Statutes of
FOOTBALL FEDERATION OF SRI LANKA

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DEFINITIONS

The terms given below denote the following:

FFSL: Football Federation of Sri Lanka

SAFF : South Asian Football Federation

AFC: Asian Football Confederation

FIFA: Fédération Internationale de Football Association.

Association: a football association recognised as such by FIFA and by the relevant confederation. It is a member of FIFA, unless a different meaning is evident from the context.

League: an organisation that is subordinate to an association. (both regional league and institutional league)

Regional League: A subordinate of FFSL that governs football in a territory approved by FFSL

Institutional Member: A subordinate of FFSL that does not cover any geographical territories but act with scope of work approved by FFSL

Regional association: an organisation that is subordinate to an association.

Confederation: a group of associations recognised by FIFA that belong to the same continent (or assimilable geographic region).

Club: a member of 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 Executive Committee), committee member, referee and assistant referee, coach, trainer and any other person responsible for technical, medical and administrative matters in FIFA, a confederation, an association, a league or a club as well as any other persons obliged to comply with the FIFA Statutes (except players and intermediaries). This shall include any elected , non-elected and / or any natural person involved in football affairs of a Member or its subordinates.

Player: a football player licensed by the FFSL.

Congress: the supreme and legislative body of the FFSL.

Executive Committee: the strategic and oversight body of the FFSL.

Member (legal person): a legal person that has been admitted into membership of the FFSL by the Congress by means of regional and institutional league

member (natural person): a natural person that is part of a body of the FFSL and an individual connected to football.

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.

Arbitration tribunal: an independent and duly constituted private court of justice acting instead of an ordinary court.

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

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

Article 1 Legal form, headquarters and trademarks

1 The FFSL is a private organisation of an associative nature registered under the Sports Act 25 of 1973,established in compliance with the legislation of Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka. It is formed for an unlimited period.

2 The headquarters of the FFSL are located in 100/9, Independence Avenue, Colombo 7, Sri Lanka.

3 The FFSL is a member of FIFA, AFC and of SAFF.

4 The flag of the FFSL is the one as per Annexe 1 attached hereto.

5 The logo of the FFSL is the one as per Annexe 2 attached hereto.

6 The abbreviation of the FFSL is FFSL.

7 The flag, logo and abbreviation are legally registered with National Intellectual Property Office (NIPO) of Sri Lanka.

Article 2 Objectives

The objectives of the FFSL are:

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

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

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

d) to protect the interests of its Members;

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

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

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

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

i) to control and supervise all forms of football, futsal and beach soccer matches including all friendly football matches played throughout the territory of Sri Lanka ;

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

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

l) to host competitions at international and other levels;

m) organize and conduct or to recognize a Men's Professional Football League which shall be recognized as the top elite 'club competition' in the country.

n) to organise, regulate and conduct various domestic competitions for youth, women, amateur, recreational, and regional football in collaboration with relevant bodies or Members.

o) to organize 'regional football summits' for every region with the participation of respective Members from the region to understand the needs of the Members and to update the progress of the federation at least twice a year.

Article 3 Human rights

The FFSL 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. This clause shall be applicable to all FFSL Members and to all persons who are covered under these statutes.

Article 5 Neutrality and institutional independence

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

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

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

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

Article 7 Players

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

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

Article 8 Laws of the Game

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

2 Every person and organisation involved in the game of association football, futsal and beach soccer in the territory of the FFSL is obliged to observe the Statutes and regulations of FIFA, of AFC, of the FFSL 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(s) of the FFSL shall be Sinhala, Tamil and English. Official documents and texts shall be written in this/these language(s). In the event of any divergence in the interpretation of texts in different languages, the text written in English shall be authoritative.

2 The official language(s) at the Congress shall be Sinhala, Tamil and English.

II. MEMBERSHIP

Article 11 Admission, suspension and expulsion

1 The Congress shall decide whether to admit, suspend or expel a Member.

2 Admission may be granted if the applicant fulfils the requirements of the FFSL 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 FFSL or other Members of the FFSL, but leads to the loss of all rights in relation to the FFSL.

[4] The FFSL shall ensure that all relevant stakeholders are represented within its Congress. The interests of women's football shall also be adequately represented in the Congress.

Article 12 Members

The Members of the FFSL are:

1.Regional Leagues (Members)

1. Akkaraipattu
2. Ampara
3. Ambalangoda
4. Anuradhapura
5. Badulla
6. Bandarawela
7. Batticaloa
8. Balangoda
9. Beruwela
10. Biyagama
11. City FL
12. Colombo FL
13. Dehiwela Mount Laviniya FL
14. Divulapitiya
15. Embilipitiya FL
16. Galle FL
17. Gampaha FL
18. Gampola FL
19. Hatton FL
20. Hambantota FL
21. Jaffna FL
22. Kalurata FL
23. Kathankudy FL
24. Kalkuda FL
25. Kegalle FL
26. Kilinochchi FL
27. Kinniya FL
28. Kandy FL
29. Kurunegala FL
30. Mannar FL
31. Matale FL
32. Matara FL
33. Mawanella FL
34. Madumanthai West
35. Monaragala FL
36. Mullaitivu FL
37. Mutur FL
38. Nawlapitiya FL
39. Negambo FL
40. Nuwar Eliya FL
41. Oddamavadi FL
42. Point Pedro FL
43. Pollannaruwa FL
44. Polgahawela FL
45. Puttalam FL
46. Ratnapura FL
47. Seethawaka FL
48. Sri Jayawardenapura Kotte FL
49. Trincomalee FL
50. Vavuniya FL
51. Valikamam FL
52. Vadamarachchi FL
53. Wattala FL
54. Wennappuwa
55. Deniyaya FL

2. Institutional Members

1. Civil Security Force FL
2. Government Services Soccer Association (GSSA)
3. Mercantile FL
4. Nationalized Services Soccer Association (NSSA)
5. Playgrounds Football League
6. Sri Lanka Air Force Football League
7. Sri Lanka Army Football League
8. Sri Lanka Football Referees Association
9. Sri Lanka Navy Football League
10. Sri Lanka Police Football League
11. Sri Lanka Schools Football Association
12. Sri Lanka Universities Sports Association
13. Sri Lanka Football Coaches Association

Article 13 Admission

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

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 FFSL, FIFA and 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 FFSL) any dispute of national dimension arising from or related to the Statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of the FFSL only to an independent and duly constituted arbitration tribunal, which shall definitely settle the dispute to the exclusion of any ordinary court, unless expressly prohibited by the legislation in force in Sri Lanka;

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

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

g) a declaration that it is located and registered [if legally required] on the territory of Sri Lanka ;

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) if applicable, a declaration that it undertakes to organise or participate in friendly matches only with the prior consent of the FFSL if it is outside the territory of the Member.

m) if applicable, a declaration that it will play all official home matches on the territory of Sri Lanka;

n) a declaration of football activities conducted by the applicant during last two years to justify the right to be a member of FFSL.

o) a declaration that it will organize and conduct minimum two competitions for their members in line with FFSL directives or policies for recognition by FFSL to renew annual membership of the member with FFSL.

p) if the application is for a regional Membership, a declaration that the applicant represents a region within an approved territory by the FFSL where there is no other member exists.

q) if the application is for any other Membership other than regional leagues, an explanation, and reasons for Membership with relevance to Football and Football Development

Article 14 Request and procedure for application

1 The procedure for admission shall be regulated by special regulations approved by the Executive Committee.

2 The Executive Committee shall request that the Congress either admit an applicant or not. The applicant may state the reasons for its application to the Congress.

3 The new Member shall acquire membership rights and duties as soon as it has been admitted. Its delegates are eligible to vote and be elected with immediate effect.

Article 15 Members' rights

1 The Members of the FFSL 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 FFSL;

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

e) to take part in competitions (if applicable) and/or other sporting activities organised by the FFSL;

f) to exercise all other rights arising from the Statutes and regulations of the FFSL;

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

Article 16 Members' obligations

1 The Members of the FFSL have the following obligations:

a) to comply fully with the Statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of FIFA, AFC, and the FFSL 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 2 years; or for a period approved by the Executive Committee of FFSL

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

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 FFSL may only be referred in the last instance (i.e. after exhaustion of all internal channels within the FFSL) to an independent and duly constituted arbitration tribunal, which shall definitely settle the dispute to the exclusion of any ordinary court, unless expressly prohibited by the legislation in force in Sri Lanka;

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

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

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

j) to communicate to the FFSL 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, AFC and the FFSL.

q) to inform FFSL Secretariat in writing of the annual congress at least 45 days prior to the date of the congress (if applicable).

r) to adopt an electoral process and regulation approved by the FFSL which should be in the statutes of the member.

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

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

Article 17 Suspension

1 The Congress is responsible for suspending a Member. The Executive Committee may, however, temporarily suspend a Member that seriously and/or repeatedly violates its obligations as a Member with immediate effect. The suspension approved by the Executive Committee shall last until the next Congress, unless the Executive Committee has lifted it in the meantime. An inquiry shall be fixed within 60 days from the suspension.

2 The presence of a majority (more than 50%) of the delegates representing the Members eligible to vote is necessary for a suspension to be valid. A suspension of a Member by the Congress or the Executive Committee shall be confirmed at the next Congress by a two third majority of the valid votes cast. If it is not confirmed, the suspension shall be automatically lifted.

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

4 Members that do not participate in the sporting activities of the FFSL for two consecutive years shall be suspended from voting at the Congress and their representatives shall not be elected or appointed until they have fulfilled their obligations in this respect.

5 Members that do not conduct their annual congress or electoral congress within the stipulated time frame without the written approval from the FFSL shall be suspended from voting at the Congress, shall not take part in affairs of FFSL, shall not take part in any football activities and their representatives shall not be elected or appointed until they have fulfilled their obligations in this respect.

Article 18 Expulsion

1 The Congress may expel a Member if it seriously and repeatedly violates the Statutes, regulations directives or decisions of FIFA, AFC and the FFSL.

2 The presence of a majority (more than 50%) of the delegates representing the Members eligible to vote at the Congress is necessary for an expulsion to be valid, and the motion for expulsion must be adopted by a three-quarter majority of the valid votes cast.

Article 19 Resignation

1 A Member may resign with effect from the end of calendar year (for the clearance of doubt, with effect from 31st December)of the concerned year. Notice of resignation must reach the general secretariat no later than three months prior to the resignation date.

2 The resignation is not valid until the Member wishing to resign has fulfilled its financial obligations towards the FFSL 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. FFSL shall be considered as the second party and as the governing body.

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 FFSL.

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

Article 21 Status of clubs, leagues, regional leagues, Institutional Members and other groups of clubs

1 Clubs, leagues regional leagues, Institutional Members or any other groups of clubs affiliated to the FFSL shall be subordinate to and recognised by the FFSL. There shall only be one top-tier national league on the territory of the Sri Lanka which should either conducted by FFSL or an entity approved by FFSL.

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 FFSL. FFSL shall approve the statues of the clubs, league, and of all other members prior to accept as a member or member club. The FFSL 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.

5 All revisions, amendments of the statutes of the entities mentioned in above par.1 shall be first approved by the FFSL prior to the implementation.

III. HONORARY VICE PRESIDENT AND HONORARY MEMBER

Article 22 Honorary Vice President and honorary member

1 The Congress may bestow the title of honorary vice president or honorary member upon any person for meritorious service to football.

2 The Executive Committee shall make these nominations. A representative from Schools Football Association shall be nominated as the Honorary Vice President.

3 The honorary vice president or honorary member may take part in the Congress. They may join the debates but are not entitled to vote.

IV. ORGANISATION

Article 23 Bodies

1 The Congress is the supreme and legislative body.

2 The Executive Committee is the strategic and oversight body.

3 The general secretariat is the executive, operational and administrative body.

4 Standing and ad hoc committees shall advise and assist the Executive Committee and the general secretariat in fulfilling their duties.

5 The club licensing bodies are in charge of the club licensing system within the FFSL.

6 The independent committees fulfil their functions in accordance with these Statutes and applicable regulations. The independent committees are the Audit and Compliance Committee, the electoral committees and the judicial bodies.

7 The Judicial Bodies are the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee and the Appeal Committee.

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

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

Article 24 Dismissal of a member of a body

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

2 The motion for dismissal must be justified and shall be sent to the members of the Executive Committee and/or to the Members of the FFSL along with the respective agenda.

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

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

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

A. CONGRESS

Article 25 Definition and composition

1 The Congress is a meeting at which all of the Members regularly convene. It represents the supreme and legislative authority of the FFSL. 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 At the request of the President, the general secretariat may appoint observers who take part in the Congress without the right to debate or to vote.

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

Article 26 Delegates and votes

1. The Congress shall be composed of 68 numbers of Members. Each Member shall be represented by a maximum of three delegates at the congress.
    - 55 numbers of regional leagues
    - 13 numbers of institutional Members

2. Delegates must belong to the Member that they represent and be appointed or elected by the appropriate body of that Member. They must also be able to produce evidence of this upon request.

3. Each Member shall have one votes* in the Congress. Only the delegates present are entitled to vote. Voting by proxy or by letter is not permitted. (* Transitory Provision Art 83 para 6 apply)

4 The members of the Executive Committee, and General Secretary shall take part in the Congress without** voting rights. During their terms of office, members of the Executive Committee may not** be appointed as delegates to the Congress. (** Transitory Provision Art 83 para 7 shall apply)

Article 27 Areas of authority

The Congress has the following areas of authority:

a) adopting or amending these Statutes, the Electoral Code and the Standing Orders of the Congress;

b) appointing three members to check the minutes and approving the minutes of the last meeting;

c) electing the President, the vice-president(s) and members of the Executive Committee;

d) electing the chairpersons, the deputy chairpersons and members of the independent committees (i.e. electoral committees and judicial bodies), upon proposal of the Executive Committee;

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

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

g) approving the budget;

h) approving the activity report of the preceding year (containing the activities of the FFSL since the last Congress);

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

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

k) bestowing the title of honorary Vice President or honorary member, upon proposal of the Executive Committee

l) admitting, suspending or expelling a Member;

m) dismissing a member of a body of the FFSL;

n) dissolving the FFSL;

o) 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 15 days with the same agenda.

3 A quorum is not required for the second meeting of the Congress unless an item on the agenda proposes the amendment of these Statutes, the election of the President, vice-presidents or members of the Executive

Committee, 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 the FFSL.

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 FFSL and shall be supervised by the Electoral Committee.

3 The election for the positions within the Executive Committee shall take place by list. Any list which does not fill all positions within the Executive Committee shall automatically be rejected by the Electoral Committee forthwith. Any candidate/s which become(s) ineligible as decided by the Electoral Committee or by the Electoral Appeals Committee, such positions shall be filled at an Ordinary or an Extraordinary Congress (whichever comes first) within six months following the elections. If more than 50% of the candidates are ineligible in any one list, such list shall be fully rejected by the Electoral Committees.

4 Every list in the election for the positions within the Executive Committee shall be proposed by at least by one Member and seconded by another Member and shall include at least one female candidate. Each Member shall support one list only. If a Member supports more than one list, none of its expressions of support shall be considered valid.

5 For the election for the positions within the Executive Committee, a majority (more than 50%) of the valid votes cast is necessary for a list to be elected. If there are more than two lists, whichever obtains the lowest number of votes is eliminated after each ballot until only two lists are left.

6 For the election of the chairpersons, deputy chairpersons and members of the independent committees (i.e. 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.

7 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.

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

9 Candidatures for any of the positions of the Executive Committee shall be sent to the general secretariat at least 40 days before the relevant elective Congress. The official list of candidates must be passed to the

Members of the FFSL at least 30 days before the Congress at which the Executive Committee shall be elected. The provisions of this paragraph shall also apply when elections take place during an Extraordinary Congress.

10 Candidatures for any of the positions of the independent committees (i.e. electoral committees and judicial bodies) must be passed to the Members of the FFSL at least 14 days before the Congress at which the members in question shall be elected. Members shall submit the names of the suitable candidature for these independent bodies to the general secretariat at least 30 days prior to the congress.

11 One person shall nominate himself for only one position in the executive committee. In the event if he submit his nomination for two or more positions, all his nominations shall be made null and void and be rejected from the onset.

Article 31 Ordinary Congress

1 The Ordinary Congress shall be held every year.

2 The Executive Committee shall fix the place and date. The Members shall be notified in writing at least 60 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 45 days before the date of the Congress.

4 The formal convocation shall be made in writing at least 14 days before the date of the Congress. This convocation shall contain the agenda, the activity report, the financial statements, the independent and external auditors' report and any other relevant documents.

Article 32 Ordinary Congress agenda

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

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

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

b) approval of the agenda;

c) an address by the President;

d) appointment of Members to check the minutes;

e) appointment of scrutineers;

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

g) approval of the minutes of the preceding Congress;

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

i) presentation of the consolidated and revised balance sheet and the profit and loss statement;

j) approval of the financial statements;

k) approval of the budget;

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

m) discussion of proposals submitted by the Members and the Executive Committee in accordance with the procedure stipulated under art. 31 par. 3 of these Statutes;

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

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

p) election of the President, vice-presidents and members of the Executive Committee (if applicable);

q) elections of the members of the independent committees, i.e. the 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 At the written request of the President, or at the written request of more than 50% of the Executive Committee may convene an Extraordinary Congress at any time.

2 The Executive Committee shall convene an Extraordinary Congress if 2/3 (two-third) of the membership of the FFSL make such a request in writing. The request shall specify the items to be included in the agenda. An Extraordinary Congress shall be held within 30 days of receipt of the request. If an Extraordinary Congress is not convened, the delegates representing the Members who requested it may convene the Congress themselves. In doing so, they shall inform all the Members of the FFSL and the Executive Committee of the date and location of the Extraordinary Congress, along with the items to be included in the agenda in accordance with par. 3 below. As a last resort, Members may request assistance from AFC and FIFA.

3 The Members shall be notified of the place, date and agenda at least 14 days before the date of an Extraordinary Congress.

4 When an Extraordinary Congress is convened on the initiative of the Executive Committee, it must draw up the agenda. When it is convened upon the request of the Members, the agenda must contain the points raised by those Members. A notice of 14 days for the Extraordinary Congress shall be given to eligible Members if such meeting is convened by the Executive Committee.

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

Article 34 Amendments to the Statutes, Electoral Code and Standing Orders of the Congress

1 The Congress is responsible for amending these Statutes, the FFSL Electoral Code and the FFSL Standing Orders of the Congress.

2 Any proposals for an amendment to these Statutes, the FFSL Electoral code, FFSL Standing Orders of the Congress must be submitted in writing with a brief explanation to the general secretariat by a FFSL Member or by the Executive Committee. A proposal submitted by a Member is valid, provided it has been supported in writing by at least two other Members of FFSL. If a Member or Members proposes to submit any amendments to the statutes, electoral code and/or standing orders, they shall submit the same to the secretariat before 45 days before the congress. Executive committee through Secretariat shall submit any proposal for amendments before 14 days of the congress.

3 For a vote on an amendment to these Statutes, the FFSL Electoral Code, FFSL 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, the FFSL Electoral Code, FFSL Standing Orders of the Congress shall be adopted only if three-quarters of the delegates representing the Members present and eligible to vote agree to it.

Article 35 Minutes

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

Article 36 Effective dates of decisions

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

B. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Article 37 Composition

1 The Executive Committee shall consist of 14 members as follows:
a) 1 President
b) 4 Vice presidents
c) 8 Executive Committee Members, at least one of them shall be woman.
d) 1 honorary vice president from the Schools Association (appointed)

2 The President, the vice-president(s) and the other members of the Executive Committee shall be elected by the Congress in accordance with art. 30 of these Statutes.

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

4 Except for the above one female member positions, all other candidates to the Executive Committee shall have already been in active football in the past four years through an existing Member affiliated with a FFSL. A candidate who has received any sanctions locally or internationally on grounds of match fixing, or doping is not eligible. Also a candidate to whom a sanction has been imposed by FIFA, AFC or FFSL is not eligible. Additionally, all candidates to the Executive Committee shall fulfil the prerequisites stipulated in art. 23 par. 8 of these Statutes. All candidates shall be either a delegate to the congress concerned to become eligible or a member of the existing executive committee who seeks a re-election for any post.

A person shall become ineligible to be elected for any posts if he/she is prevented from being elected as per the 'eligibility criteria" published in paragraph 11 in this article or by any applicable laws in Sri Lanka.

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

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

7 If more than 50% of the positions of the Executive Committee become vacant, the General Secretary shall convene an Extraordinary Congress within the prescribed period of time.

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

9 Should there be no candidate for the female member positions in the Executive Committee, the Executive Committee shall fill up the relevant positions with a female member(s) until the next Congress, which will elect for the remaining period of office the female member temporarily chosen by the Executive Committee or any other female candidate running for elections in line with art. 30 above.

10 In addition, such female member positions in the Executive Committee shall not prevent any other women from applying to the other positions within the Executive Committee of the FFSL.

11 A person shall be disqualified from being elected, appointed or otherwise to hold or continue to hold any paid or unpaid office or to hold any paid or unpaid post or to be a member of the Executive Committee of FFSL or to be nominee of an affiliated club or organization for the elections for any position of the Executive Committee if he is prevented by any prevailing legislation or laws of the country.

Article 38 Meetings

1 The Executive Committee shall meet at least five times a year.

2 The President shall convene the Executive Committee meetings. If more than 50% of the Executive Committee members request a meeting, the President shall convene it so that the meeting is held within 14 days of the receipt of the request. If the President does not convene the requested meeting by the aforementioned deadline, the other members of the Executive Committee shall convene it themselves, but must send the agenda to all members of the Executive Committee at least three days before the meeting in line with par. 3 below.

3 The President, assisted by the general secretariat, shall compile the agenda. Each member of the Executive Committee is entitled to propose items for inclusion in the agenda. The members of the Executive Committee must submit the items they wish to be included in the agenda for the meeting to the general secretariat at least fourteen days before the meeting. The notice and agenda must be sent out to the members of the Executive Committee at least seven days before the meeting. Emergency meetings shall be convened by the president with notice less than seven days.

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

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

6 The President may also convene the Executive Committee on an urgent basis to deal with any matter requiring immediate settlement between two meetings of the Executive Committee. If the members of the Executive Committee cannot meet physically, decisions may be passed through other modern means of written communication (e.g. emails or messaging apps, video / virtual technologies).

7 If the members of the Executive Committee cannot meet physically for unforeseen reasons, the meeting can be held via video conferencing / on line platform (virtual) and all business of this video conferencing meeting shall be accepted as a normal (formal) meeting.

Article 39 Powers

The Executive Committee 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, with the assistance of the general secretariat, 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 the General Secretary upon proposal of the President. The General Secretary may be dismissed by the Executive Committee with prior 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 FFSL.

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

k) approving and issuing the Internal Organisation Regulations of the FFSL.

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 FFSL 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) suspend any person who brings disrepute to the game or to the federation in media or through any means. Such suspension shall be valid until its lifted by the Executive Committee.

Article 40 Decisions

1 The Executive Committee shall not engage in valid debate unless 50% or more of its members are present.

2 The Executive Committee shall reach decisions by a majority (more than 50%) of the valid votes cast. Voting by proxy is not permitted. Executive Committee may approve decision through communications in between two meetings. Such decisions shall be included in the agenda of the immediate next Executive Committee Meeting.

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

4 The decisions taken shall be recorded in the minutes.

5 The decisions taken by the Executive Committee shall come into effect immediately, unless the Executive Committee decides otherwise.

C. PRESIDENT

Article 41 President

1 The President is primarily responsible for:

a) implementing the decisions passed by the Congress and the Executive Committee through the general secretariat;

b) ensuring the effective functioning of the bodies in order that they achieve the objectives described in these Statutes;

c) supervising the work of the general secretariat;

d) the relations between the FFSL and its Members, FIFA, AFC, SAFF, political bodies and other organisations.

e) Approving any decisions or activities by the general secretariat or by any committees for implementation.

(f) taking appropriate steps to create positive impact on development and operations of FFSL.

2 Only the President may propose to the Executive Committee the appointment of the General Secretary. The President may however also propose the dismissal of the General Secretary if requested by the Executive Committee.

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

4 The President shall have an ordinary vote on the Executive Committee.

5 If the President is absent or unavailable, the longest-serving vice-president available shall deputise and if no vice-president is present, the longest-serving Executive Committee member.

6 If the position of the President becomes vacant in the sense of art. 37 par. 8 of these Statutes, the longest-serving 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 FFSL.

Article 42 Representation and signature

The President represents the FFSL generally. The Executive Committee shall adopt special provisions in the Internal Organisation Regulations of the FFSL regarding the joint signature of office holders.

D. GENERAL SECRETARIAT

Article 43 General secretariat

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

Article 44 General Secretary

1 The General Secretary is the Chief Executive and responsible for the executive functions of the FFSL.

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

3 The General Secretary shall be responsible for:

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

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

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

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

e) managing and keeping the accounts;

f) correspondence;

g) the relations with the Members, committees, FIFA and AFC, 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 FFSL.

5. The General Secretary shall not be a Congress delegate or a member of any other body, but shall take part in all meetings at consultative and ex-officio role.

E. STANDING COMMITTEES

Article 45 Standing committees

1 The standing committees are:

a) Finance Committee;

b) Organising Committee for the FFSL Competitions;

c) Technical and Development Committee;

d) Referees Committee;

e) Committee for Women's Football;

f) Players' Status Committee

g) Member Services Committee

2 Chairpersons, and deputy chairpersons of the standing committees may be members of the Executive Committee with the exception of those of the Referees Committee, who may not belong to the Executive Committee. The members of each standing committee shall be appointed by the Executive Committee upon proposal of the Members of the FFSL or the President. The Executive Committee 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 FFSL approved by the Executive Committee.

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 Executive Committee.

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

6 Each standing committee may propose to the Executive Committee amendments to the relevant provisions of the Internal Organisation Regulations of the FFSL that concern its committee.

Article 46 Finance Committee

The Finance Committee shall monitor the financial management and advise the President, General Secretary and the Executive Committee on financial matters and asset management. It shall analyse the budget and the financial statements prepared by the General Secretary and submit them to the Executive Committee for approval. It shall consist of a chairperson, a deputy chairperson and five members. . All members shall possess professional qualification and/or minimum experience in finance. The minimum qualification and experience shall be specified in the organisation regulation.

Article 47 Organising Committee for the FFSL Competitions

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

Top Tier Competitions or Top tier league shall be governed by a separate entity or body determined in the regulation of the top-tier competition.

Article 48 Technical and Development Committee

The Technical and Development Committee shall primarily analyse the basic aspects of football training and technical development in football. It shall work with technical department of FFSL in proposing, strategizing development programmes, devising and proposing appropriate strategies, monitoring these strategies and analysing the support and programmes provided to the Members of the FFSL and providing advice to the Executive Committee on development matters in general. It shall consist of a chairperson, a deputy chairperson and seven members.

Article 49 Referees Committee

The Referees Committee shall implement the Laws of the Game. It shall appoint the referees for matches in competitions organised by the FFSL, organise refereeing matters within the FFSL in collaboration with the administration and monitor the education and training of referees. It shall consist of a chairperson, a deputy chairperson and five members, all of whom shall be ex-referees. At least two members of this committee shall be from the Sri Lanka Referees Association.

Article 50 Committee for Women's Football

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

Article 51 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 FFSL. The Executive Committee 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 five members.

2 Players' status disputes involving the FFSL, its Members, clubs, players, officials, intermediaries and licensed match agents shall be settled in the last instance by an independent and duly constituted arbitration tribunal in accordance with these Statutes and subject to any applicable national law.

Article 52 Member Services Committee

1 Members Services Committee shall deal with all matters related to regulate, manage and support the Members of FFSL. This committee shall work through the Member Service Department to execute its activities. Any dispute among Members shall be resolved by this committee. It shall consist of a Chairperson, deputy chairperson and five members who are from the Members leagues.

Article 53 Ad hoc committees

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

F. CLUB LICENSING BODIES

Article 54 Club licensing bodies

1 The club licensing bodies shall be in charge of the club licensing system within the FFSL in accordance with the Club Licensing Regulations of the FFSL and AFC.

2 The club licensing bodies consist of a first instance body and an appeal body.

3 Decisions passed by the club licensing appeal body may only be appealed before CAS.

V. INDEPENDENT COMMITTEES

Article 55 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 FFSL and in accordance with its Statutes and regulations.

2 The chairperson and deputy chairperson of the independent committees 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 FFSL, one of the FFSL'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 FFSL, one of the FFSL's Members, a league or a club (including any of their affiliated companies/organisations). "Immediate family member" shall mean, with respect to a person, such person's spouse or domestic partner, parents, grandparents, uncles, aunts, children (including any stepchild or adopted child), grandchildren, son-, daughter-, father- or mother-in-law, and including anyone else, whether by blood or otherwise, with whom the individual has a relationship akin to a family relationship for which such person provides financial support.

Article 56 Audit and Compliance Committee

1 The Audit and Compliance Committee shall ensure the completeness and reliability of the financial accounting and review the financial statements, the consolidated financial statement and the independent and external auditors' reports. The Audit and Compliance Committee shall consist of a chairperson, a deputy chairperson and three members. 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 FFSL.

2 The Audit and Compliance Committee shall advise, assist the President and oversee the Executive Committee in monitoring the FFSL's financial and compliance matters, set up compliance mechanisms and monitor compliance with the relevant regulations of the FFSL. 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 FFSL'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 FFSL.

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 FFSL.

4 The chairperson, deputy chairperson and members of the Audit and Compliance Committee shall be elected / or appointed by the Congress for a period two years and may only be relieved of their duties by the Congress. They shall not belong to any other body of the FFSL, prior to their election or re-election and shall fulfil the independence requirements contained in par. 5 below.

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 Executive Committee shall appoint a replacement to serve until the next Congress.

Article 57 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 FFSL. The electoral committees consist of the Electoral Committee (the first instance body) and the Election Appeal Committee (the second instance body).

2 The composition and function of the electoral committees shall be governed by the Electoral Code of the FFSL in accordance with these Statutes.

Article 58 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 / or appointed by the Congress upon proposal of the Executive Committee and shall not be members of any other body of the FFSL.

5 The chairpersons and deputy chairpersons of the judicial bodies shall fulfil the independence criteria that are stipulated in art. 56 par. 5 of these Statutes.

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

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

Article 59 Disciplinary and Ethics Committee

1 The function of the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee shall be governed by the Disciplinary and Ethics Code of the FFSL and or of FIFA

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

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

4 The Executive Committee shall issue the Disciplinary and Ethics Code of the FFSL, which shall be in accordance with the principles laid down in the FIFA Disciplinary Code and the FIFA Ethics Code. In the event if FFSL does not have a Disciplinary and Ethics Code, FIFA's Disciplinary and Ethics Code shall apply until such code is implemented by FFSL.

Article 60 Appeal Committee

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

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 FFSL.

3 Decisions pronounced by the Appeal Committee may only be referred to an independent and duly constituted arbitration tribunal in accordance with the provisions in these Statutes.

VI. DISCIPLINARY MEASURES

Article 61 Disciplinary measures

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;
- g) social work;
- h) compliance training.

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.

VII. ARBITRATION

Article 62 Arbitration

1 Disputes within the FFSL or disputes affecting Members of the FFSL, 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 FFSL) to Sri Lanka National Arbitration Centre, which shall settle the dispute definitively to the exclusion of any ordinary court, unless expressly prohibited by the legislation in Sri Lanka.

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

Article 63 Jurisdiction

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

2 FIFA and/or AFC shall have jurisdiction on international disputes, i.e. disputes between parties belonging to different associations and/or confederations, in accordance with the relevant regulations.

3 The FFSL 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, the arbitration tribunal recognised by the FFSL or CAS.

4 The FFSL shall accept the jurisdiction of the country's law in case of matters related to fraud, financial misappropriation, doping or drug related matters, match fixing or manipulation etc.

VIII. FINANCE

Article 64 Financial period

1 The financial period of the FFSL shall be one year and shall begin on 1st January of each year and end on by 31st December of the same year.

2 The revenue and expenses of the FFSL shall be managed so that they balance out over the financial period. The FFSL's major duties in the future shall be guaranteed through the creation of reserves.

3 The General Secretary along with Finance Department are responsible for drawing up the annual consolidated accounts of the FFSL with its subsidiaries as at 31st of December.

Article 65 Revenue

The revenue of the FFSL comprises:

a) Members' annual subscriptions;
b) receipts generated by the marketing of rights to which the FFSL is entitled;
c) fines imposed by the authorised bodies;
d) other subscriptions and receipts in keeping with the objectives pursued by the FFSL;
e) donations;
f) any other revenue related to football activities;
g) funding from FIFA and from AFC.
h) Income from subsidiaries (if any) through revenue generation activities.

Article 66 Expenses

The FFSL shall bear:

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

Article 67 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 period of one year. Their mandate may be renewed.

Article 68 Membership subscriptions

1 Membership subscriptions are due on 31st March each year. 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. Annual Subscription for every member shall be LKR 2,000/- , unless otherwise changed by the congress.

Article 69 Settlement

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

Article 70 Levies

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

Article 71 Publication of financial data

1 The FFSL shall publish on its Annual Report 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 and distributed to its Members , Sponsors and relevant parties.

IX. COMPETITIONS AND RIGHTS IN COMPETITIONS AND EVENTS

Article 72 Competitions

1 The FFSL shall organise and coordinate the following official competitions held within its territory:
a) Top League competition (professional league and second league may be operated by a separate entity)
b) Amateur League Competitions at different levels (e.g: Div 1, 2 or 3)
c) Knockout or Cup Competitions
d) Women competitions
f) Youth / Age Group Competitions
g) Regional Level Competitions
h) Futsal and Beach Soccer competitions for all levels

2 The Executive Committee may delegate to the FFSL's subordinate leagues the authority to organise domestic 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 FFSL. Competitions organised by the FFSL shall take priority.

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

Article 73 Club licensing

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

Article 74 Rights

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

2 The Executive Committee shall decide how and to what extent these rights are utilised and shall draw up special regulations to this end. The FFSL 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 FFSL as well as mandatory national laws.

Article 75 Authorisation to distribute

1 The FFSL 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.

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

X. INTERNATIONAL MATCHES AND COMPETITIONS

Article 76 International matches, competitions and other domestic football events

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 FFSL is bound by the international match calendar compiled by FIFA.

3 Any competition, matches, or football activities organized by any person, organization or entities shall be approved by the FFSL secretariat in writing. Any persons taking part in such matches or event which not approved by the FFSL shall be subject to disciplinary sanctions.

4 Any Member league or member organizes a competition, a match or a football event outside its own territory or involving participants from another member or territory shall obtain a prior written approval from the FFSL Secretariat. FFSL may impose any levy on such matches or events.

Article 77 Contacts

The FFSL, 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 78 Approval

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

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

Article 79 Unforeseen contingencies and force majeure

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

Article 80 Publication of corporate documents

The FFSL may make available on its official website the following documents and information:

a) Statutes and Standing Orders of the Congress;
b) Electoral Code;
c) Disciplinary and Ethics Code;
d) Internal Organisation Regulations;
e) most important/key decisions;
f) its strategy;
g) agenda for Executive Committee and Congress meetings;
h) circular letters;
i) Competition Regulations
j) Corporate Structure
k) results of national team games and domestic games
l) Any other information duly approved by the Executive Board
m) reports of national team games, domestic games and technical reports
nl) regulation governing Membership and procedures to admit or expel a Member
l) Club Licensing Manual

Article 81 Dissolution

1 Any decision relating to the dissolution of the FFSL requires a majority of three fourth (3/4) of all of the Members of the FFSL, which must be obtained at a Congress specially convened for the purpose.

2 If the FFSL is disbanded, its assets shall be transferred to 'trust foundation' especially established for this purpose. It shall hold these assets as a trustee in accordance with the relevant professional duties until the FFSL is re-established. The final Congress may, however, choose another recipient for the assets on the basis of a three fourth (3/4) majority.

Article 82 Enforcement

These Statutes were adopted at the Extraordinary Congress in Sri Lanka on 22 September 2022 and come into force on 22 September 2022. The former Statutes of the FFSL are hereby repealed.

Article **83** **Transitory provisions**

1. The Members as defined under art. 12 of these Statutes, shall be granted a time period determined by the Executive Committee (this shall not exceed 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 In result of the adoption of this new statute, the appointment of the electoral committee shall take place at the same Extraordinary General Meeting in which this statute is approved in line with prevailing Sports Regulations of Sri Lanka. This provision shall cease to end upon completion of the upcoming election of the next Executive Committee in 2022. A new electoral committees shall be appointed at the next congress in line with the new statutes.

4 Within 12 months upon the adoption of these Statutes, the Congress shall elect the relevant members of the independent committees as defined under art. 54 to 59 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. 54 of these Statutes and elect the relevant number of members to fill the positions.

4 The term limits as defined in art. 37 par. 3 of these Statutes shall only apply as from the elections of the members of the Executive Committee which shall take place following the adoption of these Statutes.

5 Article 30 of this statutes shall be read with this transitory clause in terms of the first elections in 2022 upon adoption of this new statutes.

In order to comply with the agreed **roadmap** (annexure – 3) , the current executive committee may at its discretion convene an extraordinary congress to elect the new office bearers for the new term. This extraordinary congress shall only carry the agenda of election of the new President and members of the executive committee. Such extraordinary congress shall adopt the timelines stipulated in the roadmap (annexure – 3) as an exceptional case only for the new election after the adoption of this statues and this clause shall cease to end upon completion of the immediate next election.

- To implement the **roadmap** agreed between the Ministry of Sports and Youth Affairs , FIFA, FFSL and National Sports Council. The said road map is enclosed here as annexure – 3 to these statutes as an ad hoc document.

6 As a derogation of art. 26 para 3 of these statutes, each Member shall have three delegates each of them having one vote. This shall be applicable only for the upcoming 2022 election of the FFSL Executive Committee.

7. As a derogation of art. 26 para 4 of these statutes, the members of the Executive Committee and the General Secretary shall take part in the Congress **with** voting rights. During their terms of office, members of the Executive Committee **may be** appointed as delegates to the Congress. This shall be applicable only for the upcoming 2022 election of the FFSL Executive Committee.

Colombo, Sri Lanka, [22 September 2022]

For the FFSL

Jaswar Umaru Lebbe
President

Upali Hewage
Secretary General

Annexure – 1 : Flag of FFSL



Annexure – 2 : Logo of FFSL

