



# COMPETITION REGULATIONS

## AFC BEACH SOCCER CHAMPIONSHIP 2021



AFC  
BEACH SOCCER  
CHAMPIONSHIP

# Competition Regulations

## AFC Beach Soccer Championship 2021

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## DEFINITIONS

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In these Competition Regulations, capitalised terms shall have the following meanings, unless the context specifically indicates otherwise:

Accommodation	Any location approved by the AFC which provides accommodation to the AFC Delegation, Team Official Delegations, AFC Commercial Rights Partner, and Official Licensees.
Accreditation Card	Any physical item which is issued by the AFC and/or Organising Association which provides the recipient the right to access a Controlled Access Area (or part thereof) where the Controlled Access Area is under the control of the AFC or Organising Association.
Advertising Rights	The right to promote brand and/or corporate names and/or products and/or services at and/or in relation to the Competition by whatever means available, whether existing now or to be developed in the future, whether at the Stadia or Facility Areas or within the Controlled Access Areas, in association with the Competition Marks and/or AFC Marks, by in-arena/out-arena perimeter signage and other advertising, digital signage and screens, closed circuit television, equipment usage or other methods and through printed matter (including digitally delivered printed matter) such as programmes, posters, letterheads, press releases, newsletters and Tickets, and subject to any AFC regulations, the right to display such advertising on the clothing or footwear worn, or on any equipment used, carried or transported by the AFC Delegation (including for the avoidance of doubt Match Officials), medical and security staff, ball boys, player escorts, flag bearers and/or photographers. The display of the name and/or logo of the bona fide supplier of clothing on the strip of the uniforms of the AFC Delegation (including for the avoidance of doubt Match Officials) are also included. For the avoidance of doubt, advertising on the strip of Participating Players is excluded, other than where it is the trade mark of the bona fide manufacturer and is in accordance with FIFA and/or AFC regulations. Similarly, branding on any equipment, goods and/or services used in connection with the Competition, save where supplied by a Licensee, may only include customary branding of the bona fide manufacturer and may not be associated in any way with the Commercial Rights.

AFC	The Asian Football Confederation.
AFCAS	The AFC Administration System, the AFC's online competition management and registration system.
AFC Commercial Rights Partner	The entity appointed by the AFC as the sole and exclusive representative of the AFC with regard to the sale of the Commercial Rights (or any part thereof) and the provision of services in relation thereto.
AFC Committee	Any committee of the AFC as constituted in accordance with the AFC Statutes.
AFC Delegation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) AFC staff;</li> <li>(ii) Match Officials;</li> <li>(iii) other officials appointed by the AFC;</li> <li>(iv) AFC Committee members; and</li> <li>(v) AFC guests.</li> </ul>
AFC Futsal and Beach Soccer Committee	The AFC internal organising committee for the Competition which has been appointed in accordance with the AFC Statutes, and which has ultimate authority over all matters relating to the organisation of the Competition.
AFC Marks	All design marks, slogans, designations, names, logos, insignia, emblems or devices (in any application) owned and/or controlled by the AFC (in any language) relating to the AFC itself, but excluding the Competition Marks.
AFC Official Merchandise	Official merchandise of the Competition to which the AFC Marks and the Competition Marks may be applied at the sole discretion of the AFC.
AFC Website	The domain <a href="http://www.the-afc.com">http://www.the-afc.com</a> owned by the AFC, including without limitation all other domains or official media platforms and channels created and/or owned by the AFC (e.g. Facebook, YouTube, Twitter, etc).
Arena	<p>Any arena at which a Match is played. For the avoidance of doubt, this includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) the entire premises (to the extent that a valid Accreditation Card or Ticket is required in order to gain access) of an Arena facility inside the outer Arena perimeter fence and (on Match days and any day on which any official practice session takes place within the Arena), the aerial space above such Arena premises;</li> <li>(ii) parking facilities;</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(iii) VIP and hospitality areas (including any hospitality village);</li> <li>(iv) the media tribune;</li> <li>(v) concessions areas;</li> <li>(vi) commercial display areas;</li> <li>(vii) buildings;</li> <li>(viii) the Pitch;</li> <li>(ix) any broadcast compound or Arena media centre;</li> <li>(x) any stands; and</li> <li>(xi) any areas beneath the stands.</li> </ul>
Broadcast Licensee	Any entity, including the Host Broadcaster, which has been granted the Media Rights from the AFC or the AFC Commercial Rights Partner for the Competition.
Champion	The Participating Team that wins the final Match of the Competition.
Commercial Rights	Advertising Rights, Concession Rights, Hospitality Rights, Image Rights, Media Rights, Merchandising Rights, Promotional Rights, Sponsorship Rights, and Travel and Tour Rights.
Competition	The AFC Beach Soccer Championship, which includes without limitation, all Matches as set out in the Match Schedule, all qualifying Matches, all activities on the Pitch (other than Matches), opening ceremonies, presentation or closing ceremonies, press conferences or Official Functions connected therewith.
Competition Marks	<p>Either cumulatively or individually:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) the competition logo officially adopted by the AFC as a visual design symbol of the Competition;</li> <li>(ii) any mascot officially adopted by the AFC for the Competition;</li> <li>(iii) any two-dimensional representation of the Competition trophy;</li> <li>(iv) the official name of the Competition (in any language); and/or</li> <li>(v) any and all current and future trademarks, and/or logos, and/or copyrights and/or designs whether or not registered or applied for and whether registered in part or in whole including any present and/or future names, designations, symbols, logos or identifying music or sounds of the AFC or the Competition, the AFC Fair Play name and device mark, and other artistic and autographic representations in one, two or</li> </ul>

three dimensional proportions used by or in association with the Competition.

Complimentary Tickets	Tickets which are supplied without charge.
Concession Rights	Sampling, vending and other distribution methods and payment methods connected therewith for and of products or services, including without limitation all food, beverage and pourage rights at the Stadia and Controlled Access Areas.
Controlled Access Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>(i) any Arena;</li><li>(ii) any Official Training Site;</li><li>(iii) any official hotel (public areas being excepted), subject to and to the extent agreed in an executed hotel agreement;</li><li>(iv) any official exclusion zone encircling an Arena on any Match day;</li><li>(v) any official parking area, accreditation centre, International Broadcast Compound, and/or hospitality area;</li><li>(vi) the venue of any Official Function;</li><li>(vii) any official AFC fan park;</li><li>(viii) Facility Areas; and/or</li><li>(ix) any other location and/or facility designated by the AFC as a Controlled Access Area, associated to the Competition to which access is permitted only to those in possession of an Accreditation Card, Ticket, and/or other officially-sanctioned entry permit.</li></ul>
Digital Media	Any digitalised media (including the AFC Website and any related Competition website) created by AFC in relation to the Competition, including but not limited to any mobile website, mobile application (app), online video channel, data product, photo-sharing account, social media account, and any further form of digital media developed herewith.
Extra Time	Two (2) equal periods of additional time which shall be played in accordance with these Regulations should there be no Winner at the conclusion of a Match in the Knockout Stage.
Facility Areas	The location of Official Functions, ceremonies, press centres, ticket offices, competition hotels, media areas (including without limitation areas used for viewing of any public exhibition), sponsor village areas (including without limitation “AFC fan park” areas, and areas used for the activation of the Commercial Rights),

official hospitality areas (including without limitation areas used for the exploitation of the Hospitality Rights), and information centres controlled by or on behalf of the AFC and used in connection with the Competition whether at the Arena or elsewhere at the Venues.

FIFA	The Fédération Internationale de Football Association.
Final	The final Match of the Competition which determines the Champion.
Fixed Media	Any magnetic, electronic or digital storage device or method including without limitation DVD, VHS or CD-ROM.
Football Association	The controlling body for football within a country or territory recognised by the AFC.
Force Majeure	Any event affecting the performance or any provision of these Regulations arising from or attributable to acts, events, omissions or accidents which are beyond the reasonable control of a party, and shall include but not be limited to abnormally inclement weather, flood, lightning, storm, fire, explosion, earthquake, structural damage, epidemic or other natural disaster, failure or shortage of power supplies, war, terrorist action, military operations, riot, crowd disorder, strike, lock-outs or other industrial action, or civil commotion.
Group Stage	The first stage of the Competition held in accordance with these Regulations.
Hospitality Rights	The opportunity to offer and sell Hospitality and entertainment facilities at the Venues or within the Controlled Access Areas in combination with Tickets as may be purchased from the Organising Association whether such facilities are in boxes, marquees or otherwise, but excluding those private non-commercial functions and facilities reserved for AFC officials and its guests not forming part of the Commercial Rights.
Host Broadcaster	The organisation appointed by the AFC to ensure and provide the production of the broadcast signals of the Matches and other events of the Competition, and the provision of all related services in accordance with the Media Rights granted to it.
Host City	Any city and/or identifiable metropolitan area in which any Match is staged.
Host Country	Host Football Federation/Association.

Image Rights	The right to use still and/or moving images and/or representations of images of Participating Teams and Participating Players participating in the Competition, and including, for the avoidance of doubt, images of Participating Officials, Match Officials, and other officials forming part of the Competition.
Kicks from the Penalty Mark	'Kicks from the Penalty Mark' as described in the Laws of the Game.
Knockout Stage	The second stage of the Competition held in accordance with these Regulations.
Loser	The Participating Team in a Match that is not the Winner.
Match	A Beach Soccer match in its entirety (including a replayed and/or deferred Beach Soccer match, Extra Time and Kicks from the Penalty Mark) which takes place as part of the Competition in accordance with the Match Schedule. For the avoidance of doubt, a Match formally commences when the Arena is officially opened to spectators and formally concludes when the Arena is officially closed to spectators.
Match Officials	Any individual appointed to officiate a Match in the Competition in the role of referee, second referee, third referee or timekeeper.
Match Schedule	The official schedule which sets out, without limitation, the dates and times on which Matches will be played, the Arena at which the Matches will be played, the names of the Participating Teams.
Media	Any individual entitled to a media Accreditation Card as determined by the AFC.
Media Rights	The right and license to produce, edit, and transmit, for intelligible reception throughout the world in any language and in any format, and on any platform including film, Fixed Media, Digital Media, games, internet, public exhibition, radio, mobile, and television, visual, audio-visual, and/or audio signal and/or image or recording (including without limitation the basic feed, multi feeds, additional feeds, audio feeds, a feed incorporating competition data, basic feed, and unilateral feeds) of the Competition, and all interview activities and action during and forming part of the Competition including Official Functions and the Image Rights by any and all means of transmission distribution, exhibition and reception,

now existing or hereinafter developed including but not limited to analogue, digital, satellite cable and interactive communication systems, on a live, delayed, and unlimited repeat basis, in full or in part (including without limitation by way of clips and/or highlights and/or support programmes and/or magazine shows and/or news access), and all rights to exploit any and all commercial opportunities (including for example broadcast sponsorship and commercial airtime opportunities) arising from and/or in connection with such rights.

Member Association	A Football Association which is a member of the AFC.
Merchandise Rights	The right to exploit the Competition Marks and/or Official Status in the manufacture, packaging, distribution and sale of goods and services of all kinds, including items of equipment (i.e. footballs), clothing, coins, medals, games (electronic or otherwise), other collectibles and Premiums related to the Competition.
Official Function	Any event which is officially organised or sanctioned by the AFC in connection with the Competition. For the avoidance of doubt, this expressly includes, without limitation, all matches and/or events held at Official Training Sites, the Opening Ceremony, the Closing Ceremony, any AFC gala dinner, lunch, or banquet, cultural events, official press conferences, official draw, workshops and launch events.
Official Licensee	Any entity to which the AFC or the AFC Commercial Rights Partner has granted any aspect of the Commercial Rights in respect of the Competition, including but not limited to Official Sponsors, Official Supporters, Official Licensees and Official Media Partners.
Official Training Site	Any site designated by the Organising Association and approved by the AFC for use by the Participating Teams throughout the duration of the Competition for training purposes.
Organising Association	A Member Association approved by the AFC to organise, stage and host the Competition.
Participating Official	Any official who is registered to participate in the Competition.
Participating Player	Any player who is registered to participate in the Competition.

Participating Team	Any representative team affiliated to a Member Association who participates in the Competition.
Pitch	The area described in Law 1 of the Beach Soccer Laws of the Game issued by the IFAB and administered by FIFA.
Premiums	Any promotional item (including packaging, labeling, and/or containers thereof) which incorporates a mark and/or logo of the AFC and/or the Competition, and which is distributed free of charge or via prize competitions.
Promotional Rights	Any rights to official publications, official suppliers, official products, sales promotion including but not limited to the right to organise promotional competitions (including without limitation any sweepstakes or lotteries) and to make awards and give prizes, Official Music rights, the right to use an Official Designation and all other rights of commercial value in regard to the Competition.
Proprietary Interests	Without limitation, intellectual property, copyright and analogous rights, trademark rights, moral rights, performing rights, personality rights, and all remedies available under the applicable laws of unfair competition comprised in the Commercial Rights. For the purpose of this definition, “moral rights” shall mean a privilege, right, or claim which is based on moral considerations or ethical principles and which should be recognised by law, but which may not be legally imposed or enforced as such.
Regulations	These Competition Regulations.
Runner Up	The Participating Team that loses the final Match of the Competition.
Quarter Finals	The first round of Matches in the Knockout Stage.
Semi Final	The second round of Matches in the Knockout Stage.
Sponsorship Rights	The right, in any and all media, throughout the world, and in all languages, to promote an association between the Competition and certain products, services, and/or brands, and shall include (by way of illustration only) the exclusive right to exercise rights of association with the Competition, including without limitation the right to (a) use an official designation; (b) use the AFC Marks and/or applicable Competition Marks on branded products and/or product packaging

(including Premiums, and in relation to the Competition Marks only on items for retail sale) and/or advertising; (c) receive commercial programme Tickets, and (d) the right to receive broadcast sponsorship opportunities in connections with broadcasts of a Match or Official Function.

Team Official Delegation	The final-registered delegation of a Participating Team for the Competition subject to the limits set out in these Regulations.
Third Place	The Participating Team who is the Winner of the 3/4 playoff.
Ticket	A pass providing access to a venue for the purpose of attending either a Match or Official Training Site or Official Function.
Travel and Tour Rights	The right to organise and/or sub-license official travel and tour activities in relation to the Competition, which travel and tour activities shall, for the avoidance of doubt, include the provision of Tickets to a Match and/or Official Function for the Competition.
Venue	The Host City and immediately surrounding area in which an Arena is located.
Winner	The Participating Team who scores the highest number of goals in a Match, or where applicable, the higher number of Kicks from the Penalty Mark.

For the purposes of these Regulations, and provided the context so permits:

- (i) the singular shall include the plural and vice-versa;
- (ii) the masculine gender shall include the feminine and vice-versa;
- (iii) reference to natural persons shall include any legal person or corporation;
- (iv) references to the AFC shall include its successors and permitted assigns and in relation to the availability of the Commercial Rights, its respective Member Associations, and the AFC Committees.
- (v) reference to the AFC Commercial Rights Partner or Official Licensees shall include where advised by the AFC, its successors, and permitted assigns and, in relation to the exercise and exploitation of the Commercial Rights; and
- (vi) all defined terms, unless otherwise stated herein shall bear the same meaning as ascribed in the AFC Statutes, unless the context indicates otherwise.

## SECTION 1: AFC BEACH SOCCER CHAMPIONSHIP 2021

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### 1. Introduction

- 1.1. The AFC stages the Competition once every two (2) years for Participating Teams.
- 1.2. These Regulations set out the rights, duties, and responsibilities of the AFC, the Organising Association, Member Associations, Participating Teams, Participating Players and Participating Officials taking part in the Competition.
- 1.3. These Regulations and all directives, decisions, guidelines, and circulars issued by the AFC shall be binding upon all parties participating and involved in the preparation, organisation, and hosting of the Competition.
- 1.4. Any rights and Proprietary Interests associated with the Competition that are not granted by these Regulations and/or specific agreements to any Member Association or Participating Team belong to the AFC.
- 1.5. Any reference to the AFC Statutes and to AFC and FIFA regulations refer to those valid at the time of application.

## SECTION 2: RESPONSIBILITIES

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### 2. The Asian Football Confederation

- 2.1. The AFC Futsal and Beach Soccer Committee shall be responsible for organising the Competition in accordance with the AFC Statutes. The AFC General Secretariat shall carry out the necessary administrative work in support of the AFC Futsal and Beach Soccer Committee.
- 2.2. The responsibilities of the AFC shall include, but are not limited to:
  - 2.2.1. supervising general preparations and deciding on the Competition format, the draw, and the entries to the Competition;
  - 2.2.2. determining the Match Schedule (*cf.* Article 8);
  - 2.2.3. selecting Arenas and Official Training Sites for the Competition after consultation with the Organising Association;
  - 2.2.4. appointing Match Officials for each Match;
  - 2.2.5. choosing the official Beach Soccer ball and stipulated technical material;
  - 2.2.6. approving the choice of the WADA-accredited laboratory that will carry out the doping analyses (*cf.* Section 10);
  - 2.2.7. reporting cases where appropriate to the AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Committee (*cf.* Section 11);
  - 2.2.8. replacing Participating Teams that have withdrawn from the Competition (*cf.* Articles 6 and 7);
  - 2.2.9. dealing with cases of abandoned Matches or cancelled Matches (*cf.* Articles 16 and 17);
  - 2.2.10. dealing with cases of force majeure (*cf.* Article 66);
  - 2.2.11. providing insurance coverage for the AFC Delegation from the time of their departure from their home Member Association to their departure from the Host Country; and
  - 2.2.12. dealing with any other aspect of the Competition that is not the responsibility of any other body of the AFC pursuant to these Regulations or the AFC Statutes (*cf.* Article 67).

- 2.3. All decisions made by the AFC Futsal and Beach Soccer Committee and/or AFC General Secretariat in relation to the Competition are final and binding and not appealable.
- 2.4. All decisions made by the AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Committee in relation to the Competition are subject to the operation of the AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Code.

### 3. Participating Teams

- 3.1. The principal obligations and responsibilities of each Participating Team are stipulated (where relevant) in the Participating Team Agreement (the “PTA”), these Regulations, the AFC Statutes, and all other AFC regulations, directives, guidelines, and circulars.
  - 3.1.1. Each Participating Team that has entered the Competition must submit a PTA.
  - 3.1.2. The PTA shall be completed and submitted to the AFC not later than the deadline provided by the AFC.
  - 3.1.3. Failure to submit the PTA to the AFC by the deadline shall result in the non-participation of the Participating Team.
- 3.2. Each Participating Team shall ensure as a condition of its participation in the Competition that every member of its Team Official Delegation is aware of and agrees to comply with the PTA.
- 3.3. Each Participating Team shall undertake to:
  - 3.3.1. observe all obligations set out in the PTA, these Regulations, the AFC Statutes, and all other AFC regulations, directives, guidelines and circulars, and applicable national and supra-national laws;
  - 3.3.2. comply with the Beach Soccer Laws of the Game approved by the FIFA Futsal Committee;
  - 3.3.3. accept that all the administrative, disciplinary and refereeing matters connected with the Competition shall be settled by the AFC in compliance with these Regulations;
  - 3.3.4. field their strongest team throughout the Competition;
  - 3.3.5. observe the principles of Fair Play;
  - 3.3.6. ensure the good conduct of its Team Official Delegation and of any person affiliated to it and/or carrying out duties on its behalf, which

includes but is not limited to their arrival in the Host Country until their departure;

3.3.6.1. failure to ensure the good conduct of its Team Official Delegation may result in the Participating Team being issued with a fine;

3.3.6.2. the AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Committee may issue further sanctions in its discretion;

3.3.7. accept all the arrangements made by the Organising Association in agreement with the AFC;

3.3.8. attend and participate in all official activities and events, including without limitation any team arrival meeting, match coordination meeting, press conferences, and other media and marketing activities in accordance with the instructions issued by the AFC;

3.3.8.1. failure to attend and/or participate in any official activity or event shall result in the Participating Team being fined at least USD5,000;

3.3.8.2. the AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Committee may issue further sanctions in its discretion;

3.3.9. provide to the AFC, prior to the Competition, statistics and photographs of its Participating Players and Participating Officials, historical information related to its Participating Team and national Arena (including photographs), and any further data as requested and in accordance with instructions issued by the AFC; and

3.3.10. link the official URL for the Competition on its official website.

3.3.11. not establish any digital, media or social media platform without the involvement and express approval of the AFC.

3.4. Each Participating Team shall, at its own expense, be solely responsible throughout the Competition for:

3.4.1. the procurement of insurance coverage of its Team Official Delegation, which shall include without limitation hospital and surgical insurance, travel insurance, and/or sports equipment insurance for all Matches;

3.4.2. all other necessary insurance policies, which must provide an appropriate guaranteed sum for injury and damage to persons, objects, and property, and correspond with the specific circumstances of the Member Association's participating in the

Competition. The AFC must be notified of all insurance policies, and may request copies of any and all policies at its discretion;

- 3.4.3. payment of incidental expenses and for any costs incurred by its Team Official Delegation (*cf.* Article 36);
  - 3.4.4. payment of all costs for the four (4) additional Participating Officials;
  - 3.4.5. payment of any costs of extending the stay of any member of its Team Official Delegation (*cf.* Article 36); and
  - 3.4.6. obtaining visas to enter the territory of the Host Country no later than thirty (30) days prior to its first Match at the Venue. This includes all costs related to the visa application process.
- 3.5. Should a Participating Team fail to secure the necessary visas in time for their arrival to the Competition as a result of non-compliance with Article 3.4.6, they shall be considered to have withdrawn in accordance with Article 6.
- 3.6. Each Participating Team shall indemnify, defend, and hold the AFC, the Organising Association, and all of its officers, directors, employees, representatives, agents, and all other auxiliary persons free and harmless against any and all liabilities, obligations, losses, damages, penalties, claims, actions, fines, and expenses (including reasonable legal expenses) of whatsoever kind or nature resulting from, arising out of, or attributable to, any non-compliance with these Regulations by the Member Association, Participating Teams, their Team Official Delegation, their affiliates and any third-parties contracted to the Participating Teams or Member Associations.
- 3.7. Member Associations may qualify directly and shall undertake, if required by the AFC, to take part in the following competitions:
- 3.7.1. the FIFA Beach Soccer World Cup 2021; and
  - 3.7.2. any intercontinental competition(s) arranged by the AFC with other confederations.
- 3.8. The Champion may qualify directly and shall undertake, if required by the AFC, to take part in any intercontinental competition(s) arranged by the AFC with other confederations.
- 3.9. Participating Teams are not authorised to represent the AFC or the Competition without the prior written approval of the AFC.
- 3.10. All Participating Players and Participating Officials shall ensure their presence at the AFC Awards Night in the calendar year if they are nominated for an

award.

- 3.11. Each Participating Team shall ensure that any decision made by the AFC relating to its duties and responsibilities is enforced immediately.

#### 4. Organising Association

- 4.1. The principal obligations and responsibilities of the Organising Association are stipulated in the Organising Association Agreement (“OAA”), its annexes and amendments, these Regulations, all AFC directives, decisions, guidelines, and circulars, as well as the AFC Statutes and various AFC regulations.
- 4.2. For the duration of the Competition, the Organising Association, in cooperation with the relevant government authorities, is responsible for:
- 4.2.1. payment of all taxes, fees, duties and any other costs related to the importation and/or exportation of equipment, merchandise and/or goods to be used for the Competition;
  - 4.2.2. concluding all necessary insurance in connection with the staging and organising of Matches, including third-party liability and spectator accident coverage;
  - 4.2.3. guaranteeing law and order as well as safety at each Venue; and
  - 4.2.4. complying with all guidelines and instructions issued by the AFC.
- 4.3. The Organising Association(s) shall discharge the AFC and hold it harmless from all responsibility and relinquish any claim against the AFC and the members of its delegation for any damages resulting from any act or omission relating to the organisation of the Competition to the exclusion of damages caused by AFC or the members of its delegation acting with intent or gross negligence.
- 4.4. The Organising Association shall ensure that any decision made by the AFC Futsal and Beach Soccer Committee relating to its duties and responsibilities is enforced immediately.

## SECTION 3: ENTRY, WITHDRAWAL, MATCH SCHEDULE, COMPETITION SYSTEM

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### 5. Entry

- 5.1. The AFC Futsal and Beach Soccer Committee shall invite eligible Participating Teams to enter the Competition.
- 5.2. Eligible Participating Teams must complete a PTA and submit it to the AFC in accordance with Article 3 to confirm their entry into the Competition.
- 5.3. All decisions by the AFC regarding entry to the Competition are final and binding and not appealable.

### 6. Withdrawal Prior to Commencement of the Competition

- 6.1. Any Participating Team that enters the Competition undertakes that it shall play all of their Matches in the Competition until elimination.
- 6.2. In the case of a Participating Team withdrawing or being excluded from the Competition, the AFC Futsal and Beach Soccer Committee shall be responsible for making any necessary decisions, including without limitation whether to:
  - 6.2.1. replace the Participating Team;
  - 6.2.2. change the competition system (*cf.* Article 9); and/or
  - 6.2.3. change the technical rules (*cf.* Section 4).
- 6.3. All decisions of the AFC Futsal and Beach Soccer Committee in this regard are final and binding and not appealable.
- 6.4. Any Participating Team that withdraws up to thirty (30) days before its first Match shall be fined at least USD5,000.
- 6.5. Any Participating Team that withdraws less than thirty (30) days before its first Match shall be fined at least USD10,000.
- 6.6. The AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Committee may impose further sanctions in its discretion.

### 7. Withdrawal After Commencement of the Competition

- 7.1. Any Participating Team that:

- 7.1.1. withdraws from the Competition after it has commenced; or
  - 7.1.2. does not report for a Match; or
  - 7.1.3. refuses to continue a Match; or
  - 7.1.4. leaves the Arena prior to the completion of a Match,
- shall be considered to have withdrawn from the Competition after its commencement.
- 7.2. A Participating Team that withdraws from the Competition after it has commenced shall:
- 7.2.1. have all its Matches cancelled and considered null and void. For the avoidance of doubt, all points and goals in those Matches shall not be taken into consideration when determining the final rankings in the Group Stage pursuant to Article 10.5;
  - 7.2.2. be required to pay compensation for any and all damages or losses suffered by the other Participating Teams, the AFC, the AFC Commercial Rights Partner, Official Licensees, Broadcast Licensees, and the Organising Association. The amount of compensation shall be determined by the AFC Executive Committee;
  - 7.2.3. be disqualified from participating in the next two (2) editions of the Competition;
  - 7.2.4. be disqualified from participating in any tournaments listed in Article 3.7, if qualification has been attained;
  - 7.2.5. be fined:
    - 7.2.5.1. at least USD25,000 if it withdraws after the commencement of the Group Stage; or
    - 7.2.5.2. at least USD50,000 if it withdraws after the commencement of the Knockout Stage.
  - 7.2.6. be referred to the AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Committee which may impose further sanctions in its discretion; and
  - 7.2.7. return to the AFC any subsidy that had been paid in support of their participation in the Competition or if not yet paid, forfeit their right to that subsidy.
- 7.3. Articles 7.1 and 7.2 are not applicable in cases of Force Majeure recognised by the AFC Futsal and Beach Soccer Committee.

- 7.4. The AFC Futsal and Beach Soccer Committee shall take whatever action it deems necessary in cases of Force Majeure.

## 8. Match Schedule

- 8.1. All Matches shall be played according to the dates, kick-off times, and in the Arenas as determined by the AFC Futsal and Beach Soccer Committee.
- 8.2. The Match Schedule shall be determined following the Final Draw.
- 8.3. The AFC General Secretariat retains final discretion to amend the Match Schedule at any time.

## 9. Competition System

- 9.1. The Competition shall consist of two (2) stages:
- 9.1.1. the Group Stage; and
- 9.1.2. the Knockout Stage.

## 10. Group Stage

- 10.1. Sixteen (16) Teams will be participating in this edition of the AFC Beach Soccer Championship 2021. The Participating Teams shall be divided into four (4) groups of four (4) teams each as follows:

Group A	Group B	Group C	Group D
A1	B1	C1	D1
A2	B2	C2	D2
A3	B3	C3	D3
A4	B4	C4	D4

- 10.2. Each Participating Team shall play against the other Participating Teams within its group once in accordance with the Match Schedule.
- 10.3. The duration of Matches shall be played in accordance with Articles 13 to 15.
- 10.4. At the conclusion of each Match:
- 10.4.1. three (3) points shall be awarded for a win in normal playing time;
- 10.4.2. two (2) points shall be awarded for a winner in the extra time;

- 10.4.3. one (1) point shall be awarded for a win in the penalty shoot-out;  
and
  - 10.4.4. zero (0) points shall be awarded to the Loser.
- 10.5. The ranking in each group shall be determined in descending order as follows:
- 10.5.1. higher number of points obtained in group Matches;
  - 10.5.2. if two (2) or more Participating Teams are equal on points, the following criteria are applied to determine the ranking (in descending order):
    - Head-to-Head criteria
    - 10.5.2.1. higher number of points obtained in the group Matches between the Participating Teams in question;
    - 10.5.2.2. superior goal-difference from the group Matches between the Participating Teams in question;
    - 10.5.2.3. higher number of goals scored in the group Matches between the Participating Teams in question;
    - Tiebreaker
    - 10.5.2.4. if, after having applied the Head-to-Head criteria, two (2) or more Participating Teams still have an equal ranking, the Head-to-Head criteria shall be reapplied exclusively to the Matches between the Participating Teams in question to determine their final rankings. If this procedure does not lead to a decision, the Group Results criteria shall apply;
      - Group Results criteria
      - 10.5.2.5. superior goal-difference from all group Matches played;
      - 10.5.2.6. higher number of goals scored from all group Matches played;
      - 10.5.2.7. Kicks from the Penalty Mark only if two (2) Participating Teams are involved and they are both on the Pitch;
      - 10.5.2.8. the lower score, calculated according to the number of yellow and red cards received in group Matches (Appendix1); or
      - 10.5.2.9. the drawing of lots.
- 10.6. At the conclusion of the Group Stage, the first-placed and second-placed

Participating Teams in each group shall qualify for the Knockout Stage.

10.7. All other Participating Teams shall be eliminated from the Competition.

## 11. Knockout Stage

11.1. The Knockout Stage shall consist of the Quarter Finals, Semi Finals, 3/4 playoff, and Final.

11.2. Each round of the Knockout Stage shall be played in accordance with the Match Schedule.

11.3. The duration of Matches, including Extra Time and Kicks from the Penalty Mark (if required), shall be played in accordance with Articles 13 to 15.

11.4. At the conclusion of each Quarter Final:

11.4.1. the Winner shall qualify for the Semi Finals; and

11.4.2. the Loser shall be eliminated from the Competition.

11.5. At the conclusion of each Semi Final:

11.5.1. the Winner shall qualify for the Final; and

11.5.2. the Loser shall qualify for the 3/4 playoff.

11.6. At the conclusion of the 3/4 playoff:

11.6.1. the Winner shall be declared Third-Place; and

11.6.2. the Loser shall be declared Fourth-Place.

11.7. At the conclusion of the Final:

11.7.1. the Winner shall be declared Champion; and

11.7.2. the Loser shall be declared Runner-Up.

## SECTION 4: TECHNICAL RULES

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### 12. Matches Played in Accordance with the Beach Soccer Laws of the Game

- 12.1. All Matches shall be played in accordance with the Beach Soccer Laws of the Game.
- 12.2. In case of any discrepancy in the interpretation of the Beach Soccer Laws of the Game, the English version shall prevail and is authoritative.
- 12.3. The nine (9) substitutes listed on a Match Starting List (*cf.* Article 30) may take part in the relevant Match. There is no limit on the number of substitutions.
- 12.4. If a Participating Team at any stage of a Match is only able to field fewer than three (3) players, the Match shall be abandoned and Article 17.5 shall apply.

### 13. Duration of Matches

- 13.1. Each Match shall last thirty-six (36) minutes, comprising of three (3) periods of twelve (12) minutes (hereinafter, normal playing time).
- 13.2. In all stages, if a match is level at the end of normal playing time, extra time shall be played. Extra time shall consist of one period of three (3) minutes. If the score is still level at the end of extra time, kicks from the penalty mark shall be taken to determine the winner, in accordance with the procedure specified in the Beach Soccer Laws of the Game
- 13.3. There shall be an interval of three (3) minutes between the periods, commencing from the whistle ending the first period and ending upon the whistle starting the second period.
- 13.4. A Participating Team that causes a delay in the commencement of the first period of the Match and/or the second period of the Match may be sanctioned by the AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Committee.

### 14. Extra Time

- 14.1. If no Winner is determined at the end of normal playing time during the matches, Extra Time shall be played.
  - 14.1.1. There shall be no Extra Time in the 3/4 playoff. The Winner shall be determined by progressing straight to Kicks from the Penalty Mark.
- 14.2. A Participating Team that causes a delay in the commencement of the first

period of Extra Time and/or the second period of Extra Time may be sanctioned by the AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Committee.

- 14.3. There shall be no time-outs provided to the Participating Teams during Extra Time.

## 15. Determining the Winner by Kicks from the Penalty Mark

- 15.1. If a Match is level after the Extra Time, Kicks from the Penalty Mark shall be taken to determine the Winner, in accordance with the procedures described in the FIFA Beach Soccer Laws of the Game.
- 15.2. The Referee shall decide which goal will be used:
  - 15.2.1. The Referee may choose which goal will be used without tossing a coin for reasons, without limitation, including safety and security, state of the Pitch, and lighting quality.
  - 15.2.2. The Referee's decision is final and binding and not appealable.
- 15.3. To ensure that this procedure is strictly observed, the Referee shall be assisted by the Second and Third Referees and the Timekeeper, who shall also note down the number of the Participating Players on each Participating Team who take Kicks from the Penalty Mark.
- 15.4. If Kicks from the Penalty Mark cannot be completed because of weather conditions or for any Force Majeure reason, the result shall be decided by the drawing of lots by the Referee in the presence of the AFC Match Commissioner and AFC General Coordinator and the two (2) captains of the Participating Teams.
- 15.5. If, through the fault of a Participating Team, Kicks from the Penalty Mark cannot be completed, Article 7 of these Regulations shall apply.

## 16. Cancellation of Matches

- 16.1. If a Match cannot commence for any reason, the following procedure shall be followed:
  - 16.1.1. the Match must be delayed for a minimum of thirty (30) minutes. During this delay, the Referee may decide that the Match can commence prior to the completion of the delay;
  - 16.1.2. following the first delay, either:

- 16.1.2.1. an additional delay of thirty (30) minutes shall occur if in the discretion of the Referee this second delay may allow the Match to commence; or
    - 16.1.2.2. the Match is declared cancelled by the Referee;
  - 16.1.3. following two (2) delays of thirty (30) minutes, the Referee must declare the Match cancelled;
- 16.2. For any match which is cancelled as a result of Force Majeure, the AFC Futsal and Beach Soccer Committee shall decide on the matter at its sole discretion and take whatever action is deemed necessary.
  - 16.2.1. Decisions made pursuant to Article 16.2 are final and binding and not appealable.
- 16.3. Any Match which is cancelled, except in cases of Force Majeure recognised by the AFC Futsal and Beach Soccer Committee, may lead to the imposition of sanctions by the AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Committee against the relevant party that has caused the cancellation in accordance with the AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Code.

## 17. Abandonment of Matches

- 17.1. If a Match is stopped by the Referee for any reasons except for that set out in Article 12.4, the following procedure shall be followed:
  - 17.1.1. the Match is stopped for thirty (30) minutes. During this stoppage, the Referee may decide that the Match can commence prior to the completion of the stoppage;
  - 17.1.2. subsequent to the first stoppage, either:
    - 17.1.2.1. an additional stoppage of thirty (30) minutes shall occur if in the discretion of the Referee this second stoppage may allow the Match to be resumed; or
    - 17.1.2.2. the Match is declared abandoned by the Referee;
  - 17.1.3. following two (2) stoppages of thirty (30) minutes, the Referee must declare the Match abandoned;
- 17.2. For any Match which is abandoned as a result of Force Majeure, the AFC Futsal and Beach Soccer Committee shall decide on the matter at its sole discretion and take whatever action is deemed necessary.
  - 17.2.1. Decisions made pursuant to Article 17.2 are final and binding and not appealable.

- 17.3. Any Match which is abandoned, except in cases of Force Majeure recognised by the AFC Futsal and Beach Soccer Committee, may lead to the imposition of sanctions by the AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Committee against the relevant party that has caused the abandonment in accordance with the AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Code.
- 17.4. Should the AFC, pursuant to Article 17.2, determine that an abandoned Match should be rescheduled and completed, the following principles shall apply:
- 17.4.1. the Match shall re-commence with the same score at the minute and seconds at which play was interrupted rather than being replayed in full;
  - 17.4.2. the Match shall recommence with the same Participating Players on the Pitch at the time it was initially abandoned;
  - 17.4.3. no additional substitutes may be added to the Player Selection List or Match Starting List;
  - 17.4.4. any Participating Player sent off during the abandoned Match may not be replaced;
  - 17.4.5. any sanction imposed before the Match was abandoned remains valid for the remainder of the rescheduled Match;
  - 17.4.6. any other matters not set out above shall be decided by the AFC Futsal and Beach Soccer Committee in its sole discretion.
- 17.5. If a Match is stopped by the Referee before the end of normal playing time or during any Extra Time as a result of a Participating Team being able to only field fewer than three (3) Participating Players, the Match shall be declared abandoned and the Participating Team who is able to field more than three (3) Participating Players shall be declared the Winner by the score 5-0, or the score at the time of abandonment, whichever is higher.
- 17.6. Decisions made pursuant to Article 17.4.6 are final and binding and not appealable.

## 18. Arenas

- 18.1. Each Arena to be utilised shall be nominated by the Organising Association and is subject to inspection and confirmation by the AFC.
- 18.1.1. The AFC reserves the right to refuse the nomination of any Arenas and require the Organising Association to nominate an alternate Arenas.

- 18.2. If at any time during the Competition the AFC General Secretariat deems that, for whatever reason, an Arena is not fit to stage a Match, it shall consult with the relevant Organising Association and propose an alternate Arena.
- 18.3. The Organising Association shall ensure that no Matches and/or other activities (whether sporting, commercial or otherwise) are held at any Arenas approved to host Matches during the period starting ten (10) days prior to the first Match at the relevant Arenas and ending one (1) day after the last Match at the relevant Arenas, unless written permission has been obtained from the AFC.
- 18.3.1. If the Organising Association fails to comply with Article 18.3, it shall be fined at least USD5,000.
- 18.3.2. The AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Committee may issue further sanctions at its discretion.
- 18.4. Unless otherwise specified or directed by the AFC, each Arena approved to host Matches shall be made available to the AFC as of ten (10) days prior to the first Match at the Arenas until one (1) day after the last Match at the Arenas.
- 18.5. Each Arena nominated to host Matches must be in compliance with the AFC Stadium Regulations, relevant AFC guidelines, directives, and circulars, and may be subject to inspection by the AFC.
- 18.6. Smoking is strictly prohibited within any Arenas, and in particular, in the technical area, the vicinity of the Field of Play, or within competition areas (which includes, without limitation, the team dressing room).

## 19. Team Bench and Technical Area

- 19.1. A maximum of four (4) Participating Officials and a maximum of seven (7) Participating Substitute Players are permitted to sit on the team bench during a Match, provided they are in possession of the appropriate Accreditation Card.
- 19.2. All individuals on the team bench must wear kit that contrasts with the kit of the Participating Players and Match Officials on the Pitch. This kit must comply with the AFC Equipment Regulations (*cf.* Section 8).
- 19.3. Team 'A' shall occupy the team bench on the left when facing the Pitch when viewed from the Timekeeper bench.

## 20. Warming up

- 20.1. Each Participating Team shall be entitled to warm-up on the Pitch before a Match in accordance with the Official Countdown.
- 20.2. During a Match, a maximum of five (5) Participating Substitute Players from each Participating Team may warm-up, but without the ball, at the designated area behind their team bench, or alternatively in a space determined by the AFC Match Commissioner.

## 21. Official Training Sites

- 21.1. Official Training Sites shall contain a fully-equipped training field prepared to Match-condition.
  - 21.1.1. If the Organising Association fails to comply with Article 21.1, it shall be fined at least USD5,000.
  - 21.1.2. The AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Committee may issue further sanctions at its discretion.
- 21.2. The Organising Association shall ensure that no Matches and/or other activities are held at any Official Training Site as of ten (10) days prior to the relevant Match, unless written permission has been obtained from the AFC.
- 21.3. Participating Clubs must solely utilise Official Training Sites for any official training from two (2) days prior to their first Match until their last match of the Competition.
- 21.4. Official Training Sites must comply with all relevant AFC regulations, and any other safety and security standards issued by or contained within relevant AFC guidelines, directives, and circulars.
- 21.5. The AFC may refuse the nomination of an Official Training Site and require the Organising Association to nominate an alternate Official Training Site.
- 21.6. If at any time during the Competition the AFC General Secretariat deems that, for whatever reason, an Official Training Site is not fit to stage an official training, it shall consult with the Organising Association and propose an alternate Official Training Site.

## 22. Official Training at Arenas

- 22.1. Depending on the condition of the Pitch, each Participating Team is entitled to an official training of forty-five (45) minutes duration in the Arena in which they are due to play either one (1) or two (2) days prior to their first Match at approximately the same time as the Match kick-off.

- 22.2. The Pitch must be prepared to Match-condition for official training. If the Pitch is not in Match-condition, the AFC General Coordinator may shorten or cancel the official training and direct the Participating Teams to have a familiarisation session instead.
- 22.3. If a Participating Team chooses not to train at an Arena, they must provide the AFC General Coordinator or the AFC Match Commissioner with the time and location of their official training at another designated Official Training Site approved by the AFC. This shall be treated as their official training and they shall forfeit the right to train at that particular Arena in future.
- 22.4. The AFC will decide the official training schedule for the Participating Teams. A Participating Team must provide twenty-four (24) hours' notice to the AFC should they wish to cancel any official training.
- 22.5. Participating Teams are not permitted to organise any friendly matches during their official training or any other activity within Arenas or Official Training Sites from three (3) days prior to the first Match of the Competition for the duration of the Competition.

### 23. Beach Soccer Balls

- 23.1. The Beach Soccer balls for the Competition shall be selected and supplied by the AFC.
- 23.2. Each Participating Team shall receive ten (10) training balls upon their official arrival date (as determined by the AFC) which they are required to bring to and utilise throughout the Competition.
- 23.3. Participating Teams are only permitted to use the training balls provided by the AFC for training and warming-up purposes.

## SECTION 5: TEAM OFFICIAL DELEGATION

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### 24. Eligibility of Players

- 24.1. Each Participating Team shall ensure that all players:
- 24.1.1. are duly registered with the AFC pursuant to these Regulations; and
  - 24.1.2. holds the nationality of its country and are subject to its jurisdiction.
- 24.2. Individuals who meet the criteria set out in Article 24.1 are Participating Players and eligible to participate in the Competition, subject to the provisions of the AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Code.
- 24.3. The approval of the registration of a Participating Player by the AFC General Secretariat does not automatically provide for the eligibility of the Participating Player. Each Participating Team is responsible for and bears the onus of fielding only eligible Participating Players in a Match. Failure to do so shall lead to the consequences stipulated in the AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Code.
- 24.4. A Participating Player shall be deemed ineligible, without limitation, if:
- 24.4.1. there is a violation of Article 24.1; or
  - 24.4.2. he participates in a Match contrary to a decision of the AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Committee, these Regulations, or the operation of the AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Code; or
  - 24.4.3. the AFC determines that any document submitted during registration is false.

### 25. Registration of Players

- 25.1. There are three (3) stages of player registration:
- 25.1.1. Preliminary Registration (*cf.* Article 27);
  - 25.1.2. Final Registration: (*cf.* Article 28);
  - 25.1.3. Player Selection List: (*cf.* Article 29).
- 25.2. Throughout the Competition, each Participating Player shall wear the same number allocated during the Final Registration. Jersey number 1 shall be reserved for a goalkeeper.

- 25.3. All Participating Players will be issued with Accreditation Cards. Should a card be misplaced, the relevant Participating Team shall be required to pay USD1,000 as a replacement production fee.
- 25.4. Should the AFC not receive the “AFC Official Registration for Players” via AFCAS with all required documents by the stipulated deadline, the Participating Team concerned shall be considered to have withdrawn from the Competition in accordance with Article 6. Proof of submission by facsimile, courier and/or email will not be accepted.

## 26. Documents for Registration of Players

- 26.1. Participating Players must be registered online via the AFCAS online system, with the supporting documents set out below (unless already previously submitted and available in AFCAS):
- 26.1.1. a colour copy of a validly-issued passport, containing the full name, passport number, date of birth, place of birth, date of issue, date of expiry and nationality of the relevant individual. Group passports are not accepted;
  - 26.1.2. a colour copy of a national identification card (where applicable);
  - 26.1.3. a colour copy of a birth certificate (where requested by the AFC);
  - 26.1.4. one (1) passport-size colour photo (taken within three (3) months);
  - 26.1.5. in cases of registration of players who have acquired a new nationality (*cf.* Article 7, FIFA Regulations Governing the Application of the Statutes), the Participating Team concerned must additionally provide the supporting documents set out the Appendix 2.
  - 26.1.6. in cases of registration of players who hold a passport entitling them to represent more than one Member Association (*cf.* Article 6, FIFA Regulations Governing the Application of the Statutes), the Participating Team must provide the supporting documents set out in Appendix 3.
- 26.2. The AFC reserves the right to request additional documents.

## 27. Preliminary Registration

- 27.1. Each Participating Team shall submit to the AFC via AFCAS online registration the supporting documents in accordance with Article 25.1 thirty (30) days prior to the first Match of the Competition.

- 27.2. Each Participating Team shall register minimum twelve (12) and maximum twenty-five (25) players in the Preliminary Registration squad.
- 27.3. If a Participating Team fails to register minimum twelve (12) players, it shall be considered to have withdrawn in accordance with Article 6.
- 27.4. Each Participating Team must register minimum three (3) goalkeepers in their Preliminary Registration squad.
- 27.5. Once the “AFC Official Registration for Players” has been submitted via AFCAS and received by the AFC, and after the deadline has passed, under no circumstances shall Participating Teams be permitted to submit additional names or replace any registered individual, even if their maximum quota of twenty-five (25) players has not been filled.

## 28. Final Registration

- 28.1. Participating Teams are required to submit a Final Registration squad of twelve (12) players ten (10) days prior to the first Match of the Competition.
  - 28.1.1. the Final Registration squad may only be comprised from those maximum twenty-five (25) players selected in the Preliminary Registration squad;
  - 28.1.2. the Participating Players must be assigned jerseys numbered from 1-12. Number 1 shall be reserved for a goalkeeper.
- 28.2. Each Participating Team must register minimum two (2) goalkeepers in their Final Registration squad.
- 28.3. Once the Final Registration squad has been received by the AFC, Participating Teams may replace any of the registered Participating Players up to six (6) hours prior to their first Match in the Competition, subject to the below conditions:
  - 28.3.1. any replacement player(s) must have been registered in the Preliminary Registration squad;
  - 28.3.2. replacement players shall only be allocated vacant shirt numbers;
  - 28.3.3. to replace a Participating Player, a Participating Team must provide his Accreditation Card to the AFC General Coordinator. The AFC General Coordinator shall provide the Accreditation Card of the replacement player in exchange;

- 28.3.4. only when a replacement player has received his Accreditation Card will she be considered to be registered as a Participating Player and eligible to participate in the Competition.

## 29. Player Selection List

- 29.1. For all Matches, each Participating Team will receive a 'Player Selection List' on which the numbers and full names (last name, first name) of the Participating Players are listed one (1) day prior to the Match.
- 29.2. Each Participating Team must hand their Player Selection List signed by the Head Coach or Team Manager together with the "Officials on the Substitution Bench" to the AFC Match Commissioner at latest seventy-five (75) minutes prior to the commencement of each Match.
- 29.2.1. Each Participating Player who is marked on the Player Selection List must be available at the Player and Equipment Check undertaken by the AFC Match Commissioner on Match day.

## 30. Match Starting List

- 30.1. Upon receipt of the Player Selection List, the AFC Match Commissioner will issue the 'Match Starting List'.
- 30.2. The Match Starting List shall be signed by the AFC Match Commissioner, whose signature will make it an official document.
- 30.3. The AFC Match Commissioner will check the Accreditation Cards and playing kits of the Participating Players listed on the Match Starting List sixty-five (65) minutes before the Match in each team dressing room. Only those Participating Players possessing an Accreditation Card are entitled to participate in Matches.
- 30.4. Following the finalisation of the Match Starting List but prior to the commencement of the Match:
- 30.4.1. If any of the five (5) Participating Players selected to start the Match are unable to start for any reason, they may be replaced by any of the substitutes listed on the Match Starting List.
- 30.4.2. The Team Manager for the Participating Team shall immediately notify the Referees and the AFC Match Commissioner of the change to the Match Starting List.
- 30.4.3. There is no limit to the number of Participating Players that may be replaced.

30.4.4. The replaced player(s) shall no longer be eligible to participate in the Match and may not be replaced by a reserve player(s).

30.4.5. No Participating Players listed as substitutes on the Match Starting List may be replaced. Should such a Participating Player be unable to be fielded for any reason, the number of listed substitutes shall be reduced accordingly.

## 31. Registration of Officials

31.1. There shall only be one (1) registration period for Participating Officials for the Competition.

31.2. Each Participating Team shall register its Participating Officials and additional officials (if any) via AFCAS online registration along with the supporting documents by thirty (30) days prior to the first Match of the Competition.

31.3. Each Participating Team shall register minimum four (4) and maximum eight (8) Participating Officials.

31.4. Up to four (4) Participating Officials may be registered for each Match. The following three (3) Participating Officials must be registered in the 'Participating Officials on the Substitution Bench' Form by the AFC Match Commissioner:

31.4.1. Head Coach;

31.4.2. Team Manager; and

31.4.3. Team Doctor or Physiotherapist (or equivalent qualification).

31.5. Each Participating Team shall register any other one (1) Participating Officials for any other positions, including without limitation:

31.5.1. Team Media Officer;

31.5.2. Assistant Coach;

31.5.3. Fitness Coach;

31.5.4. GK Coach;

31.5.5. Physiotherapist (sports trainer, physical trainer or similar function);

- 31.5.6. Interpreter (the Team Liaison Officer may be registered as interpreter);
  - 31.5.7. Security Officer;
  - 31.5.8. Technical Officer; or
  - 31.5.9. Kitman.
- 31.6. Office Bearers (e.g. President, Vice President, Treasurer, Members of the Board) of the Participating Team or its Member Association may be registered as Participating Officials.
- 31.7. Should the Participating Team nominate less than six (6) Participating Officials on the “Officials on the Substitution Bench” Form, the number of Participating Officials permitted on the team bench shall reduce proportionately.
- 31.8. Each Participating Team is entitled to register a ‘Video Analyst’ who shall be the only member of a Team Official Delegation entitled to record Matches in the Competition. This recording shall be strictly used only for technical purposes and should not interfere with Match operations or be utilised by any Broadcast Licensees.
- 31.9. All Participating Officials (and additional officials) will be issued with an Accreditation Card. Should a card be misplaced, the Participating Team shall be required to pay USD1,000 as a replacement production fee.
- 31.10. Should the AFC not receive all required documents by the stipulated deadline, the Participating Team concerned shall be considered to have withdrawn from the Competition prior to its commencement in accordance with Article 6. Proof of submission by facsimile, courier and/or email will not be accepted.
- 31.11. Once the registration of Participating Officials has been received by the AFC, Participating Teams may replace any of the listed Participating Officials at any stage of the Competition with twenty-four (24) hours’ notice to the AFC, subject to the below conditions:
- 31.11.1. To replace a Participating Official, a Participating Team must provide his Accreditation Card to the AFC and shall receive the Accreditation Card of the replacement Participating Official in exchange.
  - 31.11.2. Replacement Participating Officials shall only be eligible to participate in the Competition after receiving their Accreditation Card.

## 32. Documents for Registration of Officials

32.1. Participating Officials must be registered via the AFCAS online registration, with the supporting documents set out below (unless already previously submitted to the AFC and available in AFCAS):

32.1.1. a colour copy of a validly-issued passport, containing the full name, passport number, date of birth, place of birth, date of issue, date of expiry and nationality of the relevant individual. Group passports shall not be accepted;

32.1.2. a colour copy of a national identification card (where applicable);

32.1.3. one (1) passport-size colour photo (taken within three (3) months);

32.1.4. evidence of their qualification based upon their function:

32.1.4.1. Head Coach: AFC Beach Soccer Coaching Certificate Level 1 or equivalent license as decided by the AFC Technical Division;

32.1.4.2. Assistant Coach: AFC Beach Soccer Coaching Certificate Level 1 or equivalent license as decided by the AFC Technical Division;

32.1.4.3. Fitness Coach: AFC Beach Soccer Coaching Certificate Level 1 or equivalent license as decided by the AFC Technical Division;

32.1.4.4. Goalkeeper Coach: AFC Beach Soccer Coaching Certificate Level 1 or equivalent license as decided by the AFC Technical Division; and

32.1.4.5. Team Doctor: relevant medical qualification.

32.2. The AFC reserves the right to request additional documents.

## 33. Size of Delegation at Matches

33.1. Each Participating Team shall register a Team Official Delegation comprising of twelve (12) Participating Players and four (4) Participating Officials.

33.2. The Team Official Delegation shall be granted full access to all official Competition areas, including the Pitch and other necessary Controlled Accessed Areas, as determined by the AFC.

- 33.3. If a Participating Team has registered more than four (4) Participating Officials pursuant to Article 31.3, all costs related to those additional Participating Officials shall be borne by the Participating Team. Such additional Participating Officials shall receive the same access rights as set out in Articles 33.2 and 33.4.
- 33.4. Each Participating Team may nominate maximum four (4) Participating Officials to sit on the team bench. The identity of said Participating Officials must be confirmed on the 'Officials on the Team Bench List' to be submitted prior to the commencement of each Match.
- 33.5. Participating Teams shall ensure that no unauthorised persons are permitted entry into the team dressing room, Field of Play, or any other Controlled Access Area requiring an Accreditation Card.

## SECTION 6: LOGISTICAL ARRANGEMENTS

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### 34. Arrival and Departure

- 34.1. Each Participating Team shall arrive at the official hotel at the Venue in the Competition two (2) days before the commencement of its first Match.
- 34.2. Each Participating Team shall depart the Host Country the day following their final Match in the Competition.

### 35. Travelling Costs

- 35.1. Each Participating Team is responsible for payment of all transportation costs (international and domestic airfares) for their Team Official Delegation from:
  - 35.1.1. their departure from the territory of the Member Association (or any other location) to the Venue of their first Match; and
  - 35.1.2. their departure from the Venue of their final Match.
- 35.2. Each Participating Team is required to purchase published-fare air tickets which are endorsable and allow for date changes (with or without penalty) for their Team Official Delegation, travelling to the Venue of their first Match and from the Venue of their final Match in the Competition.
- 35.3. Any costs relating to non-compliance shall be borne by the Participating Team.

### 36. Accommodation, Meals, and Refreshments for Participating Teams

- 36.1. Only official hotels approved by the AFC shall be used as accommodation by the Team Official Delegations during the Competition.
- 36.2. Each Participating Team, from the arrival of their Team Official Delegation (as approved by the AFC) until one (1) day after their final Match in the Competition, shall be provided:
  - 36.2.1. Accommodation in an international five-star hotel for the Team Official Delegation (or an international four-star hotel if there is no international five-star hotels in the Venue), not exceeding sixteen (16) persons, which shall comprise of six (6) double rooms and four (4) single rooms. All rooms where possible shall be on the same floor or split to two (2) floors, subject to the hotel layout;

- 36.2.2. one (1) additional empty room in the hotel for the purposes of medical treatment and storage;
  - 36.2.3. each briefing room shall be shared by two (2) teams set aside in said hotel for the duration of the Competition equipped with LCD screen and projector with audio visual equipment (including audio system), white board or flip chart with adequate supply of paper and markers;
  - 36.2.4. three (3) meals per day (international and pork-free buffet style) and one (1) additional light meal on Match Days in a dedicated dining area for the Team Official Delegation (not exceeding sixteen (16) persons);
  - 36.2.5. minimum six (6) liters of water per person per day for the Team Official Delegation (not exceeding sixteen (16) persons), as well as ice;
  - 36.2.6. daily laundry services (but no dry cleaning or pressing) for playing and training outfits (six (6) pieces per day per person) for the Team Official Delegation (not exceeding sixteen (16) persons).
- 36.3. Each Participating Team shall pay for incidental expenses incurred by its Team Official Delegation during the course of their stay in the Host Country.
  - 36.4. Each Participating Team shall pay for any costs incurred by additional members of their delegation (exceeding sixteen (16) persons).
  - 36.5. Each Participating Team shall pay for any extension of stay in the Host Country for their entire Team Official Delegation, other than where expressly permitted in these Regulations.
  - 36.6. Where there exists genuine unavailability (confirmed by the AFC Travel Office) of flights for a Participating Team to depart the Venue one (1) day after a Match, the Organising Association shall pay for all expenses of the Participating Team until departure.

## 37. Team Liaison Officer

- 37.1. Each Participating Team shall be provided with a Team Liaison Officer proficient in English and (if applicable) the local language of the Participating Team.

## 38. Local Land Transportation

38.1. Each Participating Team, from the arrival of their Team Official Delegation (as approved by the AFC) until one (1) day after their final Match in the Competition, shall be provided:

38.1.1. one (1) bus with minimum thirty-five (35) seats; and

38.1.2. one (1) multi-purpose vehicle (MPV).

for transportation of the Team Official Delegation to training, Matches, Official Functions, and airport transfers.

38.2. Each Participating Team shall be provided one (1) additional luggage truck for airport transfers for their arrival and departure from the Competition.

## SECTION 7: MEDIA

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### 39. Media access in Stadia

- 39.1. Representatives of the written press and radio journalists are not permitted on the Pitch or the area between the boundaries of the Pitch and the spectators, with the exception of accredited Media who shall carry out their duties in the specific locations assigned to them.
- 39.2. Only photographers, cameramen of the Host Broadcaster and the main visiting Broadcast Licensees and the personnel required to operate the electronic television cameras of the Host Broadcaster are allowed in the area between the boundaries of the Pitch and the spectators, where they will carry out their work in the specific locations assigned to them.
- 39.3. No Media representatives are permitted to enter any team dressing room at any stage of any Match.
- 39.4. The Organising Association shall ensure that the AFC, the Host Broadcaster, and all Broadcast Licensees have free access to each Arena from five (5) days prior to each Match until one (1) day following each Match, to allow for the resolution of any technical issues and for the assembly of the relevant infrastructure required to execute the Media Rights.
- 39.5. The Organising Association is responsible for ensuring that the Media Rights are protected and that no unofficial or unauthorised broadcaster and/or video or ENG camera crews are permitted access to any Arenas without the prior written permission of the AFC.

### 40. Official Training

- 40.1. All official training is open to the Media.
- 40.2. Should a Participating Team wish to close its official training to the Media, it shall, as a minimum, open the session for the first fifteen (15) minutes.
- 40.3. If an official training occurs at an Arena, the areas accessible by the Media shall be the same as available to them during Matches. Access to such areas must be security-controlled by the Organising Association.

### 41. Press Conferences

- 41.1. The Head Coach and minimum one (1) Participating Player of each Participating Team is obliged to attend and participate:

- 41.1.1. a pre-Match press conference for each Match in the Competition in which their Participating Team competes, to be held at least one (1) day prior to the commencement of the Competition; and
- 41.1.2. a post-Match press conference for each Match in the Competition in which their Participating Team competes.
- 41.2. Each Team Media Officer or Team Manager must ensure attendance of the Head Coach and the relevant Participating Player(s).
- 41.3. Each Participating Team is responsible (if applicable) for the interpretation of its Head Coach and relevant Participating Players into English. Interpretation into the local language (if applicable) shall be the responsibility of the Organising Association.
- 41.4. Any individual who fails to attend an obligatory press conference shall be fined at least USD5,000. The relevant Participating Team shall also be held liable in accordance with Article 3.3.8. The AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Committee may issue further sanctions in its discretion.

## 42. Mixed Zone

- 42.1. The Team Official Delegation shall pass through the Mixed Zone on their way from their team dressing room to their bus after each Match.
- 42.2. Any individual who fails to pass through the Mixed Zone shall be fined at least USD5,000. The relevant Participating Team shall also be held liable in accordance with Article 3.3.8. The AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Committee may issue further sanctions in its discretion.

## 43. Interviews

- 43.1. If requested by the AFC, each Participating Team shall make their Head Coach and the selected Participating Player available the day before each Match and/or the day of the Match for an interview of up to ten (10) minutes, to be recorded by the Host Broadcaster or other Broadcast Licensee, or by the AFC official website.
- 43.2. All interview locations shall be assigned by an AFC Media Officer and/or the AFC General Coordinator.
- 43.3. Any individual who fails to conduct an interview when requested shall be fined at least USD5,000. The relevant Participating Team shall also be held liable in accordance with Article 3.3.8. The AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Committee may issue further sanctions in its discretion.

#### 44. Flash Interviews

- 44.1. Participating Players and Participating Officials are not permitted to give interviews at the Arenas without the express permission of the AFC.
- 44.2. The AFC Media Officer and/or AFC General Coordinator may designate an area for 'flash interviews' to be conducted by the Host Broadcaster and the visiting Media Rights-holding Broadcast Licensee (if applicable) following each Match.
- 44.3. If requested by the AFC, any Participating Player and/or Participating Officials shall participate in a 'flash interview' following each Match.
- 44.4. Any individual who fails to conduct a 'flash interview' when requested shall be fined at least USD5,000. The relevant Participating Team shall also be held liable in accordance with Article 3.3.8. The AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Committee may issue further sanctions in its discretion.

#### 45. Recording of Matches

- 45.1. Each Participating Team shall be provided with a USB recording of each Match of the Competition by the AFC/Organising Association.

## SECTION 8: EQUIPMENT

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### 46. AFC Equipment Regulations

- 46.1. Each Participating Team must comply with the AFC Equipment Regulations.
- 46.2. The AFC Equipment Regulations are operational from the arrival of each Team Official Delegation at a Controlled Access Area until the departure of each Team Official Delegation from such areas.

### 47. AFC Badges

- 47.1. Each Participating Team shall allow space on its playing jersey to affix the following sleeve badges as required by the AFC Equipment Regulations:
  - 47.1.1. one (1) AFC Beach Soccer Championship 2021 sleeve badge on the right arm; and
  - 47.1.2. one (1) AFC campaign sleeve badge on the left arm (if applicable).

### 48. Kit Approval Procedure

- 48.1. Each Participating Team shall submit to the AFC for its approval one (1) sample of all kit, as defined in the AFC Equipment Regulations, latest sixty (60) days prior to the first Match of the Competition.
- 48.2. Each Participating Team shall submit to the AFC for its approval one (1) sample of all other apparel to be worn by their Team Official Delegation within the Controlled Access Areas during the Competition latest sixty (60) days prior to the first Match of the Competition.
- 48.3. Should any equipment submitted to the AFC infringe the AFC Equipment Regulations or these Regulations, the Participating Team shall be required to resubmit corrected equipment to the AFC. In addition, the relevant Participating Team may be required to present additional samples at any time.
- 48.4. The AFC Match Commissioner, the AFC General Coordinator, and/or the AFC Marketing Manager all have the right and duty to inspect the kit of each Team Official Delegation at each Venue, and are entitled to seize and send such items to the AFC Headquarters for further inspection following each Match.

## 49. Responsibility

- 49.1. The AFC has the sole authority to approve the equipment (including kit) set out in the AFC Equipment Regulations.
- 49.2. Each Participating Team shall indemnify the AFC and hold it harmless from any and all damages in the event that a conflict arises as a result of any endorsement deal between itself and its sponsor(s) which contravenes the AFC Equipment Regulations.

## SECTION 9: TICKETING

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### 50. Terms and Conditions

50.1. In collaboration with the Organising Association, the AFC shall issue special ticketing terms and conditions which are applicable to all Ticket holders, including without limitation the Participating Teams, and which must be communicated to all relevant parties.

### 51. Complimentary Tickets

51.1. The AFC shall provide each Participating Team with the following complimentary Ticket allocation for each of the Matches contested by its Participating Team:

51.1.1. one (1) VVIP Tickets;

51.1.2. two (2) VIP Tickets; and

51.1.3. fifteen (15) Category 1 Tickets.

51.2. The AFC shall provide each Participating Team with two (2) Category 1 Tickets for all other Matches of the Competition.

### 52. Purchasable Tickets

52.1. The Organising Association must make available at least three percent (3%) of the net saleable capacity of its Arena available exclusively to the supporters of each Participating Team, in a segregated, safe area to be determined by the Organising Association in conjunction with the AFC.

52.2. This allocation shall be comprised of a mixture of Category 1 and Category 2 Tickets. The number of Tickets to be purchased must be declared to the Organising Association by no later than one (1) month prior to the Competition with full payment by the Participating Team. The Participating Team is responsible for all Tickets purchased, even if not utilised. The price of the Tickets shall not exceed the price of comparable Tickets that are sold to the supporters of the host Participating Team.

52.3. The Organising Association shall provide the AFC Commercial Rights Partner with the opportunity to buy Tickets at face-value for each Match. The number of Tickets to be purchased must be declared to the Organising Association by no later than one (1) Month prior to the Competition.

## SECTION 10: MEDICAL & ANTI-DOPING

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### 53. Medical Facilities and Treatment

53.1. The Organising Association is responsible, for each Participating Team from the arrival of their Team Official Delegation (as approved by the AFC) until one (1) day after their final Match in the Competition, for the costs of the following medical treatments within the Host Country:

53.1.1. outpatient treatment (non-admission to hospital);

53.1.2. minor surgeries (e.g. suturing);

53.1.3. radiological investigations (x-ray); and

53.1.4. emergency treatment.

53.2. The Organising Association is responsible for the costs of the medical treatment set out at Article 53.1 for the AFC Delegation from their arrival in the Host Country until their departure from the Host Country.

53.3. Each Participating Team is responsible, for all members of its Team Official Delegation, for the cost of any:

53.3.1. hospitalisation (admission to hospital);

53.3.2. surgical operations not provided for in Article 53.1; and

53.3.3. specialised investigative procedures.

### 54. Pre-Competition Medical Assessment

54.1. Each Participating Team shall ensure that each Participating Player in its Preliminary Registration undergoes a pre-competition medical assessment (PCMA) at least thirty (30) days prior to the first Match of the Competition.

54.1.1. Participating Players that have undertaken a PCMA for a FIFA competition may provide the AFC with the physician and player's declaration form originally provided to FIFA, provided that the PCMA was conducted within one (1) year of the Competition.

54.1.2. The AFC shall provide all Participating Teams with the PCMA form setting out the necessary matters to be tested, which shall include testing to prevent players from experiencing sudden cardiac death during any Match.

54.1.3. Each Member Association must submit to the AFC latest ten (10) days prior to the first Match of the Competition the following signed documents:

54.1.3.1. “Participating Team Declaration of Agreement to the PCMA”; and

54.1.3.2. for each Participating Player, the “Player and Examining Physician Declaration for PCMA”.

54.1.4. Any player for whom the required documents are not provided is not eligible to be registered in the Final Registration for a Participating Team.

54.2. The AFC Medical Committee may, in its sole discretion, order any further medical evaluation of a Participating Player that it deems necessary. The cost of such further testing shall be borne by the AFC.

## 55. Anti-Doping

55.1. Doping is strictly prohibited. The AFC Anti-Doping Regulations, the AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Code, and all relevant AFC directives in relation to anti-doping are applicable to the Competition.

55.2. The AFC shall inform each Participating Team by means of a circular of the doping control procedure for the Competition.

55.3. The AFC Medical Committee shall be responsible for the approval of the WADA-accredited laboratory which shall carry out the analysis of all doping samples.

## SECTION 11: DISCIPLINARY

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### 56. Disciplinary Measures

- 56.1. All disciplinary measures in relation to the Competition shall be undertaken in accordance with the current AFC Statutes, AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Code, and any relevant AFC circular.
- 56.2. The AFC may introduce new disciplinary rules and sanctions for the duration of the Competition. Such rules shall be communicated to the Participating Teams and their Member Associations one (1) month before the first Match of the Competition at the latest.
- 56.3. All Participating Players agree to:
  - 56.3.1. respect the spirit of fair play, non-violence, and the authority of the Match Officials;
  - 56.3.2. behave accordingly; and
  - 56.3.3. refrain from doping (*cf.* Article 55).

#### Administrative Procedure

- 56.4. Subject to the AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Code, for any offence set out in these Regulations with a listed minimum fine, where it is the first such offence committed by a party:
  - 56.4.1. the AFC, after completing its investigation but prior to opening disciplinary proceedings, may write to the party and make an offer to compound the offence and reduce the listed fine by twenty percent (20%) should the party admit to the offence;
  - 56.4.2. if the offence is admitted, the AFC shall submit the compounded offence to the Chairperson of the AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Committee for approval;
    - 56.4.2.1. should the party not admit to the offence, the AFC shall open disciplinary proceedings;
  - 56.4.3. upon approval of the Chairperson of the AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Committee, the sanction shall be notified and applied administratively by the AFC;
    - 56.4.3.1. should the Chairperson of the AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Committee not approve the compounded offence, the AFC shall open disciplinary proceedings;

- 56.4.4. by agreeing to compound the offence, the party waives its right to request a motivated decision or appeal the sanction issued;
- 56.4.5. any sanction issued administratively comes into force immediately upon notification in accordance with the AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Code.

## 57. Cautions and Expulsions

- 57.1. All matters relating to cautions and expulsions, including the carrying forward of cautions between stages of the Competition, shall be undertaken in accordance with the AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Code and any relevant AFC Circular except where expressly set out below.
  - 57.1.1. Any Participating Player who completes the Group Stage having only received one (1) caution shall carry-over that caution to the Quarter Finals.
  - 57.1.2. Any Participating Player who completes the Quarter Finals having only received one (1) caution shall not carry-over that caution to the Semi Finals.

## 58. Indiscipline or Violent Conduct

- 58.1. Any act of indiscipline or violent conduct at the Arenas (including without limitation within the team dressing room or on the Pitch), Official Training Site, Accommodation, or any other location within the Venue of a Match shall be referred to the AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Committee.

## 59. Protest

- 59.1. A protest is an objection of any kind to any matter that has a direct effect on Matches and any matters related to breach of these Regulations.
- 59.2. Unless otherwise stipulated, to be considered valid, protests shall be:
  - 59.2.1. submitted in writing on the Protest Form to the AFC Match Commissioner within two (2) hours of the end of the Match in question;
  - 59.2.2. followed up with a full written report, including a copy of the original protest, sent to the AFC General Secretariat within twenty-four (24) hours of the end of the Match;

- 59.2.3. accompanied by a non-refundable fee of USD500 submitted within twenty-four (24) hours of the end of the Match.
- 59.3. No protest shall be lodged relating to the referee's decisions regarding facts connected with play. Such decisions are final and not subject to appeal, unless expressly otherwise stipulated in the AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Code.
- 59.4. Should the AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Committee determine that a protest is irresponsible, it may impose a fine.
- 59.5. If any of the formal conditions of a protest as set out in these Regulations are not met, such protest shall be disregarded. Following the completion of the final Match of the Competition, all protests shall be disregarded.
- 59.6. The AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Committee shall make decisions on protests. The AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Committee may transfer a protest to the AFC Futsal and Beach Soccer Committee for its decision if it is deemed purely operational in nature.

## 60. Arbitration

- 60.1. Any dispute in connection with the Competition shall be promptly settled by negotiation.
- 60.2. In compliance with the AFC Statutes, Participating Teams, Participating Players, and Participating Officials are prohibited from initiating disputes in an ordinary court of law and must submit to the exclusive jurisdiction of the AFC.
- 60.3. Participating Teams, Member Associations, Participating Players, and Participating Officials acknowledge and accept that, once all internal channels have been exhausted at the AFC, their sole recourse shall be to the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS). The Code of Sports-related Arbitration shall be applicable. The language of arbitration shall be English.
- 60.4. The jurisdiction of the CAS to resolve disputes is only available where it has not been expressly excluded or a decision is declared as final and binding and not subject to appeal.

## SECTION 12: ADMINISTRATION

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### 61. Awards

- 61.1. The following awards of the Competition shall be presented:
- 61.1.1. Most Valuable Player;
  - 61.1.2. Top Goalscorer;
  - 61.1.3. AFC Fair Play Award; and
  - 61.1.4. Commemorative medals for the Referees of the Final.
- 61.2. The Most Valuable Player of the Competition is awarded to the Participating Player who has a major influence on each of his Matches and the Competition overall.
- 61.3. The Top Goalscorer is awarded to the Participating Player who has scored the highest number of goals in the Competition. In the event of a tie, the number of assists as determined by the AFC Technical Analysis Group will be taken into account to identify the winner. If there is still a tie, the total minutes played will be taken into account with the Participating Player with the lower number of minutes played ranked first.
- 61.4. The AFC Fair Play Award is awarded to the Participating Team who has collected the most Fair Play points in the Competition.
- 61.4.1. The Participating Team may be disqualified if it or any of its Team Official Delegation at any Match is involved in severe misconduct throughout the Competition.
- 61.5. The AFC Futsal and Beach Soccer Committee may decide to introduce further awards.

### 62. Trophy and Medals

- 62.1. The original Competition trophy is presented to the Champion during the prize presentation ceremony and shall remain in the possession of the AFC at all times thereafter. The Champion shall subsequently be awarded a one-third (1/3) size replica by the AFC as its permanent possession.
- 62.2. The Champion Participating Team may produce a copy of the trophy, provided it is clearly marked as a replica and does not exceed 4/5 (four fifths) of the size of the original.
- 62.3. The AFC shall award the following medals:

- 62.3.1. twenty-four (24) medals to the Champion;
  - 62.3.2. twenty-four (24) medals to the Runner-Up;
  - 62.3.3. twenty-four (24) medals to the Third Place.
- 62.4. No additional medals shall be produced by the AFC.

### 63. Prize Presentation Ceremony

- 63.1. A prize presentation ceremony shall be held immediately after the Final to present the awards, trophies, and medals listed in Article 62.
- 63.2. The Participating Team and Participating Players that qualify to receive the awards, trophies, and medals shall attend the relevant prize presentation ceremony. Participating Teams may be represented by the Team Official Delegation for the prize presentation ceremony following the Final.

### 64. Protocol

- 64.1. The AFC Protocol Guidelines shall apply for all Matches.

### 65. Special Instructions

- 65.1. The AFC Futsal and Beach Soccer Committee shall, in conjunction with the Organising Association, issue any instructions necessitated by special circumstances which might arise in the Host Country.
- 65.2. These instructions shall form an integral part of these Regulations.

### 66. Force Majeure

- 66.1. The AFC Futsal and Beach Soccer Committee is the only body capable of declaring a Force Majeure event.

### 67. Matters not provided for

- 67.1. Matters not provided for in these Regulations shall be decided by the AFC Futsal and Beach Soccer Committee. Such decisions are binding and final.

## 68. Ratification

- 68.1. These Regulations were ratified by the AFC Executive Committee on 13 March 2020 and came into force immediately.

For the AFC Executive Committee

President:

Shaikh Salman bin Ebrahim Al Khalifa

AFC General Secretary:

Dato' Windsor John

## APPENDIX 1: Determining the Ranking in a Group using Fair Play criteria

1. This Appendix 1 sets out the calculation provided for in Article 10.5 of these Regulations.
2. Each Participating Team shall be awarded points for receiving red and yellow cards as indicated below:
  - 2.1. per yellow card: one (1) point;
  - 2.2. per red card (as a consequence of two yellow cards): three (3) points;
  - 2.3. per red card (direct): three (3) points; and
  - 2.4. per yellow card followed by a red card (direct): four (4) points.
3. The Participating Team receiving the least number of points shall be ranked highest. The remaining Participating Teams shall be ranked in descending order.

**APPENDIX 2: Registration of Players who have Acquired a New Nationality  
(Documents to be provided to AFC)**

No.	Documents	Attached (please tick)
1.	Official Registration Form for Players with passport photo.	
2	<p>The player must provide <u>one of the following categories of documents</u>:</p> <p>a) 1) Letter from the Member Association of the player's previous nationality or country of birth declaring that the player has never played (either in full or in part) for its representative teams in an official competition of any category of any type of football; and</p> <p>2) Letter from the player declaring that he has never played for any representative teams of any Member Association (either in full or in part) in an official competition of any category of any type of football.</p> <p>b) Decision of the FIFA Players' Status Committee allowing the player to change Association.</p>	
3.	Clear copy of player's passport.	
4.	Clear copy of player's national ID card.	
5.	<p>If the player seeks to rely on 2(a) as opposed to 2(b), they must provide <u>one of the following categories of documents</u>:</p> <p>a) 1) Evidence that their father or mother was born on the territory of the relevant Association; and</p> <p>2) Evidence that such person is their biological parent.</p> <p>b) 1) Evidence that their grandfather or grandmother was born on the territory of the relevant Association; and</p> <p>2) Evidence that such person is their biological grandparent.</p> <p>c) Evidence that the player has lived continuously on the territory of the relevant Association for at least five (5) years after the age of 18.</p> <p>d) Evidence that the player was born on the territory of the relevant Association.</p>	

\* Players relying on category 5 (c) under the age of 23 must provide a decision of the FIFA Players' Status Committee.

APPENDIX 3: Registration of Players who have a Nationality Entitling them to Represent More than One Association (Documents to be provided to AFC)

No.	Documents	Attached (please tick)
1.	Official Registration Form for Players with passport photo.	
2	<p>The player must provide <u>one of the following categories of documents</u>:</p> <p>a) 1) Letter from the Member Association of the player's previous nationality or country of birth declaring that the player has never played (either in full or in part) for its representative teams in an official competition of any category of any type of football; and</p> <p>2) Letter from the player declaring that he has never played for any representative teams of any Member Association (either in full or in part) in an official competition of any category of any type of football.</p>	
b)	Decision of the FIFA Players' Status Committee allowing the player to change Association.	
3.	Clear copy of player's passport	
4.	Clear copy of player's national ID card	
5.	If the player seeks to rely on 2(a) as opposed to 2(b), they must provide <u>one of the following categories of documents</u> :	
a)	1) Evidence that their father or mother was born on the territory of the relevant Association; and	
	2) Evidence that such person is their biological parent.	
b)	1) Evidence that their grandfather or grandmother was born on the territory of the relevant Association; and	
	2) Evidence that such person is their biological grandparent.	
c)	Evidence that the player has lived continuously on the territory of the relevant Association for at least two (2) years.	
d)	Evidence that the player was born on the territory of the relevant Association.	

#### APPENDIX 4: Marketing and Media Operation Guidelines

The Marketing and Media Operation Guidelines are set out in the Competition Operations Manual.

They are applicable for the duration of the Competition.



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