

**ELECTORAL CODE OF THE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION OF THAILAND UNDER
THE PATRONAGE OF HIS MAJESTY THE KING**

B.E. 2565

PREAMBLE

Whereas the positions of President, Vice President, and members of the Executive Committee and members of the Independent Committee of the Football Association of Thailand under the Patronage of His Majesty the King are filled by election, as stipulated in Statutes of FA Thailand which are in line with the Statutes of FIFA and AFC. The issuance of this Electoral Code is to ensure the transparency and integrity of the election of the above-mentioned positions.

Police General



(Somyot Poompanmoung)

President of the Football Association of Thailand

Under the Patronage of His Majesty the King

DEFINITIONS

In this Electoral Code:

Committee	means Electoral Committee
Committee member	means Electoral Committee as well as the Chairperson, Vice Chairperson and substitute members.
Voter	means a representative of a member entitled to vote at the Congress pursuant to the FA Thailand Statutes.
Election	means an election of the President, Vice President, member of the Executive Committee and member of the Independent Committees.
Candidate	means an individual nominated in accordance with the Association Statutes to stand for election for the position of President, Vice President, member of the Executive Committee and member of the Independent Committee.
Ballot Paper	means a paper used for voting in a ballot.
Scrutineer	means an individual appointed by the Congress to examine ballot papers.

Any definitions not provided for in this Electoral Code shall be referred to the Statutes of FA Thailand.

SECTION 1

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1. Scope of Application

This Electoral Code is applicable to the elections of the President, Vice President, members of the Executive Committee and Independent Committees as defined in the Statutes of FA Thailand under the Patronage of His Majesty the King (“Association”).

This Electoral Code is also applicable to the elections of the members of the relevant bodies of the Members of FA Thailand, unless expressly prohibited by the legislation in force in Thailand, if their statutes specifically stipulate this. The Statutes of the Members of FA Thailand shall define the exact scope of application of this Electoral Code and in particular if the Electoral Committee of FA Thailand shall supervise the relevant electoral process.

Article 2. Principles and obligations

2.1 General good governance principles, such as the separation of powers, independence, transparency, and the obligation to avoid situations of conflicts of interest shall be observed without exception throughout the entire electoral process.

2.2 The electoral rules and guidelines shall be made available by FA Thailand in a clear and unambiguous manner within the relevant time frame provided for in the Statutes of FA Thailand

2.3 Any undue influence from third parties in the electoral process shall not be permitted.

2.4 FA Thailand shall ensure that any electoral rules and guidelines of its bodies are in line with the provisions of this Electoral Code, the Statutes of FA Thailand as well as the Statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of FIFA and AFC.

2.5 FA Thailand shall, at least thirty (30) days before the date of the relevant elections, inform FIFA and AFC about the nature of the elections (i.e. number of members to be elected, duration of mandates, reason for the elections, etc.) and provide FIFA and AFC with a copy of its valid Electoral Code.

2.6 FA Thailand shall immediately inform FIFA and AFC of any undue influence from third parties in the electoral process.

2.7 Unless stated otherwise in the Statutes and regulations of FA Thailand, the members of the Executive Committee shall continue to exercise their functions until the completion of the registration with the Registrar Office, however, the independent committee of FA Thailand shall continue to exercise their functions until the completion of the electoral process.

2.8 The Electoral rules and guidelines shall be made available by FA Thailand in a clear unambiguous manner to the public.

SECTION 2

ELECTORAL COMMITTEE

Article 3. Basic principles

3.1 The Electoral Committee shall supervise the electoral process in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Statutes of FA Thailand and of this Electoral Code.

3.2 The members of the Electoral Committee shall not be members of any other body of FA Thailand and may not hold any position in any government body. Members of the Electoral Committee may not be candidates for any of the positions to be filled within FA Thailand as long as they are still under mandate.

3.3 The members of the Electoral Committee shall immediately withdraw from the matter in progress and refrain from taking any decision if:

3.3.1 they are an immediate family member of one of the candidates running for any of the positions to be filled.

3.3.2 if there is a risk or possibility of a conflict of interest as defined in the Disciplinary code of FA Thailand.

3.4 In the event that a member of the Electoral Committee fall under any of the above criteria (art. 3.3) and/or has to step down as member of the Electoral Committee for any reason he or she shall be partially replaced by the substitute member in that matter.

3.5 The members of the Electoral Committee shall be appointed by the Congress.

3.6 The members of the Electoral Committee shall act in good faith at all times and observe the utmost impartiality when carrying out their duties as well as in accordance with the Statutes of FA Thailand.

Article 4. Composition

4.1 The Electoral Committee shall be composed as follows:

- a chairperson;
- a vice-chairperson;
- Three (3) ordinary members.

The members of the Electoral Committee shall appoint one (1) member as the Chairperson and one (1) member as Vice-chairperson. The Chairperson of the Electoral Committee shall be qualified to practice law.

4.2 There shall be three (3) substitutes whom shall also be appointed by the Congress.

4.3 If the chairperson is absent or unavailable, the vice-chairperson shall deputize, and if he too is absent or unavailable, then the ordinary members shall select one of an ordinary member to deputize. Any ordinary member who is absent or unavailable shall be replaced by a substitute.

4.4 The Electoral Committee shall appoint one of its members as a secretary, who shall be responsible for relevant logistical and administrative matters.

4.5 Members of the Electoral Committee shall have the following qualifications:

- 4.5.1 Must be Thai citizen by birth.

- 4.5.2 Must be of legal age.
- 4.5.3 Must have a bachelor's degree or equivalent.
- 4.5.4 Must not be a member or representative of a legal person that are entitled to vote;
- 4.5.5 Must not be a drug addict;
- 4.5.6 Must not be or have been adjudged bankrupt;
- 4.5.7 Must not be an incompetent or quasi-incompetent person;
- 4.5.8 Must never have been sentenced by final judgement to imprisonment, except negligence or petty offence;
- 4.5.9 Must never have been sentence by final judgment for election fraud.
- 4.5.10 Must never have committed a corruption offence in relation to the Association;
- 4.5.11 Must never have committed any act or neglected to perform duties to the extent that derogates the Association;
- 4.5.12 Must never have been charged by the Association for any offence and regardless of whether the final judgement has been passed by a court;
- 4.5.13 Must not hold any position in any government body;
- 4.5.14 Must not be members of any other body of FA Thailand
- 4.5.15 Must not be blood-related or spouse of candidature.
- 4.5.16 Must not be candidate.

Article 5. General duties of the Electoral Committee

5.1 Convening and organizing the Elective Congress for the elections of the President, Vice Presidents, members of the Executive Committee and members of the Independent Committees as per stipulated in the Statutes of FA Thailand.

5.2 Responsible for all tasks relating to the organization, running and supervision of the elections which shall be free and fair and in accordance with these Electoral Code, Statutes of FA Thailand and directives of FIFA. The Electoral Committee shall be responsible for:

- 5.2.1 eligibility check of candidates;
- 5.2.2 drawing up the list of candidates and publication of official list;
- 5.2.3 drawing up the list of voters (delegates);
- 5.2.4 producing the ballot papers, ballot box, voting booth and on election day, handing the ballot paper to the scrutineers (appointed by the Congress on election day);
- 5.2.5 monitoring and overseeing voting and counting procedures;
- 5.2.6 passing a definitive decision on any matters relating to ballot paper, voting and counting procedures;
- 5.2.7 monitoring, supervising and preparing a report on the result of the elections;
- 5.2.8 declaring the official results;

- 5.2.9 informing the public essential information concerning the elections;
- 5.2.10 managing relations with relevant organization;
- 5.2.11 ensuring that the electoral rules and guidelines of the bodies of FA Thailand are in line with the provisions of this Electoral Code and the Statutes of FA Thailand as well as the Statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of FIFA and the AFC.
- 5.2.12 In order for the Election to achieve its objective the Electoral Committee may call upon the General Secretariat to assist on the organization of the election as well as to prepare necessary document for the registration of the new and/or the amendment of the list of Executive Committee members. The General Secretary shall sign the necessary document to be submitted to the Sports Authority of Thailand.

5.3 The expenses incur for the organization of the election shall be borne by FA Thailand to the Electoral Committee. The payment procedure shall be in accordance with the financial policy of FA Thailand.

5.4 The Electoral Committee member shall receive the meeting remuneration as follows;

5.4.1 Chairperson	3,500	Thai Baht per meeting
5.4.2 Vice-Chairperson	3,000	Thai Baht per meeting
5.4.3 Member	2,500	Thai Baht per meeting

Article 6. Meetings, quorum and decisions

6.1 The Chairperson shall convene the meetings of the Electoral Committee. Only an Electoral Committee that has been duly convened has the authority to deliberate and pass decisions.

6.2 The presence of more than fifty (50%) of the member shall constitute a quorum.

6.3 The Electoral Committee shall reach its decisions by a majority (more than 50%) of the valid votes cast. Voting by proxy or by letter is not permitted. In the event of a tied vote, the chairperson shall have the casting vote.

6.4 The decisions taken shall be recorded in minutes signed by the chairperson and the secretary of the Electoral Committee.

Article 7. Election for the Electoral Committee

7.1 The Executive Committee shall announce the opening for the candidates of the Electoral Committee at least seventy-five (75) days before the Congress in which the electoral committee will be elected in order to propose the list of candidates for the elected by the Congress.

7.2 The interested candidates shall submit their candidature to the General Secretariat at least sixty (60) days before the Elective Congress.

7.3 The General Secretary shall inform the agenda of the election of the Electoral Committee to all members, FIFA and the AFC at least ten (10) days before the Elective Congress.

7.4 In the event that there is no candidate or insufficient number of candidates, the Congress shall recruit and appoint in order to complete the seat in the Electoral Committee.

7.5 The election procedure shall be in accordance with the article 11.

Article 8. Term of the Electoral Committee

The Electoral Committee shall serve a term of four (4) years, commencing from the date on which they were appointed by the Congress. No member of the Electoral Committee shall serve for more than two (2) terms of office, whether consecutive or not. In case the term of the Electoral Committee concluded, they shall carry out their respective duties until the new Electoral Committee has been appointed by the Congress.

SECTION 3 CANDIDATURES

Article 9. Submission and examination of candidatures for the Executive Committee

9.1 The Executive Committee shall decide the date of the Elective Congress and notify the Members at least seventy-five (75) days prior to the date of the elections.

9.2 Only Members of the Association are entitled to nominate candidates for the President, Vice-Presidents and members of the Executive Committee. Nomination of the Candidates shall be submitted in writing to the General Secretariat at least sixty (60) days prior to the date of the elective Congress.

9.3 Candidates shall submit an application form and all relevant documentary evidence to the General Secretariat at least sixty (60) days prior to the date of the elective Congress.9.4 Upon receipt of the documents specified in art 9.3, the General Secretariat shall immediately forward the documents to the Secretary of the Electoral Committee for eligibility and integrity checks.

9.5 Within fifteen (15) days after receiving the documents from the candidates, the Electoral Committee shall inform those candidates who have failed to provide all the relevant documents in support of their candidatures and grant them another three (3) days upon being informed to complete their applications.

9.6 The Electoral Committee shall decide on the eligibility and integrity of the Candidates and inform them the result of the relevant checks at least thirty (30) days prior to the date of the elective Congress.

9.7 The General Secretariat or the General Secretary shall notify the Members, the official list of Candidates for the positions of President, Vice President, and Committee members at least thirty (30) days prior to the date of the elective Congress. The official list of candidates shall be published to the public and if required it shall be forwarded to relevant government unit.

Article 10. Appeal procedure for candidates for the Executive Committee

10.1 Appeals against decisions of the Electoral Committee may be lodged only with the Appeal Committee of the Judicial Bodies, to the general secretariat within three (3) days after being informed of the decision of the Electoral Committee, thereby precluding the possibility of appealing said decisions before any other body, particularly a government body.

Any appeal, duly motivated, shall be sent by recorded post, or delivered in exchange for confirmation of receipt, to the general secretariat within 3 days of receipt of the decision of the Electoral Committee. Appeals received by the general secretariat shall immediately be forwarded to the members of the Appeal Committee of the Judicial bodies.

10.2 The Appeal Committee may decide to accept fresh evidence and documents that were not provided by the relevant candidate together with the initial candidature.

10.3 Appeals shall be considered by the Appeal Committee within three (3) days of their receipt and communicated to the candidates within the same period.

10.4 The decisions of the Appeal Committee shall be final and binding.

Article 11. Procedure for candidates for other bodies of FA Thailand

11.1 Candidatures for any of the positions of all other bodies of FA Thailand (Audit and Compliance Committee and Judicial Bodies) shall be sent by the Executive Committee to the general secretariat at least sixty (60) days before the relevant elective Congress.

11.2 Within seven (7) days of receipt of the candidatures, the Electoral Committee shall confirm to the general secretariat whether the formal requirements for the relevant positions have been fulfilled. In the event that one or more candidates cannot be validated, the Executive Committee shall propose additional candidates for the relevant positions within seven (7) days after having been informed that one or more candidates cannot be validated.

11.3 Elections of the members of such other bodies may be conducted en-bloc. At the start of the elective Congress, the delegates shall be provided with the relevant ballot papers containing the lists of the candidates for the bodies in question.

11.4 During the elections of such members, the delegates shall remain at their seats and shall cast their vote using a mobile ballot box that shall be carried from seat to seat by one of the scrutineers and supervised closely by a member of the Electoral Committee.

11.5 Once all the delegates have deposited their ballot papers in the mobile ballot box, the Electoral Committee shall proceed with the count in front of all the delegates and the results shall be announced to the Members.

11.6 The official list of candidates shall be sent to the Members at least thirty (30) days before the relevant elective Congress. The official list of candidates shall be published to the public and if require it shall be forwarded to relevant government unit for information.

SECTION 4 VOTING PROCEDURE

Article 12. Convocation of the elective Congress

The elective Congress shall be convened according to the provisions of the Statutes of FA Thailand. The relevant deadlines in relation to the elective Congress shall be published in the press and, where necessary, communicated to the relevant government authorities.

Article 13. Duties of the Electoral Committee during the elective Congress

- 13.1 verifying the identity of the voters (delegates);
- 13.2 monitoring the electoral procedure during the Congress;
- 13.3 counting the ballot papers;
- 13.4 taking any decisions regarding the validity or invalidity of ballot papers;
- 13.5 passing a definitive decision on any matters relating to the electoral procedure during the electoral Congress;
- 13.6 declaring the official results;
- 13.7 Inform relevant information of the elections to the public, where necessary.

Article 14. Ballot Papers

- 14.1 The general secretariat shall produce the ballot papers under the supervision of the Electoral Committee. The ballot papers shall be printed clearly and legibly.
- 14.2 The scrutineers shall inspect the ballot papers.
- 14.3 The ballot papers shall be of a different color for each round of the election.

Article 15. Ballot box

- 15.1 Before the start of the voting procedure, the ballot box which shall be transparent should be opened and presented to the delegates of the Congress. The ballot box shall then be closed and placed in a visible spot close to the members of the Electoral Committee.
- 15.2 During the entire voting process, the ballot box shall be monitored by one of the members of Electoral Committee.

Article 16. Casting of ballots

- 16.1 Before the delegates are requested to cast their vote, the chairperson of the Electoral Committee shall explain in detail the electoral procedure and refer to the relevant statutory provisions.
- 16.2 The chairperson of the Electoral Committee shall call in turn each delegate of the Members present and eligible to vote to move to the front of the Congress hall where the election is taking place.
- 16.3 Once called, the relevant delegate shall move to the front of the Congress hall and, after signing receipt of the ballot paper form, receive his ballot paper and shall then approach to a designated polling booth.
- 16.4 The casting of ballots shall be conducted in a designated polling booth. The polling booth shall be placed in a visible spot, but still allow the delegate to cast his vote secretly. No mobile phones, cameras or any other recording devices shall be allowed in the polling booth. If found, the delegate shall be disqualified from voting.

16.5 The delegate shall then complete his ballot paper.

16.6 The delegate shall then deposit his ballot paper in the ballot box and return to his seat.

16.7 The counting procedure shall begin as soon as all of the delegates have deposited their ballot papers in the ballot box or upon the expiry of time designated for voting. A member of the Electoral Committee shall open the ballot box, tip out the ballot papers in front of all the delegates and the count shall then commence.

SECTION 5 COUNT

Article 17. General Principles

17.1 Only the members of the Electoral Committee shall take part in the count of the ballot papers which shall be carried out in a way that can be followed clearly by all the delegates of the Congress.

17.2 The Electoral Committee shall pass a definitive decision on matter relating to the following:

17.2.1 validity or invalidity of a ballot paper.

17.2.2 whether the individual qualifies as a voting delegate.

17.2.3 the drafting of the minutes.

17.2.4 the declaration of the results.

17.2.5 any other matter relating to the counting procedure.

Article 18. Invalid ballot papers

18.1 The following ballot papers are considered invalid:

18.1.1 ballot papers that do not bear the official distinctive marks defined by the Electoral Committee;

18.1.2 ballot papers that bear any words other than the names of the candidates;

18.1.3 ballot papers that are illegible or have been defaced;

18.1.4 ballot papers that bear identifying marks.

18.2 The chairperson of the Electoral Committee shall write on the back of any invalid ballot paper the reason(s) for its invalidity and confirm with a signature.

Article 19. Count and declaration of results

19.1 Once the ballot box has been opened, the members of the Electoral Committee shall count the number of ballot papers and verify their validity. If the number of ballot papers is equal to or less than the number of ballot papers issued, the ballot is valid. If it exceeds the number of ballot papers issued, the ballot shall be declared void and recommence immediately in accordance with the procedure described above.

19.2 Where there are more than two (2) Candidates for a vacant position and no Candidate receives more than one-half of the votes, all Candidates shall move to the second ballot. From the second ballot

onwards, the Candidate obtaining the lowest number of votes shall be eliminated from the subsequent ballot. The process shall continue until two (2) Candidates remain and a simple majority is achieved. After each round of the election, the chairperson of the Electoral Committee shall officially declare the results to the Members.

19.3 Once the count has been completed, the chairperson of the Electoral Committee shall officially declare the election result to the Congress.

19.4 The General Secretary shall put the ballot papers that have been collected and counted into envelopes intended for this purpose. The envelopes shall then be signed by the chairperson of the Electoral Committee and sealed. The general secretariat shall keep these envelopes in a safe and secure location.

SECTION 6

FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 20. Archiving of documents and confidentiality

20.1 The Electoral Committee and the Appeal Committee of the Judicial Bodies shall hand over all official documents as well as all documents provided to them during the electoral process to the general secretariat, which shall solely be responsible for archiving them.

20.2 The members of the Electoral Committee and of the Appeal Committee of the Judicial Bodies shall maintain absolute confidentiality and secrecy with respect to any information and documents made available to them during the course of the electoral process. Such obligation shall remain for an indefinite period following the relevant electoral process. Furthermore, they shall not retain any documents (electronic or otherwise) supplied to them during the electoral process.

Article 21. Matters not provided for herein

All matters relating to the administrative and technical organization as well as the running of the elections that are not covered by this Electoral Code or by the Statutes and regulations of FA Thailand shall be ruled upon by the Electoral Committee, whose decision shall be final.

Article 22. Enforcement

This Electoral Code was adopted at the Congress in Bangkok, on 28 April 2022 and comes into force immediately.

Police General 

(Somyot Poompanmoung)

President of the Football Association of Thailand
Under the Patronage of His Majesty the King

