ASIAN
FOOTBALL
CONFEDERATION

AFC FUTSAL CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP 2027



AFC FUTSAL CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP 2027

CONTENTS

DEFINITIONS 7

SECTION 1: GENERAL PROVISIONS 9

1. AFC Futsal Club Championship 2027 9
2. The Asian Football Confederation 9
3. Host Organisation 10
4. Participating Club and Member Associations 11
5. Entry 14
6. Withdrawal from the Competition 15

SECTION 2: COMPETITION SYSTEM AND MATCH SCHEDULE 18

7. Competition System 18
8. Competition Format 19
9. Extra Time and Penalties 20
10. Match Schedule 20
11. Cancellation of Matches 20
12. Abandonment of Matches 20

SECTION 3: STADIUMS AND OFFICIAL TRAINING SITES 22

13. Stadiums 22
14. Official Training Sites 22

SECTION 4: TECHNICAL REGULATIONS 24

15. Futsal Laws of the Game 24
16. Refereeing 24
17. Team Bench and Technical Area 24
18. Futsal Balls 25
19. Equipment 25

SECTION 5: OFFICIAL TEAM DELEGATION 26

20. Official Team Delegation 26
21. Eligibility of Players 26
22. Preliminary Registration of Players 27
23. Final Registration of Players 27
24. Documents for Registration of Players 28
25. Player Selection List 28
26. Registration of Officials 29
27. Documents for Registration of Officials 30

SECTION 6: MEDIA 31

28. Media Access 31
29. Team Dressing Room Filming 31
30. Press Conferences 31
31. Interviews Prior to the Match 32
32. Flash Interviews 32
33. Mixed Zone 33
34. Access to Match Footage 33

SECTION 7: TICKETING 34

35. General Requirements 34
36. Terms and Conditions 34
37. Complimentary Tickets 34
38. Purchasable Tickets 35

SECTION 8: COMMERCIAL 36

39. Commercial Rights 36
40. Clean Site 36
41. Advertising and Branding 36

SECTION 9: SAFETY AND SECURITY 37

42. General Principles 37

SECTION 10: MEDICAL & ANTI-DOPING 38

43. Pre-Competition Medical Assessment 38
44. Facilities and Personnel 38
45. Anti-Doping 39

SECTION 11: FINANCIAL PROVISIONS 40

46. General Responsibilities 40
47. Logistical Arrangements for Participating Clubs 40
48. Logistical Arrangements for the AFC Delegation 40
49. Disciplinary Action 40

SECTION 12: AWARDS 41

50. Trophy, Award and Medals 41
51. Award Ceremony 41

SECTION 13: DISCIPLINARY 43

52. Disciplinary Measures 43
53. Good Conduct 43
54. Administrative Procedure 43
55. Cautions and Expulsions 44
56. Protest 44
57. Arbitration 45

SECTION 14: CLOSING PROVISIONS 46

58. Special Instructions 46
59. Decisions 46
60. Amendments 46
61. Force Majeure 46
62. Matters Not Provided For 46
63. Implementing Provisions 46
64. Enforcement 47



DEFINITIONS

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

AFC Futsal and Beach Soccer Committee	The Standing Committee of the AFC described in Article 48 of the AFC Statutes.
Champion	The Participating Club that wins the final Match of the Competition.
Competition	The AFC Futsal Club Championship 2027, which includes without limitation, all Matches, all activities on the Pitch (other than Matches), opening ceremonies, presentations or closing ceremonies, press conferences and Official Functions connected therewith.
Futsal Laws of the Game	The laws of futsal issued by FIFA.
Group Stage	The first stage of the Competition held in accordance with these Regulations.
Hosting Agreement	The agreement concluded between the AFC and the Host Organisation for the organisation, hosting, and staging of the Competition.
Knockout Stage	The second stage of the Competition held in accordance with these Regulations.
League	A professional league and/or amateur league which consists of a combination of Clubs within the territory of a Football Association and which is subordinate to and under the authority of that Football Association.
Manual	The AFC Competition Operations Manual which sets out the operational responsibilities of the relevant stakeholders in relation to the organising, hosting and staging of Matches and Competitions.
Participating Club	A Club which is approved by the AFC to participate in the Competition.
Pitch	The area described in Law 1 of the Futsal Laws of the Game.
Pitch Area	The Pitch and the adjacent area up to the demarcation of the stands.
Regulations	These Competition Regulations.

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

a) the singular shall include the plural and vice-versa;

b) the masculine gender shall include the feminine and vice-versa;

c) reference to natural persons shall include any legal person or corporation;

d) references to the AFC shall include its successors and permitted assigns, and where the context requires, the AFC Committees;

e) reference to the AFC Commercial Rights Partner or Commercial Affiliates shall include, where advised by the AFC, their successors and permitted assigns;

f) all defined terms, unless otherwise stated herein and/or unless the context indicates otherwise, shall bear the same meaning as ascribed in the AFC Statutes and the Manual; and

g) references to Articles shall mean the Articles of these Regulations, unless expressly stated otherwise.

SECTION 1: GENERAL PROVISIONS

1. AFC Futsal Club Championship 2027

1.1. These Regulations govern the rights, duties, and responsibilities of the AFC, the Participating Clubs (as well their Member Associations and Leagues), Host Organisations, Participating Players and Participating Officials taking part in the Competition. t

1.2. These Regulations and all related 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. Further details in relation to various aspects of the Competition may be communicated to the Participating Clubs (through their affiliated Member Associations) via circular letters. In the event of any discrepancy between the circular letters and these Regulations, the circular letters shall prevail to the extent of the inconsistency.

1.3. The Manual forms an integral part and shall be read in conjunction with these Regulations. The Manual shall be binding upon all parties participating and involved in the preparation, organisation and hosting of the Competition. In the event of any discrepancy between these Regulations and the Manual, these Regulations shall prevail to the extent of the inconsistency.

1.4. Any failure to adhere to any matter set out in these Regulations, the Manual and/or any related directives, decisions, guidelines, and/or circulars issued by the AFC may be referred to the AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Committee.

1.5. Any rights and Proprietary Interests associated with the Competition that are not granted by these Regulations and/or specific agreements to any Host Organisation or Participating Club shall vest in the AFC.

1.6. Any reference to the AFC Statutes and to the AFC and FIFA regulations, shall refer to those valid at the time of application.

2. The Asian Football Confederation

2.1. The AFC Futsal and Beach Soccer Committee shall advice and assist the AFC Executive Committee on matters relating to 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 General Secretariat shall include, but are not limited to:

2.2.1. supervising general preparations and deciding on the Competition format, the draws, and the entries to the Competition;

2.2.2. determining the Match Schedule (cf. Article 11);

2.2.3. selecting Stadiums for the Competition after consultation with the Host Organisation (cf. Article 14);

2.2.4. appointing Match Officials and any other AFC Delegation for each Match;

2.2.5. choosing and/or approving the official futsal match ball and stipulated technical material;

2.2.6. approving the choice of the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA)-accredited laboratories that will carry out the doping analyses (cf. Article 46);

2.2.7. reporting cases where appropriate to the AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Committee (cf. Article 53);

2.2.8. providing insurance coverage for the AFC Delegation appointed to any Match from the time of their departure from their home Member Association to their departure from the Venue; and

2.2.9. dealing with any other aspect of the Competition that is not the responsibility of any other body pursuant to these Regulations or the AFC Statutes (cf. Article 64).

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. Host Organisation

3.1. The Host Organisation shall comply with the principal obligations and responsibilities in connection with the hosting and staging of the relevant Matches in the Competition.

3.2. The principal obligations and responsibilities of the Host Organisation are stipulated in the (where relevant) Hosting Agreement, these Regulations, the Manual, the AFC Statutes and all other AFC regulations, directives, guidelines and circulars.

3.3. The Host Organisation shall undertake, at its own cost, to:

3.3.1. observe all obligations set out in the (where relevant) Hosting Agreement, these Regulations, the Manual, the AFC Statutes and all other AFC regulations, directives, guidelines and circulars and all applicable national and supra-national laws;

3.3.2. perform each of its obligations and exercise each of the rights granted to it as host, in connection with the hosting, staging and organisation of the Competition in accordance with professional standards;

3.3.3. assist and coordinate with Member Associations on all arrangements relating to the Competition in agreement with the AFC;

3.3.4. negotiate with and/or lobby the appropriate government bodies and/or local authorities to assist in the successful hosting, staging and organising of the Competition;

3.3.5. obtain all applicable and relevant licences, permits, grants and authorisations as may be required to fulfil its obligation in relation to the hosting, staging and organising of the Competition;

3.3.6. comply with the AFC's instructions on the provision of key services, facilities, equipment and infrastructure at each Stadium;

3.3.7. provide the necessary assistance and support to the AFC, AFC Commercial Rights Partner and Commercial Affiliates in relation to the use and exploitation of the Commercial Rights and all Proprietary Interests of the AFC and the protection and enforcement of rights in relation thereto;

3.3.8. procure all necessary insurance policies which shall provide coverage for all risks relating to the hosting, staging and organising of the Competition and name the AFC as a co-insured;

3.3.9. obtain all clearances and execute all required documentation to enable the free and unfettered exercise and exploitation of Commercial Rights and clearance of all products, equipment or materials relating to the exploitation of the Commercial Rights of the Competition; and

3.3.10. guarantee safety and security at the Stadium.

3.4. The Host Organisation shall indemnify, hold harmless and defend the AFC, the AFC Commercial Rights Partner, its Commercial Affiliates as well as their officers, members, agents, auxiliary persons, representatives, and employees from and against all liabilities, obligations, damages, losses, claims, demands, recoveries, deficiencies, costs or expenses (including without limitation all costs and expenses for finding and contracting with another Host Organisation able and willing to stage the Competition and/or all attorney fees and expenses) which such parties may suffer or incur in connection with, resulting from, or arising out of any breach by the Host Organisation (including its officers, directors, representatives, auxiliary persons, employees or agents) or any act or omission of the Host Organisation (including its officers, directors, representatives, auxiliary persons, employees or agents) in connection with the performance of its obligations under the Hosting Agreement and these Regulations.

4. Participating Clubs and Member Associations

4.1. The principal obligations and responsibilities of each Participating Club and its Member Association are stipulated in the Participating Team Agreement (PTA), these Regulations, the Manual, the AFC Statutes, and all other AFC regulations, directives, guidelines and circulars.

4.1.1. Each Participating Club that has entered the Competition must submit a PTA.

4.1.2. The PTA and such other documents as requested by the AFC General Secretariat in relation to the PTA shall be completed and submitted to the AFC General Secretariat not later than the deadline provided by the AFC General Secretariat.

4.1.3. Failure to submit a validly completed PTA to the AFC General Secretariat by the deadline shall result in the non-participation of the relevant club.

4.2. Each Participating Club shall ensure as a condition of its participation in the Competition that every member of its Official Team Delegation for each Match is aware of and agrees to comply with the PTA.

4.3. Each Participating Club shall undertake to:

4.3.1. observe all obligations set out in the PTA, these Regulations, the Manual, the AFC Statutes, and all other AFC regulations, directives, guidelines and circulars, and applicable national and supra-national laws;

4.3.2. comply with the Futsal Laws of the Game;

4.3.3. accept that all the administrative, disciplinary and refereeing matters connected with the Competition shall be settled by the AFC in compliance with these Regulations;

4.3.4. field their strongest team throughout the Competition;

4.3.5. observe the principles of fair play;

4.3.6. ensure the good conduct of its Official Team Delegation and of any person carrying out duties on its behalf throughout the Competition, which includes but is not limited to their arrival on the territory of any Host Organisation until their departure;

4.3.7. accept all arrangements made by any Host Organisation in agreement with the AFC;

4.3.8. ensure that its Participating Players and Participating Officials attend and participate in all official activities and events, including without limitation any draw ceremonies, Club workshops, team arrival meeting, match coordination meeting, press conference, and other media and marketing activities in accordance with the instructions issued by the AFC;

4.3.8.1. failure to attend and/or fully participate in any official activity or event shall result in the Participating Member Association being fined at least USD2,500; and

4.3.8.2. the AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Committee may issue further sanctions at its discretion.

4.3.9. provide to the AFC, free of charge, prior to the Competition, any

photographs, audio/visual materials and/or information regarding the Participating Club, Participating Players and/or Participating Officials, including without limitation statistics and historical information and any further information as requested by the AFC;

4.3.10. link the official URL for the Competition on its official website; and

4.3.11. not establish any digital, media or social media platform in connection with the Competition without the involvement and express written approval of the AFC.

4.4. Each Participating Club and its Member Association shall, at their own expense, be solely responsible throughout the Competition for:

4.4.1. the procurement of insurance coverage for:

4.4.1.1 their Official Team Delegation which shall include without limitation hospital and surgical insurance, travel insurance, and/or sports equipment insurance for all Matches;

4.4.1.2 all risks in connection with staging and organising Matches, including but not limited to public liability insurance. The AFC shall be expressly identified as a named insured party in all such insurance policies.

4.4.2. 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 Participating Club's participation in the Competition. The AFC must be notified of all insurance policies, and may request copies of any and all policies at its discretion;

4.4.3. payment of incidental expenses and for any costs incurred by its Official Team Delegation (cf. Article 47);

4.4.4. payment of any costs of extending the stay of any member of its Official Team Delegation in the Host Organisation (cf. Article 47); and

4.4.5. obtaining visas to enter the territory of the Host Organisation no later than thirty (30) days prior to its first Match at that Venue. This includes all costs related to the visa application process; and

4.4.6. 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.

4.5. Each Participating Club and its Member Association shall indemnify, defend, and hold the AFC, and all of its officers, directors, employees, representatives, agents, subsidiaries, local organising committees 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 Participating Club and/or its Member Association, its Official Team Delegation, its affiliates and any third parties contracted to the Participating Club and/or its Member Association.

4.6. Participating Clubs are not authorised to represent the AFC or the Competition without the prior written approval of the AFC General Secretariat.

4.7. All Participating Players and Participating Officials are encouraged to attend the AFC Annual Awards if they are nominated for an award.

4.8. Each Participating Club and its Member Association shall ensure that any decision made by the AFC relating to its duties and responsibilities is enforced immediately.

5. Entry

5.1. The Member Associations that were ranked first (1st) to eighth (8th) place in the AFC Futsal Asian Cup 2026 may nominate up to one (1) Participating Club from its Member Association to participate in the Competition. To be eligible to participate in the Competition, Member Associations shall:

5.1.1. be ranked in the FIFA Futsal World Ranking;

5.1.2. have domestic competition(s) (either in a league or knockout format) consisting of a minimum of ten (10) matches per Club from all the domestic competition(s); and

5.1.3. have a full-time dedicated official who oversees operational matters for the domestic competition.

5.2. Each Member Association shall set the methodology for nomination of its representative Club(s) for the Competition. Each Member Association shall ensure that, without exception:

5.2.1. its Club(s) qualify for the Competition based on sporting merit;

5.2.2. it clearly identifies a domestic competition for the purposes of entries to the Competition;

5.2.3. the Club nominated by the Member Association must be the winner of its domestic competition ending in the domestic sporting season immediately preceding the Competition. In case the domestic competition consists of different formats (e.g. a knockout stage after the completion of a league stage), the Member Association shall be responsible for determining the winner of the domestic top division league as part of its nomination principles;

5.2.4. the principles of objectivity, transparency, integrity and non-discrimination are respected with a view to ensuring fair entry into the Competition; and

5.2.5. the nomination principles are approved by the relevant competent bodies within its Member Association and/or League prior to submission to the AFC.

5.3. Any of the Member Associations ranked first (1st) to eighth (8th) place in the AFC Futsal Asian Cup 2026 that fails to fulfil the criteria described in Articles 5.1.1 to 5.1.3 above, or fails to nominate a Participating Club in accordance with Article 5.2 shall be deemed ineligible. In such cases, the next best-ranked eligible Member Associations in the AFC Futsal Asian Cup 2026 shall become a Participating Member Association.

5.4. Eligible Clubs must complete a PTA and submit it to the AFC General Secretariat in accordance with Article 4 to confirm their entry into the Competition.

5.4.1. Subject to Article 5.4.2, the name and logo of a Participating Club shall not refer to the popular name and/or logo of any third party entity, regardless of whether that third party entity is a commercial partner or sponsor of the Participating Club.

5.4.2. The AFC General Secretariat may grant an exception to the restriction(s) in Article 5.4.1 in the following circumstances:

5.4.2.1. The name/logo of any Participating Club that refers to any third party entity is a pre-existing name/logo which has been utilised on a long-term basis by the Participating Club and either the third party entity was directly involved in the creation of the Participating Club (by financial or other means) or the third party entity holds a majority of the shareholders' voting rights in the Participating Club; and/or

5.4.2.2. The Participating Club has previously competed in an AFC competition utilising the name/logo.

The burden of proof shall rest on the relevant Participating Club to prove its compliance with the provision(s) of Article 5.4.2 and the AFC shall be entitled, at its discretion, to request information from the relevant Participating Club in this regard. The AFC shall decide on any exceptions at its sole discretion, and any such decisions shall be final and binding and not appealable.

5.5. Participating Clubs are not permitted to change their name for the Competition after the first Match in the Competition has been played.

5.6. All decisions by the AFC Futsal and Beach Soccer Committee regarding entry to the Competition are final and binding and not appealable.

6. Withdrawal from the Competition

6.1. All Participating Clubs undertake that they shall play all their Matches in the Competition until elimination.

6.2. Without limitation, any Participating Club that (for any reason):

6.2.1. informs the AFC General Secretariat in writing that it does not intend to or is unable to report to a Venue and/or for a Match;

6.2.2. fails to report to a Venue and/or for a Match;

6.2.3. refuses or fails to continue a Match;

6.2.4. leaves the Stadium prior to the completion of a Match;

6.2.5. is excluded, suspended or banned by any competent body from participating in the Competition (or any stage of the Competition) at any time after the draw for the Competition (or stage, as appropriate); or

6.2.6. is excluded, suspended or banned by any competent body from participating in any Match in the Competition at any time after the relevant Match has been scheduled,

shall be considered to have withdrawn from the Competition.

6.3. Subject to Articles 6.5 to 6.7, the AFC Futsal and Beach Soccer Committee shall be responsible for making the necessary decisions where a Participating Club withdraws from the Competition, whether before or after commencement of the Competition (as applicable), and shall be entitled to take any action it considers appropriate in such circumstances, including without limitation regarding whether or not to change the technical regulations (cf. Section 4) and/or the competition system (cf. Article 7) and, where applicable, the means of effecting such change(s).

6.4. The AFC Futsal and Beach Soccer Committee shall be responsible for determining events of Force Majeure in connection with any withdrawal and shall, subject to Articles 6.5 to 6.7, be entitled to take any action it considers appropriate in such circumstances. Any Participating Club that wishes to put forward a case of Force Majeure for the consideration of the AFC Futsal and Beach Soccer Committee must do so in writing (with supporting evidence) no later than thirty (30) days after the date of its withdrawal. The AFC General Secretariat may put forward cases of Force Majeure for the consideration of the AFC Futsal and Beach Soccer Committee at its discretion at any time (provided that the case has not been referred to the AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Committee).

6.5. In the event that a Participating Club withdraws from the Competition, whether before or after commencement of the Competition (as applicable), the Competition shall continue with the remaining Participating Clubs and Matches without any replacement.

For the avoidance of doubt, this Article 6.5 shall apply in all instances and is applicable even in cases of Force Majeure determined by the AFC Futsal and Beach Soccer Committee.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, the AFC General Secretariat may, at its discretion, put forward a request to replace the relevant Participating Club and, where applicable, the means of effecting such replacement, for the consideration of the AFC Futsal and

Beach Soccer Committee, in which case the AFC Futsal and Beach Soccer Committee shall be entitled to take a decision in the matter.

6.6. Any Participating Club that withdraws from the Competition after it has commenced shall have all its Matches cancelled and considered null and void. No yellow cards, red cards, points and goals in those Matches shall be taken into consideration when determining the final rankings in a group pursuant to Article 7.2.

For the avoidance of doubt, this Article 6.6 shall apply in all instances and is applicable even in cases of Force Majeure determined by the AFC Futsal and Beach Soccer Committee.

6.7. Where any Participating Club fails to comply with Article 6.1 and withdraws from the Competition, the case shall be referred to the AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Committee.

In this regard, any Participating Club that withdraws from Competition:

6.7.1. before it has commenced, shall be fined:

6.7.1.1. at least USD10,000 if its withdrawal occurred thirty (30) days or more before its first Match in the Competition; or

6.7.1.2. at least USD20,000 if its withdrawal occurred less than thirty (30) days before its first Match in the Competition.

6.7.2. after it has commenced, shall be fined at least USD50,000.

6.7.3. may be disqualified from participating in the next edition of the AFC Futsal Club Championship.

In addition, in all instances, the AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Committee shall order the relevant Participating Club to return to the AFC any financial payment that has been paid in connection with its participation in the Competition (or, if not yet paid, to forfeit its right to that financial payment) and to pay compensation for any and all damages or losses suffered by, where applicable, the other Participating Clubs, the AFC, the AFC Commercial Rights Partner, Commercial Affiliates and the Host Organisation. The amount of compensation shall be determined by the AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Committee.

This Article 6.7 is not applicable in cases of Force Majeure determined by the AFC Futsal and Beach Soccer Committee but shall apply in all other instances.

6.8. All decisions of the AFC Futsal and Beach Soccer Committee under Articles 6.3 to 6.5 shall be final and binding and not appealable.

SECTION 2: COMPETITION SYSTEM AND MATCH SCHEDULE

7. Competition System

7.1. The Competition shall consist of two (2) stages:

7.1.1. the Group Stage; and

7.1.2. the Knockout Stage.

7.2. Should the competition system involve groups of several Participating Clubs, the ranking in each group shall be determined in accordance with the Manual and in descending order as follows:

7.2.1 higher number of points obtained in all group Matches;

7.2.2 if two (2) or more Participating Clubs are equal on points, the following criteria are applied to determine the ranking (in descending order):

Head-to-Head criteria

7.2.2.1. higher number of points obtained in the group Matches played among the Participating Clubs in question;

7.2.2.2. superior goal difference from the group Matches played among the Participating Clubs in question;

7.2.2.3. higher number of goals scored in the group Matches played among the Participating Clubs in question;

Tiebreaker

7.2.2.4. if, after having applied the Head-to-Head criteria, two (2) or more Participating Clubs still have an equal ranking, the Head-to-Head criteria shall be reapplied exclusively to the Matches between the Participating Clubs in question to determine their final rankings. If this procedure does not lead to a decision, the Group Results criteria below shall apply;

Group Results criteria

7.2.2.5. superior goal difference from all group Matches;

7.2.2.6. higher number of goals scored from all group Matches;

7.2.2.7. Penalties only if two (2) Participating Clubs still have an equal ranking and have played their last group Match against each other;

7.2.2.8. the lower score, calculated according to the number of yellow and red cards received in the group Matches in accordance with the Manual; or

7.2.2.9. the drawing of lots.

8. Competition Format

Group Stage

8.1. The Group Stage shall consist of eight (8) Participating Clubs drawn into two (2) groups of four (4) Participating Clubs each, with each group played in a centralised league format. The Participating Clubs shall be designated as follows:

Group A	Group B
A1	B1
A2	B2
A3	B3
A4	B4

8.2. Each Participating Club shall play one (1) Match against each Participating Club within its respective group in accordance with the Match Schedule.

8.3. The ranking in each group shall be determined in accordance with Articles 7.2.

8.4. At the conclusion of the Group Stage:

8.4.1 the first-placed and second-placed Participating Clubs in each group shall qualify for the Knockout Stage; and

8.4.2. all other Participating Clubs shall be eliminated from the Competition.

Knockout Stage

8.5. The Knockout Stage shall consist of the semi finals, and final Match, with each round played in a centralised knockout format.

8.6. For each round of the Knockout Stage, Participating Clubs shall play one (1) Match in accordance with the Match Schedule.

8.7. The four (4) Participating Clubs that qualify from the Group Stage shall play the semi-finals as follows:

SF1: Winner Group A vs Runner-Up Group B
SF2: Winner Group B vs Runner-Up Group A

For the avoidance of doubt, the above does not represent the chronological order in which the Matches will be played.

8.8. The two (2) winners of the semi-finals shall play the final Match as follows:

Final: Winner SF1 vs Winner SF2

9. Extra Time and Penalties

9.1. If no winner is determined at the end of normal playing time in any Match in the Knockout Stage, Extra Time comprising of two (2) periods of five (5) minutes each shall be played.

9.2. Extra Time shall be played after an interval of five (5) minutes at the end of normal playing time. A short drinks break (which should not exceed one (1) minute) is permitted at the interval of half-time in Extra Time.

9.3. If no winner is determined at the end of Extra Time, Penalties shall be taken in accordance with the Futsal Laws of the Game and the Manual.

10. Match Schedule

10.1. All Matches shall be played in accordance with the AFC competitions calendar. The dates are final and binding and not appealable.

10.2. The Match Schedule shall be determined by the AFC General Secretariat following the official draws for the Competition. The date, format and draw mechanism of the official draws shall be determined by the AFC General Secretariat. Such decisions are final and binding and not appealable.

10.3. The AFC General Secretariat retains final discretion to amend the Match Schedule at any time.

11. Cancellation of Matches

11.1. For any Match that 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.

11.1.1. Decisions made pursuant to Article 11.1 are final and binding and not appealable.

11.2. Any Match that 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.

11.3. If a Match cannot commence for any reason, the procedure described in the Manual shall be followed.

12. Abandonment of Matches

12.1. For any Match that 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.

12.1.1 Decisions pursuant to Article 12.1 are final and binding and not appealable.

12.2. Any Match that 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.

12.3. If a Match is stopped by the referee for any reason, the procedure described in the Manual shall be followed.

SECTION 3: STADIUMS AND OFFICIAL TRAINING SITES

13. Stadiums

13.1. The Host Organisation shall ensure that all Matches in the Competition are played in Stadiums which meet the requirements defined in the AFC Futsal and Beach Soccer Stadium Regulations, the Manual and any other applicable AFC regulations. The AFC General Secretariat may carry out inspections at any time before and during the Competition to check whether the requirements are met. All costs related to any such inspection shall be borne by the Host Organisation.

13.1.1. The AFC General Secretariat may, at its sole discretion, reject the nomination of any Stadium and select an alternative Stadium to stage the relevant Match(es).

13.2. Unless prior written permission has been obtained from the AFC General Secretariat, the Host Organisation shall ensure that the Stadiums are available to the AFC for its exclusive use and no futsal matches and/or other events or activities are held at any Stadium during the period starting at least seven (7) days prior to the first Match of the Competition until one (1) after the last use of the Stadium in connection with the Competition.

13.3 The Host Organisation that fails to comply with Articles 13.2 shall be:

13.3.1 fined at least USD5,000; and

13.3.2 The AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Committee may impose further sanctions at its discretion.

14. Official Training Sites

14.1. Official Training Sites shall contain a fully equipped training pitch prepared to match condition with field markings in accordance with the Law 1 of the Futsal Law of the Game.

14.1.1 The Host Organisation that fails to comply with Article 14.1 shall be fined at least USD5,000.

14.1.2 The AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Committee may impose further sanctions at its discretion.

14.2. Official Training Sites shall be made available at least four (4) days prior to the first Match of the Competition until one (1) day after the last use of the Official Training Site concerned as scheduled by the AFC General Secretariat. They shall not be used for any other purpose during the period, unless written permission has been obtained from the AFC General Secretariat.

14.2.1 The Host Organisation that fails to comply with Articles 14.2 and 14.3 shall be fined at least USD5,000.

14.2.2 The AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Committee may impose further sanctions at its discretion.

14.3. Participating Clubs must solely utilise Official Training Sites for any training at the Venue (excluding any official training that may be held at a Stadium) from two (2) days prior to their first Match.

SECTION 4: TECHNICAL REGULATIONS

15. Futsal Laws of the Game

15.1. All Matches shall be played in accordance with the Futsal Laws of the Game. In the case of any discrepancy in the interpretation of the Futsal Laws of the Game, the English version shall prevail.

15.2. Each Match shall last forty (40) minutes, comprising two (2) periods of twenty (20) minutes, with a half-time interval of fifteen (15) minutes and wherever required in accordance with Article 10, Extra Time shall be played.

15.3. The nine (9) substitutes listed on the start list of a Match may take part in the Match. An unlimited number of substitutions may be made during a Match.

Within two (2) periods of playing time, the Participating Clubs are entitled to one (1) timeout per period, consisting of one (1) minute each. Participating Officials are authorised to submit a request for a timeout to the third referee or timekeeper (if there is no third referee) using the form provided by the AFC. There shall be no timeouts provided to the Participating Clubs during Extra Time.

15.4. The AFC General Secretariat may, at its discretion, decide to use football technologies in any Match or Matches in the Competition or in the Competition as a whole (including video support (VS) systems or electronic performance and tracking systems (EPTS or any other football technology) in accordance with the Futsal Laws of the Game.

16. Refereeing

16.1. If one of the two (2) referees is prevented from carrying out his/her duties, such referee shall be replaced by the third referee.

16.2. The referees may make use of the video support (VS) system in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Futsal Laws of the Game in force at the time of the Competition.

17. Team Bench and Technical Area

17.1. A maximum of nine (9) Participating Players and a maximum of six (6) Participating Officials are permitted to sit on the team bench during a Match, provided they are in possession of the appropriate Accreditation Device.

17.2. The Host Organisation shall reserve a minimum of ten (10) Team Technical Seats for each Participating Club's additional Participating Players and Participating Officials who will not be seated on the team bench. For the avoidance of doubt, only Participating Players and Participating Officials from the Official Team Delegation are permitted to sit on the Team Technical Seats, provided they are in possession of the appropriate Accreditation Devices.

18. Futsal Balls

18.1. The futsal balls used in the Competition shall be selected and supplied by the Host Organisation. The Host Organisation shall supply each visiting Participating Club with the same futsal ball for its training throughout the period of its stay.

18.2. Participating Clubs shall solely utilise the training futsal balls provided by the Host Organisation for training and warming-up purposes.

19. Equipment

19.1. The AFC General Secretariat has the sole authority to approve the equipment (including kit) in accordance with the AFC Equipment Regulations.

19.2. Each Participating Club shall indemnify the AFC and hold the AFC harmless from any and all damages in the event that a conflict arises as a result of any endorsement deal existing between itself and its sponsor(s) which contravenes the AFC Equipment Regulations.

SECTION 5: OFFICIAL TEAM DELEGATION

20. Official Team Delegation

20.1. All Participating Players and Participating Officials of an Official Team Delegation will be issued with Accreditation Cards authorised by the AFC General Secretariat. Participating Players and Officials shall only be eligible to participate in the Competition after receiving their Accreditation Cards.

20.2. Each Participating Club shall ensure that no person in its Official Team Delegation or otherwise affiliated to it enters or is present on its team bus, in its team dressing room, on the Pitch, or in any other Controlled Access Area without being in physical possession of the necessary Accreditation Device which has been validly issued to such person.

20.3. Subject to the conditions set out below, Participating Clubs shall register an Official Team Delegation comprising fourteen (14) Participating Players and a minimum of three (3) and up to a maximum of six (6) Participating Officials.

20.3.1. Each Participating Club may nominate an additional four (4) Participating Officials, as part of its Official Team Delegation, who shall receive the same Accreditation Card(s) as the Participating Officials referred to above.

All costs related to the additional four (4) Participating Officials shall be borne by the relevant Participating Club.

21. Eligibility of Players

21.1. Each Participating Club shall ensure that all players:

21.1.1. are duly registered with the AFC pursuant to these Regulations;

21.1.2. are duly registered with the Participating Club in accordance with its Member Association's transfer rules and registration periods, as well as the FIFA Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players.

21.2. Individuals who meet the criteria set out in Article 21.1 are eligible to participate in the Competition, subject to the provisions of the AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Code.

21.3. The approval of the registration of a Participating Player by the AFC General Secretariat does not mean that the Participating Player is eligible to participate in the Competition. Each Participating Club is responsible for 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.

21.4. A Participating Player shall be deemed ineligible, without limitation, if:

21.4.1. there is a violation of Article 21.1; or

21.4.2. 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

21.4.3. the AFC determines that any document submitted during registration is falsified or forged.

22. Preliminary Registration of Players

22.1. Each Participating Club shall register a minimum of fourteen (14) and a maximum of twenty-five (25) Participating Players in the Preliminary Registration.

22.2. Each Participating Club shall submit the supporting documents in accordance with Article 24 via AFCAS no later than thirty (30) days prior to the first Match of the Competition, or as otherwise determined by the AFC General Secretariat.

22.3. No later than ten (10) days prior to the first Match of the Competition, each Participating Club may replace or add up to five (5) players for any reason provided that the maximum number of registered players is not exceeded.

22.4. There is no allocation of jersey numbers during the Preliminary Registration.

22.5. Each Participating Club must register a minimum of three (3) goalkeepers in its Preliminary Registration.

22.6. If a Participating Club fails to register a minimum of fourteen (14) Participating Players, it it shall be considered to have withdrawn from the Competition and subject to Article 6.

22.7. Should the AFC General Secretariat not receive all required documents by the stipulated deadline, the individual concerned shall be considered not eligible to be registered and participate in the Competition.

23. Final Registration of Players

23.1. Each Participating Club shall submit a Final Registration of maximum fourteen (14) Participating Players no later than ten (10) days prior to the first Match of the Competition.

23.1.1. The Final Registration may only be composed of those Participating Players registered in the Preliminary Registration for the Competition.

23.1.2. The Participating Players must be assigned shirts numbered 1 to 14. Shirt number 1 shall be reserved for a goalkeeper. Each Participating Player shall wear the same number allocated in the Final Registration during all Matches in the Competition.

23.2. Each Participating Club must register a minimum of two (2) goalkeepers in its Final Registration.

23.3. Once the Final Registration has been submitted to the AFC General Secretariat, Participating Clubs may only replace any of the registered Participating Players in the event of serious injury or illness. Participating Clubs may request for such replacement(s) up until twenty-four (24) hours prior to their first Match in the Competition. The request shall be approved by the AFC General Secretariat, provided that:

23.3.1. it is accompanied by a written medical report from the Team Doctor, in English, detailing the extent of the injury or illness of the relevant Participating Player(s) with all relevant information as requested by the AFC General Secretariat;

23.3.2. any replacement Participating Player must have been registered in the Preliminary Registration;

23.3.3. any replacement Participating Player shall only be allocated the vacated shirt number;

23.3.4. the Participating Club provides the AFC with the Accreditation Card of the Participating Player who is being replaced (it being noted that the Participating Club shall receive the Accreditation Card of the replacement Participating Player in exchange); and

23.3.5. any replacement Participating Player shall only be eligible to participate in the Competition after receiving their Accreditation Card.

24. Documents for Registration of Players

24.1. Participating Players must be registered via AFCAS with the supporting documents set out in the Manual, together with any additional information requested by the AFC General Secretariat.

24.2. Each Participating Club shall ensure to submit authentic documents for the registration of its Participating Players.

25. Player Selection List

25.1. Each Participating Club must submit the player selection list by selecting the starting five (5), including the team captain and up to nine (9) substitutes no later than ninety (90) minutes prior to the commencement of each Match. For the avoidance of doubt, any player who is not selected as the starting five (5) or substitutes (as applicable) shall be identified as 'not playing'.

25.1.1 Each Participating Player who is selected on the player selection list as the starting five (5) or substitutes (as applicable) must be available at the player and equipment check undertaken by the AFC Match Commissioner on matchday.

26. Registration of Officials

26.1. Each Participating Club may nominate a minimum of three (3) and up to a maximum of six (6) Participating Officials. Each Participating Club may also nominate an additional four (4) Participating Officials in accordance with Article 20.

26.2. Each Participating Club shall submit the supporting documents in accordance with Article 27 via AFCAS no later than thirty (30) days prior to the first Match of the Competition, or as otherwise determined by the AFC General Secretariat.

26.3. Each Participating Club must include the following three (3) Participating Officials in the registration list:

26.3.1 Head coach;

26.3.2 Team manager (who shall also act as the team media officer in the event that there is no dedicated team media officer); and

26.3.3 Team doctor.

26.4. Up to six (6) Participating Officials may sit on the team bench for each Match. The following three (3) Participating Officials must be selected on the officials on the substitution bench list and must sit on the team bench for each Match:

26.4.1. Head coach;

26.4.2. Team manager; and

26.4.3. Team doctor.

26.5. Each Participating Club may register video analysts, however, for each Match, only one (1) of them shall be entitled to receive the necessary Accreditation Device and they shall be the only member of an Official Team Delegation entitled to record Matches in the Competition. They shall use only one (1) lightweight amateur camera. This recording shall be strictly for technical purposes and should not interfere with Match operations or be utilised by any Broadcast Partner or otherwise be distributed. For the avoidance of doubt, video analysts are only allowed to film Match(es) involving their Participating Club, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the two (2) Participating Clubs of the relevant Match. A fixed camera position will be determined by the AFC at each Stadium for use by video analysts, subject to availability of space.

26.6. Should the AFC General Secretariat not receive all required documents by the stipulated deadline, the individual concerned shall be considered not eligible to be registered and participate in the Competition.

26.7. Once the registration of Participating Officials has been received by the AFC General Secretariat and after the stipulated deadline has passed, Participating Clubs may replace any of the listed Participating Officials in the Competition with twenty-four (24) hours' notice to the AFC by submitting the documents set out in Article 27 via AFCAS, subject to the conditions below:

26.7.1 to replace a Participating Official, a Participating Club must provide their Accreditation Card to the AFC and shall receive the Accreditation Card of the replacement Participating Official in exchange; and

26.7.2 replacement Participating Officials shall only be eligible to participate in the Competition after receiving their Accreditation Card.

26.8. Each Participating Club shall submit the officials on the substitution bench list ninety (90) minutes prior to the commencement of each Match, at the latest.

27. Documents for Registration of Officials

27.1. Participating Officials must be registered via AFCAS with the supporting documents set out in the Manual, together with any additional information and/or documents requested by the AFC General Secretariat.

27.2. Each Participating Club shall ensure to submit valid and authentic documents for the registration of its Participating Officials.

SECTION 6: MEDIA

28. Media Access

28.1 The Host Organisation shall ensure that the AFC, AFC Commercial Rights Partner, Commercial Affiliates, the Host Broadcaster and all Broadcast Partners have free access to each Stadium from seven (7) days prior to the first Match in the Stadium until one (1) day after the last Match in the Stadium to allow for the resolution of any technical issues and for the assembly and/or disassembly of the relevant infrastructure required to execute the Media Rights.

29. Team Dressing Room Filming

29.1. If requested by the AFC, each Participating Club shall complete its respective matchday team dressing room set-up no later than two and half (2.5) hours prior to Match kick-off and thereafter shall grant access to the AFC, the Host Broadcaster and all Broadcast Partners inside their team dressing room to conduct the following activities:

29.1.1. to film the matchday set-up of the team dressing rooms;

29.1.2. to allow the Broadcast Partner's reporter to conduct standup reporting (as approved by the AFC); and

29.1.3. to film the arrival of Participating Players and Participating Officials in the team dressing room.

29.2. All team dressing room footage will be pre-recorded and edited before any transmission. The duration allowed in each team dressing room shall be confirmed by the AFC media officer in consultation with the respective Participating Club.

29.3. Participating Clubs shall ensure that no technical, tactical or confidential materials are visible in the team dressing room during filming.

29.4. Any Participating Club that fails to complete the team dressing room set up filming when requested by the AFC shall be fined at least USD2,500. The AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Committee may impose further sanctions at its discretion.

30. Press Conferences

30.1. In the Group Stage, there shall be no formal pre- and/or post-Match press conferences. Upon request of the AFC, the Head Coach and one (1) of the key Participating Players (as determined by the AFC at its sole discretion) from each Participating Club shall be made available to the Media one (1) day before each Match in which they participate.

30.2. Pre- and post-Match press conferences shall be held starting from the semi-finals of the Competition.

30.3. The head coach and one (1) of the key Participating Players (as determined by the AFC at its sole discretion) of each Participating Club must attend the pre-Match press

conference organised in accordance with Article 30.2.

30.4. The head coach of each Participating Club must attend a post-Match press conference for the semi-finals and the final Match in which they participate, commencing no later than fifteen (15) minutes after the Match. Subject to compliance with the AFC Anti-Doping Regulations, where additional awards (e.g. Player of the Match) are granted, the winner of such awards must also attend the post-Match press conference if requested by the AFC.

30.5. Each Participating Club is responsible for the interpretation and translation of any communication made by its Participating Players and Participating Officials into English. Interpretation and translation into the local language (if applicable) shall be the responsibility of the Host Organisation.

30.6. Any individual who fails to attend an obligatory press conference shall be fined at least USD2,500. The relevant Participating Club shall also be held liable for any failure to attend a press conference in accordance with Article 4.3.8. The AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Committee may impose further sanctions at its discretion.

31. Interviews Prior to the Match

31.1. If requested by the AFC, each Participating Club shall make the following individuals available for an interview prior to each Match as follows:

MD-1 Interview

31.1.1 The head coach and one (1) Participating Player on the day before each Match for an interview of up to ten (10) minutes, to be recorded by the Host Broadcaster or any other Broadcast Partner, any Commercial Affiliate and/or the AFC. All interview locations shall be designated by the AFC media officer.

Stadium Arrival Interview

31.1.2 One (1) Participating Player on matchday for an interview of not more than ninety (90) seconds at their point of arrival at the Stadium for the Match.

Pre-Match Interview

31.1.3 Head coach on matchday for an interview of not more than ninety (90) seconds before or during the respective Participating Club's pre-Match warmup.

31.2. Any individual who fails to participate in an interview when requested shall be fined at least USD2,500. The relevant Participating Club may also be held liable for any failure to participate in an interview when requested in accordance with Article 4.3.8. The AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Committee may impose further sanctions at its discretion.

32. Flash Interviews

32.1. If requested by the AFC, a Participating Club shall make available a maximum of three (3) Participating Players and/or Participating Officials for flash interviews following each Match.

32.2. Any individual who fails to participate in a flash interview when requested shall be fined at least USD2,500. The relevant Participating Club may also be held liable for any failure to participate in a flash interview when requested in accordance with Article 4.3.8. The AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Committee may impose further sanctions at its discretion.

33. Mixed Zone

33.1. The head coach and all Participating Players of each Participating Club shall pass through the mixed zone on their way from their team dressing room to their bus after each Match.

33.2. Any individual who fails to pass through the mixed zone shall be fined at least USD2,500. The relevant Participating Club may be held liable for any failure to pass through the mixed zone in accordance with Article 4.3.8 the AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Committee may impose further sanctions at its discretion.

If requested by the AFC, each Participating Club shall nominate a minimum of two (2) and a maximum of three (3) Participating Players, as well as the head coach, for an interview of which should not exceed two (2) minutes in the Mixed Zone after the final whistle.

34. Access to Match Footage

34.1 After each Match, the Host Organisation shall provide the AFC Match Commissioner and the Participating Clubs with the Match footage in an acceptable broadcast quality and format within twelve (12) hours of the conclusion of the relevant Match.

34.2 The Host Organisation that fails to comply with Article 34.1 shall be fined at least USD2,500. The AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Committee may impose further sanctions at its discretion.

SECTION 7: TICKETING

35. General Requirements

35.1. Tickets, electronic or hard copy, shall include seat numbering and serial numbering, and only include AFC Marks, Competition Marks, and/or marks of Commercial Affiliates approved by the AFC General Secretariat.

35.2. The AFC reserves the right at its sole discretion to substitute the seating area or the gate entrance identified on the Ticket with another, if deemed appropriate.

35.3. The Host Organisation must ensure that access to the Stadium is granted to the AFC Delegation, Official Team Delegation, AFC Commercial Rights Partner, Commercial Affiliates, Media and travelling supporters without any discrimination.

35.4. The Host Organisation shall not create any other ticket categories and/or types other than as expressly approved by the AFC.

36. Terms and Conditions

36.1. The Host Organisation shall be responsible at its own cost for the design, production, distribution, and sales of all Tickets. Such matters are subject to the approval of the AFC General Secretariat.

36.2. The AFC General Secretariat shall, in collaboration with the Host Organisation, issue Ticketing terms and conditions which are applicable to all Ticket holders.

36.3. In respect of the Competition, the AFC General Secretariat reserves the right at its sole discretion to determine the scope and terms relating to ticketing and shall advise the Host Organisation on any requirements relating to Ticket production, distribution and/or sales.

37. Complimentary Tickets

37.1. The Host Organisation shall provide Complimentary Tickets to the AFC for each Match in the Competition as instructed by the AFC General Secretariat.

37.2. The Host Organisation shall provide the following Complimentary Tickets to each Participating Club in the Competition :

37.2.1 one (1) VVIP Ticket for each Match the Participating Club participates in;

37.2.2 two (2) VIP Tickets for each Match the Participating Club participates in;

37.2.3 fifteen (15) Tickets of the next-best category (as determined by the AFC General Secretariat) for each Match the Participating Club participates in; and

37.2.4 two (2) Tickets of the next-best category (as determined by the AFC

General Secretariat) for all other Matches at the Venue not involving the relevant Participating Club.

37.3 Notwithstanding Article 37.2, the AFC General Secretariat reserves the right to request any additional Complimentary Tickets for a Match, the number of which shall be communicated to the Host Organisation at the appropriate time.

38. Purchasable Tickets

38.1. The Host Organisation must make available at least eight percent (8%) of the net saleable capacity of a Stadium available exclusively to the supporters of each Participating Club playing in a Match, in a segregated, safe area to be determined by the AFC General Secretariat and the Host Organisation.

38.2. The number of Tickets to be purchased must be declared by each Participating Club in accordance with the Ticketing timeline and guidelines issued by the AFC General Secretariat. Each Participating Club is responsible for all Tickets purchased, even if the Tickets are not utilised. The price of the Tickets shall not exceed the price of comparable Tickets that are sold to the general public by the relevant Host Organisation.

38.3. The Host Organisation 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 at a time to be mutually agreed between the AFC Commercial Rights Partner and the Host Organisation.

SECTION 8: COMMERCIAL

39. Commercial Rights

39.1. The AFC is the owner of all Commercial Rights emanating from the Competition as well as from any other related events coming under its jurisdiction, without any restrictions as to content, time, place and law. The AFC General Secretariat may grant the Host Organisation the Commercial Rights, in whole or in part, in accordance with the Manual which governs the rights, duties, and responsibilities of all parties regarding the Commercial Rights.

39.2. The Host Organisation shall use its best endeavours in seeking political and administrative support from all local, regional and national governmental authorities to ensure the effective exploitation and protection of the Commercial Rights (including through the implementation of government guarantees and tabling of supplementary legislation).

39.3. The Host Organisation shall appoint a reasonable number of personnel to assist the AFC in the implementation and enforcement of its rights protection programme.

40. Clean Site

40.1. Except where otherwise instructed or notified by the AFC General Secretariat, the Host Organisation shall deliver the Stadiums and Official Training Sites as a Clean Site seven (7) days before the first Match of the Competition, until one (1) day after the last use of the Site in connection with the Competition.

41. Advertising and Branding

41.1. Except where otherwise stipulated or notified by the AFC General Secretariat, the Host Organisation shall ensure that all relevant permits and approvals are secured and unrestricted access for the placement and publishing of advertising or branding of the Competition shall be available to the AFC ten (10) days before the first Match at each Stadium or training at each Official Training Site.

SECTION 9: SAFETY AND SECURITY

42. General Principles

42.1. All matters relating to safety and security shall be undertaken in compliance with the AFC Futsal and Beach Soccer Stadium Regulations and the AFC Safety and Security Regulations.

42.2. The Host Organisation shall, in conjunction with the relevant government authorities and/or Stadium owners, devise, plan, and implement adequate security and safety measures for the Competition at all Controlled Access Areas within the Venue and other relevant locations to protect all relevant persons, including without limitation the AFC Delegation, Official Team Delegation, AFC Commercial Rights Partner, Commercial Affiliates, Media, spectators, and all goods brought in by the AFC, Official Team Delegation, AFC Commercial Rights Partner, and Commercial Affiliates.

42.3. The Host Organisation shall issue a detailed security plan in the form of a binding agreement with, without limitation, the management of all Stadiums, Official Training Sites, and the Accommodation of the AFC Delegation and Official Team Delegation. This security plan shall be based upon the principles set out in the AFC Futsal and Beach Soccer Stadium Regulations and the AFC Safety and Security Regulations (including, without limitation, evacuation plans, the stadium, safety certificate and security personnel deployment plans).

42.4. The Host Organisation 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 the AFC or the members of its delegation acting with intent or gross negligence.

SECTION 10: MEDICAL & ANTI-DOPING

43. Pre-Competition Medical Assessment

43.1. Each Participating Club and its Member Association shall ensure that each Participating Player undergoes a Pre-Competition Medical Assessment (PCMA) at least thirty (30) days prior to the first Match of the Competition.

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

43.1.2 The AFC General Secretariat shall provide all Participating Clubs and its Member Associations 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.

43.1.3 Each Participating Club and its Member Association must submit to the AFC General Secretariat by latest ten (10) days prior to the first Match of the Competition the following signed documents:

43.1.3.1. "Participating Club Declaration of Agreement to the PCMA"; and

43.1.3.2. for each Participating Player, the "Player and Examining Physician Declaration for PCMA".

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

43.2. The AFC Medical Committee may, at 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.

44. Facilities and Personnel

44.1. The Host Organisation shall provide a medical room and doping control room fully equipped with all items stipulated in the Manual.

44.2. The Host Organisation shall be fined:

44.2.1. at least USD20,000 for failing to fully equip the medical room; or

44.2.2. at least USD10,000 for failing to fully equip the doping control room; or

44.2.3. at least USD40,000 for failing to fully equip both rooms.

44.2.4. The AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Committee may impose further sanctions at its discretion.

44.3. The Host Organisation shall provide all medical personnel and doping control personnel stipulated in the Manual and as requested by the AFC.

44.4. The Host Organisation shall be fined:

44.4.1. at least USD10,000 for failing to provide all required doping control personnel (subject to Article 44.3); or

44.4.2. at least USD20,000 for failing to provide all required medical personnel.

44.4.3. The AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Committee may impose further sanctions at its discretion.

45. Anti-Doping

45.1. 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.

45.2. The AFC General Secretariat shall inform each Participating Club and its Member Association by means of a circular of the doping control procedure for the Competition.

45.3. The AFC Anti-Doping unit (mandated by the AFC Medical Committee to handle the organisation and administration of anti-doping activities) shall be responsible for the approval of the WADA-accredited laboratory which shall carry out the analysis of all doping samples.

SECTION 11: FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

46. General Responsibilities

46.1. Any financial payments to be made by the AFC in accordance with these Regulations shall be subject to all applicable laws, regulations, orders, by-laws and international sanctions.

47. Logistical Arrangements for Participating Clubs

47.1. Each Participating Club in the Competition shall arrive at the Venue at the latest two (2) days prior to their first Match in the Competition and depart one (1) day after their last Match in the Competition, unless otherwise approved in writing by the AFC.

47.2 Each Participating Club shall cover its return international and domestic travel costs (if applicable) to and from the Venue or the nearest airport, as well as board, lodging costs and incidental expenses.

47.3 The AFC General Secretariat and Host Organisation shall provide all other logistical arrangements in accordance with the Hosting Agreement. Such arrangements shall be communicated to the Participating Teams by circular prior to the Competition.

48. Logistical Arrangements for the AFC Delegation

48.1. The AFC and the Host Organisation shall provide all logistical arrangements for the AFC Delegation in accordance with the Hosting Agreement.

49. Disciplinary Action

49.1. Where a Host Organisation fails to comply with any of its obligations under Article 3, 46, 47 and/or 48 of these Regulations with regard to the Competition, the case shall be referred to the AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Committee. In all such instances, the AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Committee shall order the relevant Participating Club to return to the AFC any financial contribution that has been paid to it in respect of the relevant Match (or, if not yet paid, to forfeit its right to any financial contribution due to it in respect of the relevant Match) and to pay compensation for any and all damages or losses suffered by, where applicable, the other Participating Club, the AFC, the AFC Commercial Rights Partner and Commercial Affiliates. The amount of compensation shall be determined by the AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Committee, which may impose further sanctions at its discretion.

SECTION 12: AWARDS

50. Trophy, Awards and Medals

50.1. The original trophy of the Competition shall be presented as a formality to the Champion during the award ceremony after the final Match. Following the conclusion of the ceremony, the original trophy shall be returned to the AFC and remain in the possession of the AFC at all times. The Champion shall subsequently be awarded a replica by the AFC for its permanent possession.

50.2. The replica trophy awarded to the Champion must remain within its control at all times and must not leave its region or territory of its Member Association without the prior written consent of the AFC General Secretariat. The Champion must not permit the replica trophy to be used in any context where a third party (including without limitation, their sponsors and other commercial partners) is granted visibility or in any other way which could lead to an association between any third party and the trophy and/or the Competition. The AFC General Secretariat may, from time to time, issue additional trophy guidelines with which the Champion must comply.

50.3. The following awards of the Competition shall be presented in accordance with the Manual:

50.3.1 Most Valuable Player;

50.3.2 Top Goal Scorer; and

50.3.3 AFC Fair Play Award.

50.4. The AFC shall award the following medals:

50.4.1. twenty-four (24) medals to the Champion;

50.4.2. twenty-four (24) medals to the runner-up; and

50.4.3. commemorative medals for the Match Officials of the final Match.

50.5. Additional medals may be produced upon request and at the cost of the requesting Participating Club.

50.6. The AFC Futsal and Beach Soccer Committee may decide to introduce further awards.

51. Award Ceremony

51.1. An award ceremony, managed and controlled by the AFC and coordinated with the Host Organisation and the AFC Commercial Rights Partner, shall be held immediately after the final Match of the Competition to present the trophy, awards and medals listed in Article 50.

51.2. The Participating Clubs and Participating Players that qualify to receive the trophy, awards and medals are required to attend the relevant award ceremony. Relevant Participating Clubs shall be represented by the fourteen (14) Participating Players and six (6) Participating Officials registered in the start list for the final Match of the Competition. No other officials, players, or staff of the Participating Clubs may participate in the award ceremony.

SECTION 13: DISCIPLINARY

52. Disciplinary Measures

52.1. All disciplinary measures in relation to the Competition shall be undertaken in accordance with the current AFC Statutes, AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Code, and all relevant AFC regulations and circulars.

52.2. The AFC may introduce new disciplinary rules and sanctions for the duration of the Competition. Such rules shall be communicated to the Participating Clubs and/or their Member Associations thirty (30) days before the first Match of the Competition at the latest.

52.3. All Participating Players and Participating Officials agree to:

52.3.1 comply with the provisions of the AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Code, in particular by respecting the spirit and principles of fair play, not engaging in violent/ unsporting behaviour, respecting the authority of the Match Officials, not making bets in connection with any Match and not engaging in any activities linked to the manipulation of Matches; and

52.3.2 refrain from doping and doping-related activities, and to comply with the provisions of the AFC Anti-Doping Regulations.

53. Good Conduct

53.1. Each Participating Club is liable for the improper conduct of:

53.1.1. any member of its Official Team Delegation; and/or

53.1.2. any person affiliated to it and/or carrying out duties on its behalf throughout the Competition.

53.2. For any violation of Article 53.1, the AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Committee may impose any sanction listed in the AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Code.

54. Administrative Procedure

54.1 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:

54.1.1. 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;

54.1.2. if the offence is admitted, the AFC shall submit the compounded offence to the Chairperson of the AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Committee for approval;

54.1.2.1. should the party deny the offence, the AFC shall open disciplinary proceedings;

54.1.3. upon approval of the Chairperson of the AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Committee, the sanction shall be notified and applied administratively by the AFC;

54.1.3.1. should the Chairperson of the AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Committee not approve the compounded offence, the AFC shall open disciplinary proceedings;

54.1.4. by agreeing to compound the offence, the party waives its right to request a motivated decision or appeal the sanction issued; and

54.1.5. any sanction issued administratively comes into force immediately upon notification in accordance with the AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Code.

55. Cautions and Expulsions

55.1. All matters relating to cautions and/or expulsions, including the carrying forward of cautions between stages of the Competition, shall be undertaken in accordance with the AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Code except where expressly set out below.

55.1.1. Any Participating Player or Participating Official who completes the Group Stage having only received one (1) caution shall not carry over that caution to the semi-finals.

56. Protest

56.1. For the purpose of these Regulations, a protest is an objection of any kind related to any event and/or matter that has a direct effect on a Match.

56.2. Unless otherwise stipulated in these Regulations, to be considered valid, a protest must be:

56.2.1 submitted in writing (using the appropriate Protest Form issued by the AFC General Secretariat) to the AFC Match Commissioner for the relevant Match within two (2) hours of the final whistle or, if the relevant Match was cancelled or abandoned, within two (2) hours of the decision to cancel or abandon the Match (the "Protest Deadline");

56.2.2 followed up with a full written report (including a copy of the original Protest Form) which must be sent to the AFC General Secretariat within twenty-four (24) hours of the Protest Deadline; and

56.2.3 accompanied by a non-refundable fee of USD1,000 (non-inclusive of any bank charges) which must be transmitted to the bank account nominated by the AFC General Secretariat within twenty-four (24) hours of the Protest Deadline.

56.3. No protest shall be lodged relating to the Referee's decisions regarding facts connected

with play. Such decisions are final and binding and not subject to appeal, unless otherwise stipulated in the AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Code. The same applies to any potential issue concerning the use and/or operation of any video support (VS) system and/or goal-line technology (GLT) and/or other football technology in accordance with the Futsal Laws of the Game.

56.4. Any protest which relates to the eligibility of a player to participate in the Competition must be submitted to the AFC General Secretariat no later than five (5) days before the day on which the first Match of the Competition is scheduled to take place. To be considered valid, such a protest must be:

56.4.1 submitted in writing (in the form of a full written report); and

56.4.2 accompanied by a non-refundable fee of USD1,000 (non-inclusive of any bank charges) which must be transmitted to the bank account nominated by the AFC General Secretariat before the expiry of the aforementioned deadline.

56.5. If any of the formal requirements set out in Article 56.2 and/or Article 56.4 are not met, the relevant protest shall be disregarded. The AFC General Secretariat decides whether or not such formal requirements have been met. Such decisions are final and binding and not appealable.

56.6. Subject to Article 56.5 and any other exceptions set out in these Regulations, the AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Code, the AFC Statutes and/or any other applicable AFC regulation, the AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Committee shall make decisions on protests. Should the AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Committee determine that a protest is unfounded or irresponsible, it may impose a fine. 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 to be purely operational in nature.

57. Arbitration

57.1. Any dispute in connection with the Competition shall be promptly settled by negotiation.

57.2. In compliance with the AFC Statutes, Participating Clubs, Member Associations, 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.

57.3. Participating Clubs, 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. Any hearing, if required, shall take place at the CAS Alternate Hearing Centre in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

SECTION 14: CLOSING PROVISIONS

58. Special Instructions

58.1. The AFC General Secretariat and/or AFC Futsal and Beach Soccer Committee (as appropriate) shall, in conjunction with the Host Organisation, issue any instructions necessitated by special circumstances which might arise in the organisation of Matches.

58.2. These instructions shall form an integral part of these Regulations.

59. Decisions

59.1. All decisions made in accordance with these Regulations, except where expressly identified otherwise, are final and binding and not appealable in accordance with the AFC Statutes.

60. Amendments

60.1. The AFC reserves the right to make amendments to any part of these Regulations for any reason whatsoever. Such amendments shall be duly communicated in due course.

61. Force Majeure

61.1. The AFC Futsal and Beach Soccer Committee is the only body capable of declaring a Force Majeure event for the purposes of these Regulations.

62. Matters Not Provided For

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

63. Implementing Provisions

63.1. The AFC General Secretariat is entrusted with the operational management of the Competition and is therefore entitled to make decisions and adopt the detailed provisions necessary for implementing these Regulations.

64. Enforcement

64.1. These Regulations were ratified by the AFC Executive Committee on 29 July 2026 and came into force immediately.

For the AFC Executive Committee

Shaikh Salman bin Ebrahim Al Khalifa
President

Datuk Seri Windsor John
General Secretary



AFC House, Jalan 1/155B,
Bukit Jalil, 57000 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
T: +603 8994 3388

the – AFC.com