olympic Committee. In this regard, I hereby release the relevant institutions from any obligation of confidentiality relating to the information concerned.

12. I am fully aware and confirm that the body conducting the integrity check may collect further information on me in accordance with part 2 par. 2 of this annexe.

(Place and date) (Signature)

Annexe B - Standing Orders of The Congress

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Definitions

Whenever relevant, the terminology used in these Standing Orders shall refer to the terms defined in the Definitions section of the Statutes of the LFA.

NB: Terms referring to natural persons are applicable to both genders. Any term in the singular applies to the plural and vice-versa.

Article 1: Representation and participation in the Congress

Members of the LFA shall be represented at the Congress by the delegates as mentioned under art. 26 par. 1 of the Statutes of the LFA.

Article 2: Chairperson

1. **The President of the LFA shall chair the Congress. If the President is unable to attend, the vicepresidents shall deputise and if no vice-president is present, the longest-serving Executive Committee member.**

2. **The chairperson shall ensure that the Congress is conducted in strict compliance with these Standing Orders, open and close the Congress and debates,**

and, unless the Congress decides otherwise, grant delegates permission to speak and conduct all discussions.

3. The chairperson shall be responsible for maintaining order during debates. He may take the following action against any delegate who disturbs the debates:

   a) a call to order;

   b) a reprimand;

   c) exclusion from the Congress.

4. If an appeal is made against such action, the Congress shall decide immediately without debate.

Article 3: Scrutineers

At the beginning of the meeting, the Congress shall appoint an adequate number of scrutineers to count the votes and to assist the General Secretary in distributing and counting voting papers issued for the elections.

Article 4: Debates

1. Debates on each item on the agenda shall be preceded by a short report or introduction:

a) by the chairperson or an Executive committee member

b) by a representative of the committee designated by the Executive Committee

c) by a delegate of the Member that requested the item to be included in the agenda.

2. The chairperson then opens the debate.

Article 5: Speakers

1. Permission to speak is granted in the order in which it is requested. A speaker may not begin speaking until he has obtained permission to do so.

2. A speaker may not speak for a second time on the same item until all other delegates who have requested permission to speak have spoken.

3. The chairperson may set a time limit for speakers.

Article 6: Proposals during the Congress

1. All proposals submitted during the Congress shall be made in writing. Proposals which are not relevant to the subject under discussion shall not be admitted to the debate.

2. Any amendment to such initial proposals shall be drawn up in writing and passed to the chairperson before being put to the debate.

Article 7: Procedural motions and closing of debates

1. If a procedural motion is made, discussion on the main question shall be suspended until a vote has been taken on the motion.

2. If a motion is made to close the discussion, it shall immediately be put to the vote without debate. If the motion is approved, permission to speak shall only be granted to those Members who asked to speak before the vote was taken.

3. The chairperson shall close the discussion unless the Congress decides otherwise by a majority (more than 50%) of the valid votes cast.

Article 8: Votes

1. A decision that requires a vote shall be reached by a show of hands or by means of an electronic count, unless decided otherwise by the Congress.

2. Before each vote, the chairperson, or the person

designated by him, shall read the text of the proposal aloud and explain the voting procedure (quorum) to the Congress. If an objection is raised, the Congress shall decide immediately.

3. **Votes may be taken by roll call if requested by at least five delegates representing the Members present and eligible to vote.**

4. **No one shall be compelled to vote.**

5. **Proposals made during the Congress shall be put to the vote in the order in which they are submitted. If there are more than two main proposals, they shall be put to the vote in succession and the delegates may not vote for more than one of the proposals.**

6. **Alterations to amendments shall be put to the vote before the amendments proper, and amendments before the main proposal.**

7. **Proposals without a vote against are regarded as having been accepted by the Congress.**

8. **The chairperson shall check the result of the vote and announce it to the Congress.**

9. No one is permitted to speak during the vote and until after the result has been announced.

Article 9: Elections

Elections and the electoral process within the LFA shall be conducted according to the relevant provisions of the Statutes and Electoral Code of LFA.

Article 10: Enforcement

These Standing Orders were adopted at the LFA 94st Congress in Beirut on 12 August 2026 and come into force on 12 August 2026.

Beirut 12/08/2026

For the LFA

Hachem Haidar
President

Jihad El Chohof
General Secretary