

Statutes of the Oman Football Association

2021 edition

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DEFINITIONS

The terms given below denote the following:

OFA: Oman Football Association.

AFC: Asian Football Confederation.

WAFF: West Asian Football Federation.

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 an association, including the OFA.

~~**Club:** a member of OFA, an association (that is a member of FIFA and of the relevant confederation) or a member of a league recognised by an association that enters at least one team in a competition.~~

Official: any board member (including the members of the Board of Directors), 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 OFA.

Congress: the supreme and legislative body of the OFA.

Board of Directors: the Executive body of the OFA.

General Secretariat: an administrative, operational body representing the executive body of OFA including all the staff of the OFA in accordance with the organizational structure and approved decisions by the Board of Directors from time to time.

Member: a legal person that has been admitted into membership of the OFA 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.

Judicial Bodies: the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee and the Appeal Committee.

NDRC: the National Dispute Resolution Chamber.

Stakeholder: a person, entity or organisation which is not a member and/or body of the OFA, but has an interest or concern in the OFA's activities, which may affect or be affected by the OFA's actions, objectives and policies, in particular clubs, players, coaches.

Statutes: the Statutes of the Oman Football Association.

CAF: National Court of Arbitration for Football.

CAS: Court of Arbitration for Sport based in Lausanne (Switzerland).

Ministry: ministry of Culture, Sports and Youths

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

I. GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1 Legal form, headquarters and trademarks

- ¹ The OFA is a private organisation of an associative nature, established in compliance with the legislation of Oman. It is formed for an unlimited period.
- ² The headquarter of the OFA is located in Muscat.
- ³ The OFA is a member of FIFA, the AFC and the WAFF.
- ⁴ The flag, emblem and logo of the OFA are contained in Annexe A of these Statutes. Refer to ANNEXE A
- ⁵ The abbreviation of Oman Football Association is: OFA.
- ⁶ The flag, emblem, logo and abbreviation are legally registered in the Sultanate of Oman with the Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Investment Promotion of the Sultanate of Oman.
- ⁷ The provisions of the law, these Statutes and FIFA regulations shall apply to OFA.

Article 2 Objectives

The objectives of the OFA are:

1. to reinforce bond between the different actors and amongst the nationals of the Sultanate of Oman through football.
2. to improve the game of football constantly and promote, regulate and control it throughout the territory of Oman in the light of fair play and its unifying, educational, cultural and humanitarian values, particularly through youth and development programmes;
3. 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;
4. to draw up regulations and provisions and ensure their enforcement;
5. to protect the interests of its Members;
6. to respect and prevent any infringement of the Statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of FIFA, the AFC and of the OFA as well as the Laws of the Game, and to ensure that these are also respected by its Members;
7. 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;
8. to promote and strengthen good governance principles and practices at national level and encourage its Members to adopt their own good governance principles;
9. to promote the development of women's football and the full participation of women at all levels of football governance;
10. to control and supervise all friendly football matches of all forms played throughout the territory of Oman;

11. 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 Oman, in accordance with the relevant Statutes and regulations of FIFA and of the confederations;
12. to manage international sporting relations connected with association football, futsal and beach soccer;
13. to host competitions at international and other levels;
14. Representing the Sultanate in international sports conferences and meetings, as well as in sports conference and meetings held in the Sultanate after coordination with the Ministry.

Article **3** Human rights

The OFA is committed to respecting all internationally recognised human rights and shall strive to promote the protection of these rights.

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, ~~sexual orientation~~ 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 OFA is neutral in matters of politics and religion.

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

³ The OFA shall remain independent and shall avoid any form of undue political interference. The OFA 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 OFA shall promote friendly relations between its Members, clubs, officials and players and in society for humanitarian objectives.

² The OFA 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 Board of Directors 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 OFA.

3. OFA encourages clubs to train players and protect the rights of clubs and players in accordance with the national and international rules and regulations issued by FIFA and the AFC.

Article **8** **Laws of the Game**

¹ The OFA 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 OFA 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 OFA 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 OFA shall observe the Statutes, regulations, directives, decisions and the Code of Ethics of FIFA, the AFC and of the OFA in their activities.

² Every person and organisation involved in the game of association football, futsal and beach soccer in the territory of Oman is obliged to observe the Statutes and regulations of FIFA, the AFC, the OFA 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 OFA shall be Arabic. Official documents and texts shall be written in Arabic and English. 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.

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 OFA 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 OFA or other Members of the OFA, but leads to the loss of all rights in relation to the OFA from the resignation or expulsion date.
 - ⁴ The OFA shall ensure that all relevant stakeholders are represented within its Congress.
-

Article **12** Members

The Members of the OFA are:

- a) the clubs of the top league;
 - b) the clubs of the first division;
 - c) the clubs of the second division (if any);
 - d) the players' association (if any);
 - e) the referees' association (if any);
 - f) the coaches' association (if any);
 - g) the women's football association (if any).
-

Article **13** Admission

- ¹ Any legal entity wishing to become a Member of the OFA shall apply in writing to the general secretariat of the OFA.
- 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 OFA, FIFA and the AFC and ensure that these are also respected, if applicable, by its own members, clubs, 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 OFA) any dispute of national dimension arising from or related to the Statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of the OFA only to the National Court of Arbitration for Football (CAF) and/or CAS as specified in these Statutes, which shall definitely settle the dispute to the exclusion of any ordinary court, unless expressly prohibited by the legislation in force in Oman;

- e) a declaration that any dispute of international dimension arising from or related to the Statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of FIFA or of the AFC may only be submitted in the last instance to CAS, as specified in the Statutes of FIFA and of the AFC;
- f) a declaration that it recognises the National Dispute Arbitration Tribunal (NDRC), the National Court of Arbitration for Football (CAF), as specified in these Statutes, as well as the jurisdiction of CAS, as specified in the Statutes of FIFA and of the AFC, and its decisions;
- g) a declaration that it is located and registered on the territory of Oman;
- 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) a copy of the minutes of its last congress or constitutional meeting;
- l) a declaration that it undertakes to organise or participate in friendly matches only with the prior consent of the OFA;
- m) a declaration that it will play all official home matches on the territory of Oman.

Article 14 Request and procedure for application

- ¹ The procedure for admission shall be regulated by special regulations approved by the Board of Directors.
- ² The Board of Directors 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 ~~from next Congress with immediate effect.~~

Article 15 Members' rights

- ¹ The Members of the OFA 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 OFA;
 - d) to be informed of the affairs of the OFA through its official bodies;
 - e) to take part in competitions (if applicable) and/or other sporting activities organised by the OFA;
 - f) to exercise all other rights arising from the Statutes and regulations of the OFA.
- ² The exercise of these rights is subject to other provisions in the Statutes and applicable regulations of the OFA.

- ¹ The Members of the OFA have the following obligations:
- a) to comply fully with the Statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of FIFA, the AFC and the OFA 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 OFA;
 - 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 OFA may only be referred in the last instance (i.e. after exhaustion of all internal channels within the OFA) to the National Court for Arbitration for Football (CAF) and/or CAS as specified in these Statutes, which shall definitely settle the dispute to the exclusion of any ordinary court, unless expressly prohibited by the legislation in force in Oman;
 - 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 the AFC may only be submitted in the last instance to CAS, as specified in the Statutes of FIFA and of the 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 OFA 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. 13 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, the AFC and the OFA;
 - q) Implement the provisions issued by the NDRC and CAF or other judicial bodies as provided for in these Statutes;
 - r) ~~take~~ take all necessary measures that ensure the commitment of its members, players, players' agents, coaches, referees and officials to implement the judgments and decisions of the bodies mentioned in let. q), including suspending or stopping their activities and their relationship with it or take any other procedure the board of directors deems appropriate to implement the judicial ruling;
 - r) Take the necessary measures and procedures to prevent conflicts of interest as stated in their statutes and internal regulations;
 - s) Develop women's participation in women's football activities, by organizing and supervising events;
 - t) Keep matters related to referees and disciplinary matters to combat doping, player registration, and other matters related to organizing competitions and classifying clubs in relation to football affairs within the exclusive jurisdiction of OFA;
 - u) Make all decisions regarding any issues related to its membership, independent of the interference of any external body. This obligation applies regardless of its legal form or organizational structure;
 - v) Any other obligations approved by the Congress in a manner that does not conflict with the provisions of the law and FIFA rules and regulations.

² Violation of the above-mentioned obligations by any Member may lead to sanctions provided for in these Statutes as well as the Regulations and decisions of the OFA.

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 OFA is responsible towards ensuring that they manage their affairs independently 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 solely at the request of the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors may, without a vote of the Congress, temporarily suspend with immediate effect a Member that seriously violates its obligations. A suspension approved by the Board of Directors shall last until the next Congress, unless the Board of Directors has revoked such suspension prior to the Congress.

² A presence of a three-quarters (3/4) majority of the delegates representing the Members eligible to vote at the Congress is necessary for a vote to suspend a Member to be valid.

³ A provisional suspension of a Member by the Board of Directors shall be confirmed at the next Congress by a three-quarters (3/4) 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 solely at the request of the Board of Directors. The lifting of the suspension of a Member by the Congress requires a three-quarters (3/4) majority of the Member Associations 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 Association.

⁶ Members which do not participate in the sporting activities of the OFA for two sporting seasons or not pay their membership fees shall be automatically suspended from voting at the Congress and shall lose their right to nominate any candidate for the OFA elections until they have fulfilled their obligations in this respect. Members which do not participate in two Congresses (consecutive or not) during the relevant four-year term of the Board of Director, shall also be automatically suspended from voting at the following Congress.

⁷ in event of total or partial suspension of the official competitions in any of the two sport season, as referred in above clause (6), for any reason. The participation of a Member in any of the competition during the two season shall be considered.

Article 18 Expulsion

¹ The Congress may expel a Member solely at the request of the Board of Directors if, without limitation:

- a) it seriously violates its own Statutes, Codes, Rules, Regulations and Standing Orders or those of FIFA, the AFC or the OFA;
- b) If it has lost its eligibility, or has been liquidated, bankrupt or dissolved.

² A 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 (3/4) majority of the delegates representing the Members present and eligible to vote.

⁴ An expelled Member shall not be eligible for membership of the Federation 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 the Federation property, and shall return to the Federation, 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 football season. Notice of resignation must reach the general secretariat no later than two months before the commencement of the football season.

² The resignation is not valid until the Member wishing to resign has fulfilled its financial obligations towards the OFA 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 OFA.

⁴ Decisions passed by bodies that have not been elected or appointed in compliance with par. 2 above shall not be recognised by the OFA.

Article **21** Status of clubs, leagues and other amateur leagues

¹ Clubs, leagues or any other amateur leagues affiliated to the OFA shall be subordinate to and recognised by the OFA. There shall only be one top-tier national league on the territory of Oman.

² These Statutes define the scope of authority and the rights and duties of the entities mentioned in par. 1 above. Their statutes and regulations shall be in line with the requirements and obligations of the Statutes and regulations of the OFA. The OFA 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.

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 Board of Directors shall make these nominations. The Congress may also make nomination with majority (more than 50%) of the delegates representing the Members present and eligible to vote.
- ³ The honorary president or honorary member may take part in the Congress. They may join the debates but are not entitled to vote.
4. The membership of the honorary president and honorary members expires in the following cases:
 - A - Death.
 - B – The expiry of the period specified for OFA’s Board of Directors.
5. The title of Honorary president and the Honorary Member shall be revoked by a decision of the Congress or by a decision issued by the Board of Directors, or if a final judgment is issued by a local court against him in a case involving breach of honour and trust unless he is rehabilitated in accordance with Omani law.

Article **23** **Bodies and Committees**

- ¹ The Congress is the supreme and legislative body of the OFA.
- ² The Board of Directors is the supervising and strategic body of the OFA
- ³ The general secretariat is the executive, operational and administrative body of the OFA.
- ⁴ Standing and ad hoc committees shall advise and assist the Board of Directors and the general secretariat in fulfilling their duties.
- ⁵ The club licensing bodies are in charge of the club licensing system within the OFA.
- 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 and committees shall be either elected or appointed by the OFA itself without any undue external influence and in accordance with the procedures described in these Statutes.
- ⁹ The members of the bodies and Committees 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 Board of Directors may also dismiss a member of a body provisionally, with the exception of the members of the independent committees. The provisional dismissal approved by the Board of Directors shall be confirmed by the next Congress, unless the Board of Directors 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 Board of Directors and/or to the Members of the OFA along with the respective agenda.
- ³ The member of the body in question has the right to defend himself in front of the Board of Directors and/or the Congress.
- ⁴ The motion for dismissal shall be decided by means of secret ballot at the Board of Directors 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 OFA. 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 Board of Directors 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 In the event of force majeure or exceptional circumstances, the Congress may take place via available telecommunication technologies which shall allow delegates to see and hear each other simultaneously. Electronic signatures shall be accepted during Congresses held virtually. This provision does not apply for:
 - a- elective Congresses;
 - b- recall;
 - c- suspension or expulsion of membership; and
 - d- amendment of these Statutes.

Article 26 Delegates and votes

- ¹ The Congress is composed of 44 delegates representing the Members as follows:
 - a) for the clubs of the top league: one (1) delegate per club;
 - b) for the clubs of the first division: one (1) delegate per club;
 - c) for the clubs of the Second division (if any): one (1) delegate per club;
 - d) for the players' association without voting right (if any): one (1) delegate;
 - e) for the referees' association without voting right (if any): one (1) delegate;
 - f) for the coaches' association without voting right (if any): one (1) delegate;
 - g) for the women's football association without voting right (if any): one (1) delegate.The total number of Members may vary due to new admission or suspension and expulsion of membership.
- ² Delegates must belong to the Member that they represent and be appointed or elected by the appropriate body of that Member from amongst the members of its board of director. They must also be able to produce evidence of this upon request. The total number of delegates as mentioned in par. 1 above shall be modified accordingly as soon as the Members mentioned under par. 1 let. c, d, e, f and g are admitted as Member and comply with the obligations as defined in these Statutes.
- ³ 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.

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

5. The list of members entitled to attend and vote at the Congress meetings in accordance with the provisions of these Statutes shall be determined at least (60) sixty days prior to the ordinary Congress meetings, and (30) thirty days for Extraordinary Congress meetings. **The Board of Directors should have the right to reduce the aforementioned duration provided the timeline of sending invitations and agenda's documents is not changed.**

6. The Member whose name has been inadvertently omitted from the list of Members who are entitled to attend and vote in the Congress meetings may refer back to the General Secretary by sending a letter together with supportive data and documents indicating its participation in the competitions and its fulfilment of the conditions for attending the meeting no later than (3) days from the date of the announcement of the above-mentioned list referred in clause 5 above. The General Secretary shall consider the request and take the final decision within (3) days from the date of receiving the request and shall do the needful to correct the mistake and send an invitation to the relevant Members.

7. OFA shall be notified of the delegate's name at least 72 hours before the Congress meeting date with a letter signed by the Chairman of the Member's board of directors, **or his deputy as the case maybe.** The letter should include the delegate's data, the date of the board meeting during which his appointment or election was approved. In event of force majeure, the Member may replace his delegate with another. If the delegate does not meet these conditions, he shall be prevented from attending the Congress meeting. It is not permissible to correct the mistake or replace him by another delegate after the start of the meeting. OFA shall provide a standard form for this to all the Members.

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 and approving the minutes of the last meeting;
3. electing the President, the vice-president and members of the Board of Directors;
4. electing the chairpersons, the deputy chairpersons and members of the independent committees (i.e. Audit and Compliance Committee, electoral committees and judicial bodies), upon proposal of the Board of Directors;
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 OFA since the last Congress);
9. appointing the independent and external auditors upon proposal of the Board of Directors;
10. fixing the membership subscriptions upon proposal of the Board of Directors;
11. bestowing the title of honorary president or honorary member, upon proposal of the Board of Directors;
12. admitting, suspending or expelling a Member;
13. dismissing a member of a body of the OFA;
14. dissolving the OFA;
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.

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 within 3 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 or the Standing Orders of the Congress, the election of the President, vice-president or members of the Board of Directors, the election of the chairpersons, deputy chairpersons or members of the independent committees, the dismissal of a member of a body, the suspension or expulsion of a Member or the dissolution of OFA.

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 in alphabetical order.

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.

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

³ The election for the positions within the Board of Directors shall take place by position and shall follow the predetermined order as established in art. 37 par. 1 of these Statutes.

⁴ A majority (more than 50%) of the valid votes cast is necessary for the election of the President and vice-president of the OFA. If there are more than two candidates for the office of President, or for any of the offices of vice-president, whoever obtains the lowest number of votes is eliminated after each ballot until only two candidates are left.

⁵ When there is only one candidate for the president position, the Congress may elect him unopposed. In other case, the winning president shall obtain the absolute majority (more than 50%) of the registered and valid votes in the first ballot.

⁶ When there is only one candidate for the vice-president position, the Congress may elect him unopposed. In other case, the winning vice-president shall obtain the absolute majority (more than 50%) of the registered and valid votes in the first ballot.

⁷ For the election of the **nine seven (79)** other members of the Board of Directors, the candidates who receive the most votes in respect of the free seats shall be elected. At least one out of the **seven** positions shall be reserved for a female candidate who receives the most votes. **The mechanism described under clause 4 above shall be applicable, as well, in event more than two candidates obtained equal number of votes.**

⁶⁸ For the election of the chairpersons, deputy chairpersons and members of the independent committees (i.e. Audit and Compliance Committee, 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 five (5) delegates representing the Members, a separate vote for a specific candidate shall take place.

⁷⁹ 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.

⁸¹⁰ Blank ballot papers, invalid votes or electronic votes manipulated in any way as well as abstentions shall be disregarded when calculating the majority.

⁹¹¹ Candidatures for any of the positions of the Board of Directors shall be sent to the general secretariat at least 30 days before the relevant elective Congress. The official list of candidates must be passed to the Members of the OFA at least 15 days before the Congress at which the Board of Directors shall be elected. The provisions of this paragraph shall also apply when elections take place during an Extraordinary Congress.

⁹⁹¹² Each Member having the right to nominate is entitled to give a letter of support to only one candidate in OFA's board elections or to fill vacant positions in the board. As an exception to this, the club may recommend two (2) candidates only, provided that one of them is a female candidate for the mandatory women's seat. If the club gave more than the allowed number of nomination cards, all of them shall be cancelled.

~~11~~ ¹³ Candidatures for any of the positions of the independent committees (i.e. Audit and Compliance Committee, electoral committees and judicial bodies) must be passed to the Members of the OFA 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 within the first (3) three months of the year.

² The Board of Directors 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, at least 30 days before the date of the Congress.

⁵ The formal convocation shall be made in writing at least 15 days before the date of the Congress. This convocation shall contain the agenda, the activity report, the audited financial statements, the independent and external auditors' report and any other relevant documents.

⁶ The announcement of the Congress meeting shall be published in at least one local daily newspaper, at the same date of sending the invitation to the Members.

Article 32 Ordinary Congress agenda

¹ The General Secretary shall draw up the Ordinary Congress agenda based on proposals from the Board of Directors and the Members.

² The Ordinary 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) approval of the minutes of the preceding Congress;
 - g) suspension or expulsion of Members (if applicable);
 - h) presentation of the 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 independent and external auditors reports;
 - 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 Board of Directors in accordance with the procedure stipulated under art. 31 par. 3 of these Statutes;
 - n) appointment of the independent and external auditors (if applicable) upon proposal of the Board of Directors;
 - o) dismissal of a member of a body of the OFA (if applicable);
 - p) election of the President, vice-president and members of the Board of Directors (if applicable);
 - q) elections of the members 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 (more than 50%) 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 Board of Directors may convene an Extraordinary Congress at any time.
- ² The Board of Directors shall convene an Extraordinary Congress if a majority (more than one-third) of the delegates representing the Members of the OFA make such a request in writing, **provided such request fall under the area of authorities of the Congress**. No Member has the right to withdraw its request after having submitting it. The request shall specify the items to be included in the agenda. An Extraordinary Congress shall be held within 15 days of receipt of the latest request. If an Extraordinary Congress is not convened within 15 days from the expiry of the 30 days mentioned above, the delegates representing the Members who requested it may convene the Congress themselves. In doing so, they shall inform all the Members of the OFA and the Board of Directors 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 (including any relevant documents) at least 15 days before the date of an Extraordinary Congress.
- ⁴ When an Extraordinary Congress is convened on the initiative of the Board of Directors, 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 Board of Directors. A proposal submitted by delegates representing a Member is valid, provided it has been supported in writing by at least three (3) 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 three-quarters (3/4) of the delegates representing the Members present and eligible to vote agree to it.

⁵ Should any Member have any observation or comments on the proposed amendments to the Statutes shall submit them to the OFA before (10) days of the Congress convey date.

Article **35** Minutes

¹ 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.

² The minutes of the Congress meeting shall be signed by the Secretary General and the President of the Board of Directors or whoever represent them in the meeting - as the case may be, as per the provisions of these Statutes. The Secretary-General shall send a copy of the meeting minutes after signing it to all Members within (14) fourteen days from the date of the Congress meeting.

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. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Article 37 Composition

- ¹ The Board of Directors shall consist of 9 members as follows:
 - a) 1 President;
 - b) 1 vice-president;
 - c) 1 woman; and
 - d) 6 members.
- ² The President, the vice-president and all other members of the Board of Directors shall be elected by the Congress in accordance with art. 30 of these Statutes. They shall undergo an integrity check (cf. Annexe A), to be conducted by the Electoral Committee, prior to their election or re-election.
- ³ The mandate of the President, vice-president and all other members of the Board of Directors 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. The elections of the new Board of Directors shall take place before the expiry of the four-year term. If the elections cannot be held before the end of that period due to exceptional circumstances or for any legal reason, the Board of Directors shall remain in place until the elections can be held.
- ⁴ No person may serve as President for more than two terms of office (whether consecutive or not). All other members (including the vice-president) of the Board of Directors may serve for no more than two terms of office (whether consecutive or not). ~~Any partial term of office shall count as one full term.~~ The number of terms the candidate has enjoyed in any positions except other than the Chairman shall not be taken into consideration when determining the number of terms permitted for him. Any partial term of office shall count as one full term.
- ⁵ Any position within the Board of Directors shall be considered vacant in case of death, resignation or if the member concerned is permanently prevented from performing his official function.

Article (38): Board of Directors Nomination Conditions

A candidate for the Board of Directors shall meet the following criteria:

1. He shall be an Omani residing in the Sultanate.
2. He shall be an active member for at least two consecutive years in the club or a Member of OFA. His membership must be valid at the time of his nomination.
3. His age shall not be less than (25) twenty-five Gregorian years at the date of submitting the candidacy application. Age shall be proven by any official document.
4. He shall not have been convicted at last instance of a felony or freedom-restricting penalty for a crime involving dishonour or dishonesty.
5. He shall not have been deprived of exercising his civil rights by virtue of a court ruling.
6. He shall have a university qualification not less than a bachelor's degree or its equivalent, or has previously been a member of OFA's Board of Directors or the Board of a club or Member for at least one term, or has previously represented the first national team ~~or former referee or qualified coach (pro)~~.
7. He shall not be a member of an independent committee of OFA on the date of submitting his candidacy.
8. He shall not be serving an enforceable suspension, dismissal, or prohibition penalty of any activity related to football from any of the legal or judicial bodies of the OFA, the AFC, or FIFA.

9. He must not have held or is not holding any position in the Board of Directors of any other national sport association (except the OFA itself) for two consecutive or separate terms. **The number of terms that candidate held whether at other national sport association or at OFA should be counted in determining the number of allowed terms as referred hereunder.**

The provisions of Paragraphs (2) and (7) of First of this Article do not apply to female candidates running for the women's position only.

Article (39): Prohibitions for Board Members:

The President, Vice President and all other members of the OFA Board of Directors are prohibited from:

1. Being a member at the same time in one of the boards of directors of a club, a Member of OFA, another sport federation or sport committee (except the Omani Olympic Committee). If a holder of any of these positions is elected as a member of the Board of Directors, he shall immediately submit his resignation in writing from the relevant entity. He shall also abstain from exercising his duties as a member of the Board of Directors until he submits to OFA General Secretary a written statement stating that his resignation from those positions is valid and enforceable. Failure to do this within 7 days from the date of the elections shall result in the cancelation of his membership in OFA board.
2. For the President, it is not permitted to hold the Chairmanship position of OFA and that of the Omani Olympic Committee at the same time. He/she must resign from the Omani Olympic Committee in accordance with resignation provisions as referred to in clause (1) above.
3. Being a member of an OFA independent committees (i.e. judicial bodies, Electoral Committee, Electoral Appeals Committee, or Audit and Compliance Committee).
4. Being an Official of any club.

Article (40): Filling Vacant Positions

1. **If a position or up to 50% of the positions of the board of directors become vacant as defined in art. 37 par. 5 of the Statutes, the board of directors shall fill the vacant positions for the remaining period of the board term whether by opening the door for candidacy for these vacancies at the nearest ordinary Congress or by holding an extraordinary Congress within (60) days. the board of directors shall fill the vacant position(s) for the remaining period of the board term which shall be confirmed by the next Congress, or, within 45 days, convene an elective Congress.**
2. If more than 50% of the positions of the board of directors become vacant as defined in art. 37 par. 5 of these Statutes, the board is considered dissolved and the Secretary General / Executive Director shall convene an extraordinary Congress within 45 days to elect a new board of directors to complete the electoral term of the dissolved Board.
3. The rules, provisions, and dates for holding the electoral Congress stipulated in these Statutes and the Electoral Code shall be applied.

Article 41 Meetings

- 1 The Board of Directors shall meet at least four times a year. In the event of force majeure or exceptional circumstances, the meeting may take place via available telecommunication technologies, and the necessary approvals can be done by electronic signatures.

² The President shall convene the Board of Directors meetings. If a majority (more than 50%) of the Board of Directors members request a meeting, the President shall convene it so that the meeting is held within 21 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 Board of Directors shall convene it themselves, but must send the agenda to all members of the Board of Directors at least seven (7) 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 Board of Directors is entitled to propose items for inclusion in the agenda. The members of the Board of Directors must submit the items they wish to be included in the agenda for the meeting to the general secretariat at least 14 days before the meeting. The agenda must be sent out to the members of the Board of Directors at least seven days before the meeting.

⁴ The General Secretary shall take part in the meetings of the Board of Directors 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 Board of Directors.

⁵ The meetings of the Board of Directors shall not be held in public. The Board of Directors 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 Board of Directors.

⁶ The President may also convene the Board of Directors on an urgent basis to deal with any matter requiring immediate settlement between two meetings of the Board of Directors. If the members of the Board of Directors cannot meet physically, decisions may be passed through available telecommunication technologies (e.g. zoom, Microsoft Team) as long as the members can hear and see each other simultaneously.

⁷ Any additional responsibilities of the Board of Directors and the way it manages its affairs and is organised may be contained in the Internal Organisation Regulations of the OFA.

Article **4.2** Powers

The Board of Directors shall have the following powers:

- a) 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.
- b) preparing, and convening the Ordinary and Extraordinary Congress.
- c) appointing the chairpersons, deputy chairpersons and members of the standing committees.
- d) deciding to set up ad hoc committees, if necessary, at any time.
- e) approving and issuing the regulations for the organisation of standing committees and ad hoc committees.
- f) appointing or dismissing the General Secretary upon proposal of the President.
- g) proposing the independent and external auditors to the Congress.
- h) appointing replacements for vacancies in the independent committees until the next Congress.
- i) approving and issuing regulations governing the conditions of participation in and the staging of competitions organised by the OFA.
- j) appointing the coaches for the representative teams and other technical staff.
- k) approving and issuing the Internal Organisation Regulations of the OFA.
- l) ensuring that these Statutes are applied and adopting the executive arrangements required for their application.
- m) dismissing a member of a body or suspending a Member of the OFA provisionally until the next Congress;
- n) delegating tasks under its authority to other bodies.
- o) appointing observers who may take part in the Congress without the right to debate or to vote;

- p) developing strategies, programmes and plans, as well as monitor their implementation with the assistance of the General Secretariat.

Article **43** Decisions

- ¹ The Board of Directors shall not engage in valid debate unless a majority (more than 50%) of its members are present.
- ² The Board of Directors 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 Board of Directors 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 Board of Directors shall come into effect immediately, unless the Board of Directors decides otherwise.

Article **44** President

- ¹ The President is primarily responsible for:
 - a) implementing the decisions passed by the Congress and the Board of Directors 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 OFA and its Members, FIFA, the AFC and WAFF, political bodies and other organisations.
- ² Only the President may propose to the Board of Directors the appointment of the General Secretary. The President may however also propose to the Board of Directors the dismissal of the General Secretary.
- ³ The President shall preside over the Congress and the Board of Directors meetings and those committees of which he has been appointed chairperson.
- ⁴ The President shall have an ordinary vote on the Board of Directors. In case of a tie, the President shall have a casting vote.
- ⁵ If the President is absent or unavailable, the vice-president shall deputise.
- ⁶ If the position of the President becomes vacant in the sense of art. 37 par. 8 of these Statutes, the 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 OFA.

Article **45** Representation and signature

The President represents the OFA generally. The Board of Directors shall adopt special provisions in the Internal Organisation Regulations of the OFA regarding the joint signature of office holders.

D. GENERAL SECRETARIAT

Article 46 General secretariat

The general secretariat is the operational and administrative body and shall carry out the work of the OFA under the direction of the General Secretary. The members of the general secretariat are bound by the Internal Organisational Regulations of the OFA and shall fulfil the given tasks in good faith.

Article 47 General Secretary

- ¹ The General Secretary is the chief executive officer of the OFA.
- ² The General Secretary shall be appointed by the Board of Directors 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 Board of Directors in compliance with the President's directives;
 - b) attending the Congress and meetings of the Board of Directors and the standing and ad hoc committees;
 - c) organising the Congress and meetings of the Board of Directors and other bodies;
 - d) compiling the minutes for the meetings of the Congress, Board of Directors and standing and ad hoc committees;
 - e) managing and keeping the accounts;
 - f) the correspondence;
 - g) the relations with the Members, committees, FIFA, the 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;
 - 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 OFA.

1. The General Secretary shall not be a Congress delegate or a member of any other body.
2. The Secretary General may delegate another person from OFA General Secretariat to attend the meetings of the standing committees and any other relevant committees (except the independent committees).

Article (48): Board Office:

1. The Board Office is entrusted with considering and taking decisions on all matters that require an immediate settlement between two meetings of the board of directors. The Board Office consists of OFA President, the vice President, and three members who are chosen from among the members of the board of directors and are appointed by the board for a period of four years.
2. The President convenes the meetings of the Board Office. If the meeting cannot be held within an appropriate period, decisions can be taken by any of the available means of modern communication (e.g. zoom, WhatsApp, emails). These decisions have immediate legal effect, and the President shall inform the board of directors of the decisions taken by the Office immediately.

3. The Board Office may not take any decision except in the presence of at least three of its members, including the President or the Vice President. The Board Office shall take decisions by majority (more than 50%) of valid votes. In case of a tie, the President shall have the casting vote.
4. The Board of Directors shall approve all decisions taken by the Board Office at its next meeting.

E. STANDING COMMITTEES

Article 49 Standing committees

¹ The standing committees are:

- a) Finance Committee;
- b) Organising Committee for OFA Competitions;
- c) Technical and Development Committee;
- d) Referees Committee;
- e) Committee for Women's football;
- f) Players' Status Committee;
- g) Amateur and grassroots committee;
- h) Sports Medical Committee;
- i) Stakeholders Committee;
- j) Legal Committee

² Chairpersons, deputy chairpersons and members of the standing committees may be members of the Board of Directors with the exception of those of the Referees Committee and of the Medical Committee, who may not belong to the Board of Directors. The members of each standing committee shall be appointed by the Board of Directors upon proposal of the Members of the OFA or the President. The Board of Directors shall ensure appropriate female representation on standing committees. The chairpersons, deputy chairpersons and the members of the standing committees shall be designated for a term of office of four years.

³ Each chairperson shall represent his standing committee and conduct business in compliance with the relevant provisions of the Internal Organisation Regulations of the OFA approved by the Board of Directors.

⁴ Each chairperson shall fix the dates of meetings in collaboration with the General Secretary, ensure that all tasks are carried out and report back to the Board of Directors.

⁵ The Board of Directors and each standing committee, the latter with the approval of the Board of Directors, 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 Board of Directors amendments to the relevant provisions of the Internal Organisation Regulations of the OFA that concern its committee.

Article 50 Finance Committee

The Finance Committee shall monitor the financial management and advise the Board of Directors 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 Board of Directors for approval. The chairperson and deputy chairperson shall have experience in financial matters. It shall consist of a chairperson, a deputy chairperson and between three to five members.

Article **51** **Organising Committee for OFA Competitions**

The Organising Committee for the OFA Competitions shall organise the OFA's competitions of association football, futsal and beach soccer at any level within Oman in compliance with the provisions of these Statutes and the regulations applicable to the OFA's competitions. It shall consist of a chairperson, a deputy chairperson and a number of members to be appointed according to the OFA Competitions Regulations.

Article **52** **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 OFA's development programmes, devising and proposing appropriate strategies, monitoring these strategies and analysing the support and programmes provided to the Members of the OFA and providing advice to the Board of Directors on development matters in general. It shall consist of a chairperson, a deputy chairperson and between three to five members.

Article **53** **Referees Committee**

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

Article **54** **Committee for Women's Football**

The Committee for Women's Football shall organise the OFA'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 between three to five members. At least the chairperson and one additional member shall be women.

Article **55** **Players' Status Committee**

¹ The Players' Status 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 OFA. The Board of Directors may approve special regulations governing the Players' Status Committee's powers of jurisdiction. The Players' Status Committee shall consist of a chairperson, a deputy chairperson and between three to five members.

² Players' status disputes involving the OFA, its Members, clubs, players, officials, intermediaries and licensed match agents shall be settled in the last instance by the National Court for Arbitration for Football (CAF) and/or CAS as specified in these Statutes in accordance with these Statutes and subject to any applicable national law.

Article **56** Amateur and Grassroots Committee

The Amateur and Grassroots Committee shall deal with all matters relating to amateur and grassroots within the OFA and its Members. It shall consist of a chairperson, a deputy chairperson and between three to five members.

Article **57** Sports Medical Committee

The Medical Committee shall deal with all medical aspects of Football, including without limitation anti-doping matters. It shall consist of a chairperson, a deputy chairperson and between three to five members. At least the chairperson and the deputy chairperson shall be fully-qualified doctors or medical practitioners.

Article **58** Stakeholders Committee

The Stakeholders Committee shall deal with all aspects and matters related to football stakeholders. It shall consist of a chairperson, a deputy chairperson and between three to five members. The Stakeholders Committee shall be composed in such a way that all relevant football stakeholders in Oman are represented.

Article **59** Legal Committee

The Legal Committee shall deal with all legal and regulatory issues. It shall consist of a chairperson, a deputy chairperson and between three to five members.

Article **60** Ad hoc committees

The Board of Directors may, if necessary, create ad hoc committees for special duties and a limited period of time. The Board of Directors 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 Board of Directors. An ad hoc committee shall report directly to the Board of Directors.

F. CLUB LICENSING BODIES

Article 61 Club licensing bodies

- ¹ The club licensing bodies shall be in charge of the club licensing system within the OFA in accordance with the Club Licensing Regulations of the OFA and the AFC.
- ² The club licensing bodies consist of a first instance body and an appeal body of OFA. It is prohibited for the Board of Directors member be appointed in any of licensing bodies at the same time of his/her membership at the Board of Directors.
- ³ Decisions passed by the club licensing appeal body may only be appealed before the National Court for Arbitration for Football (CAF) and/or CAS as specified in these Statutes in accordance with the provisions in these Statutes.

Article **62** Institutional independence

- ¹ 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 OFA and in accordance with its Statutes and regulations.
 - ² The chairpersons, vice-chairpersons and members of the Audit and Compliance Committee as well as the chairpersons and vice-chairpersons of the electoral committees and of the judicial bodies shall comply with the independence criteria as defined in par. 3 below.
 - ³ The persons mentioned in par. 2 above 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 OFA, one of the OFA'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 OFA, one of the OFA'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, siblings, 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.
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Article **63** Audit and Compliance Committee

- ¹ The Audit and Compliance Committee shall consist of a chairperson, a deputy chairperson and one (1) 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 OFA.
- ² The Audit and Compliance Committee shall advise, assist and oversee the Board of Directors in monitoring the OFA's financial and compliance matters, set up compliance mechanisms and monitor compliance with the relevant regulations of the OFA. 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 OFA'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 OFA.
- 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 OFA.
- ⁴ The chairperson, deputy chairperson and members of 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 OFA and they shall undergo an integrity check, to be conducted by the Electoral Committee, prior to their election or re-election.
- ⁵ 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 Board of Directors shall appoint a replacement to serve until the next Congress.

Article **64** 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 OFA. The electoral committees consist of the Electoral Committee (the first instance body) and the Electoral Appeal Committee

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

Article **65** 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 chairpersons, deputy chairpersons and other members of the judicial bodies shall be elected by the Congress upon proposal of the Board of Directors and shall not be members of any other body of the OFA.

⁵ 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 Board of Directors shall appoint a replacement to serve until the next Congress, in which the Congress shall elect a new member of the respective judicial body for the remaining period.

⁶ The responsibilities and function of the judicial bodies shall be stipulated in the Disciplinary and Ethics Code of the OFA.

Article **66** Disciplinary and Ethics Committee

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

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

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

⁴ The Board of Directors shall issue the Disciplinary and Ethics Code of the OFA, which shall be in accordance with the principles laid down in the FIFA Disciplinary Code and the FIFA Ethics Code.

Article **67** Appeal Committee

- ¹ The function of the Appeal Committee shall be governed by the Disciplinary and Ethics Code of the OFA.
- 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 OFA.
- ³ Decisions pronounced by the Appeal Committee may only be referred to Sports CAS in accordance with the provisions in these Statutes.

The disciplinary measures are primarily:

- ¹ for natural and legal persons:
 - a) a warning;
 - b) a reprimand;
 - c) a fine;
 - d) the return of awards.

- ² for natural persons:
 - a) a caution;
 - b) an expulsion;
 - c) a match suspension;
 - d) a ban from the dressing rooms and/or the substitutes' bench;
 - e) a ban from entering a stadium;
 - f) a ban on taking part in any football-related activity;

- ³ for legal persons:
 - a) a transfer ban;
 - b) playing a match without spectators;
 - c) playing a match on neutral territory;
 - d) a ban on playing in a particular stadium;
 - e) annulment of the result of the match;
 - f) expulsion from a competition;
 - g) a forfeit;
 - h) deduction of points;
 - i) relegation to a lower division;
 - j) replaying a match.

Article **69** National Dispute Resolution Chamber (NDRC)

¹ The National Dispute Resolution Chamber (NDRC) consists of a chairperson, a deputy chairperson and a number of members. The chairpersons and deputy chairpersons of the NDRC shall be qualified to practise law.

² The NDRC is competent to handle disputes between clubs, coaches or players regarding employment and contractual stability as well as those concerning training compensation and solidarity contributions between OFA's clubs.

³ To this end, the Board of Directors shall set up the rules governing the NDRC, taking into account all agreements, laws, particularly with regard to labour law, and/or collective bargaining agreements that exist at national level.

Article **70** National Court of Arbitration for Football (CAF)

¹ Disputes within the OFA or disputes affecting Members of the OFA, 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 OFA) to the National Court of Arbitration for Football (CAF), which shall settle the dispute to the exclusion of any ordinary court, unless expressly prohibited by the legislation in the Sultanate of Oman. CAF is an independent body (outside the umbrella of OFA) and duly constituted and recognised by OFA.

² Without prejudice to any provisions of these Statutes, and/or to the conditions and stipulations in the CAS code, any decision of the CAF shall be appealable before the CAS. The decision of the CAS shall be final and binding.

Article **71** Jurisdiction

¹ The OFA shall have jurisdiction on internal national disputes, i.e. disputes between parties belonging or affiliated to the OFA.

² FIFA and/or the 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 OFA 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.

⁴ Disputes of international dimension arising from or related to the Statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of FIFA or the AFC may only be submitted in the last instance to CAS as specified in the Statutes of FIFA and of the AFC.

⁵ OFA, its Members, players, Officials, match agents and intermediaries shall not take any dispute to Ordinary Courts unless specifically provided for in these Statutes or the FIFA regulations. Any disagreement shall be submitted to the jurisdiction of the OFA, the National Court of Arbitration for Football (CAF) and to CAS.

VIII. FINANCE

Article **72** Financial period

¹ The financial period of the OFA shall be one year and shall begin on 1 January and end on 31 December.

² The revenue and expenses of the OFA shall be managed so that they balance out over the financial period. The OFA'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 OFA with its subsidiaries as at 31 December.

Article **73** Revenue

The revenue of the OFA comprises:

- a) Members' annual subscriptions;
- b) receipts generated by the marketing of rights to which the OFA is entitled;
- c) fines imposed by the authorised bodies;
- d) other subscriptions and receipts in keeping with the objectives pursued by the OFA;
- e) donations;
- f) investments/assets managed by the OFA;
- g) any other revenue related to football activities;
- h) funding from FIFA and from the AFC.
- i) Government funds (if any)

Article **74** Expenses

The OFA shall bear:

- a) the expenses stipulated in the budget;
- b) other expenses approved by the Congress and expenses that the Board of Directors is entitled to incur within the scope of its authority;
- c) all other expenses in keeping with the objectives pursued by the OFA.

Article **75** Independent and external auditors

The independent and external 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 and external auditors shall be appointed for a term of three (3) years. They shall not be appointed for more than one consecutive term.

Article **76** Membership subscriptions

¹ Membership subscriptions are due on 1 January. The annual subscription for new Members for the year in question shall be paid within 30 days of the close of the Congress at which they are admitted.

² The Congress shall fix the amount of the annual subscription every four years on the recommendation of the Board of Directors. It shall be the same for every Member.

Article **77** Settlement

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

Article **78** Levies

The OFA may demand that a levy be paid by its Members for membership.

Article **79** Publication of financial data

The OFA 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.

Article **80** Competitions

- ¹ The OFA shall organise and coordinate the following official competitions held within its territory:
 - a) [to be completed by the association, e.g. championship];
 - b) [to be completed by the association, e.g. cup].
 - ² The Board of Directors may delegate to the OFA'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 OFA. Competitions organised by the OFA shall take priority.
 - ³ The Board of Directors may issue special regulations to this end.
-

Article **81** Club licensing

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

Article **82** Rights

- ¹ The OFA and its Members are the original owner 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, audiovisual 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 Board of Directors shall decide how and to what extent these rights are utilised and shall draw up special regulations to this end. The OFA 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 OFA as well as mandatory national laws.
-

Article **83** Authorisation to distribute

- ¹ The OFA 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 Board of Directors shall issue special regulations to this end.

Article **84** 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 OFA is bound by the international match calendar compiled by FIFA.

Article **85** Contacts

The OFA, 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 **86** Approval

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

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

Article 87 Unforeseen contingencies and force majeure

The Board of Directors 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 the AFC, as well as any applicable mandatory laws.

Article 88 Publication of corporate documents

The OFA 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 issued by the Board/ different committees;
 - f) its strategy;
 - g) agenda for Board of Directors and Congress meetings;
 - h) circular letters.
-

Article 89 Dissolution

¹ Any decision relating to the dissolution of the OFA requires a majority of two thirds of all of the Members of the OFA, which must be obtained at a Congress specially convened for the purpose.

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

Article 90 Enforcement

These Statutes were adopted at the Congress in [to be completed by the association] on [to be completed by the association] and come into force on [to be completed by the association]. The former Statutes of the OFA are hereby repealed.

Article 91 Transitional provisions

¹ The Members as defined under art. 12 of these Statutes, shall be granted a period of 12 months, as from the adoption of these Statutes, to comply with the mandatory requirements stipulated in art. 13 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 Without limiting the foregoing, the Members as defined under art. 12 d) to g) of these Statutes shall only be entitled to vote in the Congress after the next elective Congress, that shall take place after the adoption of these Statutes, provided that they fulfil the mandatory requirements stipulated in art. 13 par. 2, as well as art. 16 par. 1 f), g), j) n) and o) of these Statutes. In the next elective Congress that shall take place after the adoption of these Statutes, the delegate of the Members in question shall not be taken into account when establishing the quorum.
- 3 The validity of article (17) clause (6) shall take effect from the next electoral term.
- 4 The number of electoral terms that the candidate spent before the implementation of these Statutes shall be calculated when determining the number of terms permitted for him.
- 5 The composition of the Board of Directors as defined in art. 37 par. 1 of these Statutes shall only be applicable to the Board of Directors whose membership shall be elected by the Congress after the adoption of these Statutes.
- 6 Upon adoption of these Statutes, the Board of Directors shall appoint the members of the Standing Committees as defined under art. 49 to 59 of these Statutes.
- 7 Within 12 months upon the adoption of these Statutes, the Congress shall elect the relevant members of the independent committees as defined under art. 62 to 67 of the Statutes that are not already in office. Within this same period, the Congress shall also dismiss the relevant members of the independent committees that do not comply with the independence criteria mentioned under art. 62 par. 3 of these Statutes and elect the relevant number of members to fill the positions. Within three (3) months of the Board of Directors election, the elected Board of Directors shall form the independent committees and submit them to the Congress in its next meeting.
- 8 The OFA shall have one year as from the adoption of these Statutes to ensure that its regulations are brought in line with the provisions of these Statutes.

[add place], [add date]

For the Oman Football Association

[name and surname]

President

[name and surname]

General Secretary

ANNEXE A – FLAG, EMBLEM AND LOGO OF THE OFA

Part 1: General provisions

- ¹ The integrity checks with regard to candidates for, and holders of, official positions within the OFA 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 OFA and to the provisions of the Statutes and other regulations of the OFA 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. 23 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 OFA.
- 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. 3 of this annexe.

(Place and date)

(Signature)

Standing Orders of the Congress of the OFA

2021 edition

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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 OFA.

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

- ¹ Members of the OFA shall be represented at the Congress by the delegates as mentioned under art. 26 par. 1 of the Statutes of the OFA.
- ² The names of the delegates shall be submitted to the general secretariat before the opening of the Congress.
- ³ The OFA shall bear the costs of travel and accommodation for the delegates of the Members taking part in the Congress. The Board of Directors shall issue appropriate directives in this connection.

Article 2 Chairperson

- ¹ The President of the OFA shall chair the Congress. If the President is unable to attend, the vice-president available shall deputise and if the vice-president is not present, the longest-serving Board of Directors 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.

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 a member of the Board of Directors designated for this purpose;
 - b) by a representative of the committee designated by the Board of Directors to give such a report or introduction;
 - 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 three (3) 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 OFA shall be conducted according to the relevant provisions of the Statutes and Electoral Code of the OFA.

Article **10** Enforcement

These Standing Orders were adopted at the Congress in [to be completed by the OFA] on [to be completed by the OFA] and come into force on [to be completed by the OFA].

[place], [date]

For the Oman Football Association

[name and surname]
President

[name and surname]
General Secretary