

Circular No. 9

15 June 2016
WJ/SMG/BP/jk/gsb

**General Secretaries
Participating Member Associations
AFC Futsal Club Championship Thailand 2016**

Dear Sirs

**AFC Futsal Club Championship Thailand 2016
Disciplinary Matters**

Congratulations on your participation in the AFC Futsal Club Championship Thailand 2016.

The success of any tournament is dependent to a great extent on the compliance with all relevant AFC Rules, Circulars, Regulations and the Laws of the Game. All teams are advised to be conversant with these Rules, Circulars, Regulations and the Laws of the Game.

The Competition shall be governed by the AFC Futsal Club Championship Thailand 2016 Regulations (**Competition Regulations**), AFC Statutes 2015 Edition, AFC Disciplinary Code 2016 Edition (**Code**), AFC Code of Ethics 2013 Edition (**CoE**), AFC Anti-Doping Regulations and all other relevant AFC Regulations and Circulars.

In accordance with Article 142 of the Code, we would like to draw your attention to the pertinent disciplinary matters with regard to the Competition:

1. DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURE

- 1.1. The AFC Disciplinary Committee (**Committee**) shall adhere to the Competition Regulations, AFC Statutes 2015 Edition, the Code, the CoE, the AFC Anti-Doping Regulations and relevant AFC Circulars and Regulations in making any judicial decision.
- 1.2. Pursuant to Article 38.2 of the Code, the Committee has exceptionally departed from the rules relating to the carry-over of cautions. This is set out in detail at [2] below.

2. CAUTIONS AND EXPULSIONS

- 2.1. In accordance with Articles 13, 14, 15 and 38 of the Code and as set out in Section 11 of the Competition Regulations, the rules pertaining to cautions (yellow cards) and expulsions (red cards) imposed during the Competition shall be as follows:

Cautions and Expulsions

- 2.2. Subject to the below, a player who receives two (2) cautions during any stage in the Competition shall automatically be suspended from the match following the match in which he received the second caution.
- 2.3. Any Participating Player in the Finals who has obtained a single caution at the conclusion of the Group Stage of the Competition shall carry forward that caution to the Quarter Finals.
- 2.4. Any Participating Player in the Finals who completes the Quarter Finals having cumulatively received one (1) caution shall not carry-over that caution to the Semi Finals.

Expulsions

- 2.5. A player or official who is expelled during the Competition shall automatically be suspended from the match following the match in which they were expelled. If the player or official was expelled in their team's final match in the Competition, the suspension shall be carried forward as provided in the Code.
- 2.6. Any player or official who is expelled during any match of the Competition shall remain suspended from further play until their case has been decided upon by the Committee.
- 2.7. Any player or official expelled during the first half of a match is banned from entering the team's dressing rooms at half time.
- 2.8. Any player or official expelled during a match is not entitled to attend any post-match press conference.
- 2.9. Any suspended player or official shall not be permitted on the substitution bench and technical area, or to participate in a pre-match press conference.

3. TEAM MISCONDUCT

- 3.1. As provided by Article 54 of the Code, disciplinary measures may be imposed where a team fails to conduct itself properly. In particular:
- 3.1.1. a fine may be imposed where the referee sanctions at least five (5) members of the same team (players and/or officials) during a match; and

- 3.1.2. a fine of at least USD6,000 may be imposed where several players and/or officials from the same team threaten or harass match officials or other persons. Further sanctions may be imposed in the case of serious offences.
 - 3.2. In accordance with [3.1.1] above, the following fines shall be imposed automatically where the **referee sanctions at least five (5) members of the same team during a match:**
 - 3.2.1. USD300 per caution (yellow card); and
 - 3.2.2. USD600 per expulsion (red card).
 - 3.3. Any repeat infringement of [3.1.1] shall be referred to the Committee.
4. **FINANCIAL SANCTION FOR EXPULSION**
 - 4.1. In addition to any other sanction imposed by the Committee, expulsions shall be sanctioned with the corresponding fine:
 - 4.1.1. indirect expulsion (red card): USD1,000;
 - 4.1.2. direct expulsion (red card): at least USD1,000; and
 - 4.1.3. direct expulsion (red card) for misconduct against match officials: at least USD5,000.
5. **NOTIFICATION OF SANCTIONS**
 - 5.1. All disciplinary decisions or directions shall be served in writing to the relevant Team Manager by any mode of communication that the AFC deems fit in the circumstances. Any decision or direction so conveyed shall be deemed to be properly served to each team, its players and officials, at the time of receipt.
 - 5.2. The consequences of an expulsion imposed on a player or official in any match will take effect in the next match, even if the team in question has not received written confirmation by that time.
 - 5.3. Each team shall bear the responsibility of monitoring the cautions and/or suspensions received by its players and officials and to ensure that all players and officials registered and/or fielded during the Competition are eligible to participate in a certain match. The non-receipt or failure to receive notification from AFC regarding any caution or suspension shall not be a defence or justification for the fielding of an ineligible player or the participation of an ineligible official.

6. ANTI-DOPING RULE VIOLATIONS

- 6.1. Anti-Doping Rule Violations (ADRVs) are set out in Articles 6-15 of the AFC Anti-Doping Regulations.
- 6.2. The AFC Disciplinary Committee shall act as the first-instance hearing body for the results management of all alleged ADRVs.
- 6.3. The procedure for sample collection shall be as set out in the Medical and Anti-Doping Circular.

7. ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE

- 7.1. In accordance with Article 118.3.1 of the Code, the AFC may offer an administrative resolution prior to the opening of disciplinary proceedings.
- 7.2. Subject to the Code, for any fine set out in the Competition Regulations, where it is the first such offence committed by a party:
 - 7.2.1. 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;
 - 7.2.2. if the offence is admitted, the AFC shall submit the compounded offence to the Chairman of the Committee for approval;
 - 7.2.2.1. should the party not admit to the offence, the AFC shall open disciplinary proceedings;
 - 7.2.3. upon approval of the Chairman of the Committee, the sanction shall be notified and applied administratively by the AFC;
 - 7.2.3.1. should the Chairman of the Committee not approve the compounded offence, the AFC shall open disciplinary proceedings;
 - 7.2.4. by agreeing to compound the offence, the party waives its right to request a motivated decision or appeal the sanction issued;
 - 7.2.5. any sanction issued administratively comes into force immediately upon notification in accordance with the Code.

8. DUTY TO REPORT

- 8.1. As provided by Article 70 of the Code, persons bound by the Code shall immediately report any conduct incompatible with the Code via email to disciplinary@the-afc.com.
- 8.2. As provided by Article 18 of the CoE, persons bound by the CoE shall immediately report any potential breach of the CoE via email to integrity@the-afc.com.

We wish your team all the best in the Competition.

Thank you

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Dato' Windsor John', is written over a horizontal line.

DATO' WINDSOR JOHN
General Secretary