



AFC

Anti-Doping Regulations

Edition 2015





AFC Anti-Doping Regulations

Edition 2015

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Article	Contents	Page
PRELIMINARY TITLE		
I.	DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATION	10
II.	GENERAL PROVISIONS	22
1	Scope of application: substantive law and time	22
2	Obligations of Member Associations	22
3	Special obligations of Player and teams	23
4	Test jurisdiction of the AFC	25
5	Definition of doping	25
FIRST TITLE: SUBSTANTIVE LAW		
III.	ANTI-DOPING RULE VIOLATIONS	26
6	Presence of a Prohibited Substance or its Metabolites or Markers in a Player's Sample	26
7	Use or Attempted Use of a Prohibited Substance or a Prohibited Method	27
8	Evading, Refusing or Failing to Submit to Sample Collection	27
9	Whereabouts Failures	27
10	Tampering or Attempted Tampering with any part of Doping Control	28
11	Possession of a Prohibited Substance or a Prohibited Method	28
12	Trafficking or Attempted Trafficking in any Prohibited Substance or Prohibited Method	28
13	Administration or Attempted Administration of any Prohibited Substance or Prohibited Method	29
14	Complicity	29
15	Prohibited Association	29

IV. THE PROHIBITED LIST AND THERAPEUTIC USE EXEMPTIONS		31
16	Prohibited Substances and Prohibited Methods Identified on the Prohibited List	31
17	WADA's Determination of the Prohibited List	31
18	Therapeutic Use Exemptions (TUEs)	32
V. SANCTIONS ON INDIVIDUALS		34
<i>Section 1: Imposition of a period of Ineligibility</i>		
19	Ineligibility for Presence, Use or Attempted Use, or Possession of a Prohibited Substance or Prohibited Method	34
20	Ineligibility for Other Anti-Doping Rule Violations	34
<i>Section 2: Elimination, reduction or suspension of period of Ineligibility</i>		
21	Elimination of the Period of Ineligibility where there is No Fault or Negligence	37
22	Reduction of the Period of Ineligibility based on No Significant Fault or Negligence	37
23	Elimination, Reduction or Suspension of Period of Ineligibility or other Consequences for Reasons Other than Fault	38
<i>Section 3: Increasing the period of Ineligibility and multiple violations</i>		
24	Multiple Violations	40
<i>Section 4: Common provisions regarding sanctions on individuals</i>		
25	Disqualification of Results in Competitions Subsequent to Sample Collection or Commission of an Anti-Doping Rule Violation	41
26	Allocation of CAS Cost Awards and Forfeited Prize Money	42
27	Financial Consequences	42
28	Commencement of Ineligibility Period	42
29	Status During Ineligibility	44
30	Automatic Publication of Sanction	46
VI. CONSEQUENCES FOR TEAMS		46
31	Target Testing of the team	46

32	Sanction on the club or Member Association	46
VII. PROVISIONAL SUSPENSION		46
33	Jurisdiction	46
34	Mandatory Provisional Suspension after an Adverse Analytical Finding	47
35	Optional Provision Suspension based on an Adverse Analytical Finding for specified substances, Contaminated Products, or other anti-doping rule violations	47
36	Voluntary suspension	48
37	Notification	48
38	“B” Sample proves negative	48
VIII. STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS		49
39	Statute of limitations	49
SECOND TITLE: TESTING AND PROCEDURAL RULES		49
IX. TESTING		49
<i>Section 1: Testing</i>		
40	General rules for Testing	49
41	Test distribution plan	51
42	Selection of Players for Testing	52
43	Sample collection personnel: AFC Doping Control Officers, assistants, Chaperones	53
44	Failure to comply with Doping Control	55
45	Whereabouts information	56
<i>Section 2: Analysis of Samples</i>		
46	Use of accredited and approved laboratories	57
47	Standards for Sample analysis and reporting	57
48	Retesting Samples	58

49	Property	58
50	Guidance	58

Section 3: Results management

51	Management process	59
52	Initial review regarding Adverse Analytical/Atypical Findings and notification	59
53	Analysis of the “B” Sample in Adverse Analytical Findings	61
54	Review of Atypical Passport Findings and Adverse Passport Findings	63
55	Review of Whereabouts Failures	63
56	Review of other anti-doping rule violations	63
57	Retirement From Sport	64
58	Retired Player Returning to Competition	64

X. PROCEDURAL RULES 65

Section 1: General provisions

59	Jurisdiction	65
60	Addressees of decisions and other documents	66
61	Form of decisions	66

Section 2: Fair hearing

62	Right to a fair hearing	67
63	Test distribution plan	67
64	Considerations of the AFC Disciplinary Committee	67
65	Procedure at a Competition	68

Section 3: Proof of doping

66	Burdens and Standards of Proof	69
67	Methods of Establishing Facts and Presumptions	69

Section 4: Confidentiality and reporting

68	Information concerning potential anti-doping rule violations	71
----	--	----

69	Public disclosure	72
70	Information concerning whereabouts and Testing	74
71	Data protection	74
<i>Section 5: Recognition</i>		
72	Application and recognition of decisions	75
73	Recognition by Member Associations	75
<i>Section 6: Appeals</i>		
74	Decisions Subject to Appeal	75
75	Appeals from Decisions Regarding Anti-Doping Rule Violations, Consequences, Provisional Suspensions, Recognition of Decisions and Jurisdiction	76
76	Failure to Render a Timely Decision	79
77	Appeals Relating to TUEs	80
78	Notification of Appeal Decisions	80
79	Appeal from Decisions Pursuant to Article 83	80
80	Time for Filing Appeals	80
81	AFC not required to exhaust internal remedies	82
82	Appeals against decisions granting or denying a therapeutic use exemption	82
83	Sanctions and costs assessed against sporting bodies	83
FINAL TITLE		83
84	Official languages	83
85	Additional regulations	83
86	Amendment and Interpretation	84
ANNEXES		
A	The Prohibited List	87
B	Therapeutic Use Exemption Applications	87
C	Whereabouts	90

D	Testing procedure	105
E	Forms	129
F	List of WADA - accredited laboratories	129

PRELIMINARY TITLE

I. Definitions and Interpretation

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

ADAMS	The Anti-Doping Administration and Management System is a Web-based database management tool for data entry, storage, sharing, and reporting designed to assist stakeholders and WADA in their anti-doping operations in conjunction with data protection legislation.
Administration	Providing, supplying, supervising, facilitating, or otherwise participating in the Use or Attempted Use by another Person of a Prohibited Substance or Prohibited Method. However, this definition shall not include the actions of bona fide medical personnel involving a Prohibited Substance or Prohibited Method used for genuine and legal therapeutic purposes or other acceptable justification and shall not include actions involving Prohibited Substances which are not prohibited in Out-of-Competition Testing unless the circumstances as a whole demonstrate that such Prohibited Substances are not intended for genuine and legal therapeutic purposes or are intended to enhance sport performance.
Adverse Analytical Finding	A report from a WADA-accredited laboratory or other WADA-approved laboratory that, consistent with the International Standard for Laboratories and related Technical Documents, identifies in a Sample the presence of a Prohibited Substance or its Metabolites or Markers (including elevated quantities of endogenous substances) or evidence of the Use of a Prohibited Method.
Adverse Passport Finding	A report identified as an Adverse Passport Finding as described in the applicable International Standards.
AFC Anti-Doping Unit	The functional body to which the AFC Medical Committee delegates the management and administration of Doping Control.
AFC Competitions Calendar	The annual calendar of Competitions organised by the AFC approved by the AFC Executive Committee.

AFC Disciplinary Committee	A judicial body of the AFC promulgated in the AFC Statutes that is authorised to sanction any breach of AFC Regulations which does not come under the jurisdiction of another body.
AFC Doping Control Officer	A Person who carries out Sample collections for the AFC. The AFC Doping Control Officer must be a doctor. If national legislation allows professionals other than doctors to collect Samples of bodily fluids (with all consequences including medical confidentiality according to medical ethics and the Hippocratic Oath), an exception may be made by the AFC Anti-Doping Unit.
AFC Regulations	The Statutes, regulations, guidelines, directives and circulars of the AFC.
Anti-Doping Organisation	A Signatory that is responsible for adopting rules for initiating, implementing or enforcing any part of the Doping Control process. This includes, for example, the International Olympic Committee, the International Paralympic Committee, other Major Event Organisations that conduct Testing at their Events, WADA, International Federations, and National Anti-Doping Organisations.
Athlete (Player) Biological Passport	The program and methods of gathering and collating data as described in the International Standard for Testing and Investigations and International Standard for Laboratories.
Attempt	Purposely engaging in conduct that constitutes a substantial step in a course of conduct planned to culminate in the commission of an anti-doping rule violation. Provided, however, there shall be no anti-doping rule violation based solely on an Attempt to commit a violation if the Person renounces the Attempt prior to it being discovered by a third party not involved in the Attempt.
Atypical Finding	A report from a WADA-accredited laboratory or other WADA-approved laboratory which requires further investigation as provided by the International Standard for Laboratories or related Technical Documents prior to the determination of an Adverse Analytical Finding.

Atypical Passport Finding	A report described as an Atypical Passport Finding as described in the applicable International Standards.
CAS	The Court of Arbitration for Sport.
Chain of Custody	The sequence of individuals or organisations who have the responsibility for a Sample from the provision of the Sample until the Sample has been received for analysis.
Chaperone	An official who is trained and authorised by the AFC to carry out specific duties including one or more of the following: accompanying and observing the Player selected for Sample collection until arrival at the doping control room; and/or witnessing and verifying the provision of the Sample where the training qualifies him to do so.
Code	The World Anti-Doping Code.
Competition	A series of football Matches conducted together under one competent body (e.g. the Olympic Games, AFC Asian Cup). “Competition” in the official AFC terminology corresponds to “event” in the World Anti-Doping Code.
Competition Period	The time between the beginning and end of a Competition, as established by the competent body of the Competition.
Confederation	A group of Football Associations recognised by FIFA that belong to the same continent or assimilable geographic region.
Contaminated Product	A product that contains a Prohibited Substance that is not disclosed on the product label or in information available in a reasonable Internet search.
Doping Control	All steps and processes from test distribution planning through to ultimate disposition of any appeal including all steps and processes in between such as provision of whereabouts information, Sample collection and handling, laboratory analysis, TUEs, results management and hearings.

Fault	<p>Fault is any breach of duty or any lack of care appropriate to a particular situation. Factors to be taken into consideration in assessing a Player or other Person's degree of Fault include, for example, the Player's or other Person's experience, whether the Player or other Person is a Minor, special considerations such as impairment, the degree of risk that should have been perceived by the Player and the level of care and investigation exercised by the Player in relation to what should have been the perceived level of risk. In assessing the Player's or other Person's degree of Fault, the circumstances considered must be specific and relevant to explain the Player's or other Person's departure from the expected standard of behaviour. Thus, for example, the fact that a Player would lose the opportunity to earn large sums of money during a period of Ineligibility, or the fact that the Player only has a short time left in their career, or the timing of the sporting calendar, would not be relevant factors to be considered in reducing the period of Ineligibility under Article 22.1.1 or 22.1.2.</p>
Financial Consequences	<p>A financial sanction imposed for an anti-doping rule violation or to recover costs associated with an anti-doping rule violation.</p>
Football Association	<p>The controlling body for football within a country or territory recognised by the AFC and FIFA.</p>
In-Competition	<p>Commences twenty four (24) hours before the kick-off of a single Match or the first Match of a Competition and terminates twenty four (24) hours after completion of the Sample collection that takes place after the final whistle of a single Match or the final Match of such Competition.</p>
Ineligibility	<p>Suspension of a Player or a Person for a specified period of time from participating in any Competition or other activity or from receiving sport-related financial support as provided in these Regulations.</p>

International Competition	A Competition where the International Olympic Committee, the International Paralympic Committee, an International Federation, a Major Event Organisation, or another international sport organisation is the ruling body for the Competition or appoints the technical officials for the Competition “International Competition” in the official AFC terminology corresponds to “international event” in the World Anti-Doping Code.
International-Level Player	A Player who competes at the international level, as defined by the AFC or FIFA, consistent with the International Standard for Testing and Investigations.
International Standard	A standard adopted by WADA in support of the Code. Compliance with an International Standard (as opposed to another alternative standard, practice or procedure) shall be sufficient to conclude that the procedures addressed by the International Standard were performed properly. International Standards shall include any Technical Documents issued pursuant to the International Standard.
Major Event Organisations	The continental associations of National Olympic Committees and other international multi-sport organisations that function as the ruling body for any continental, regional or other International Competition.
Marker	A compound, group of compounds, or biological variable(s) that indicates the Use of a Prohibited Substance or Prohibited Method.
Match	A single football Match. “Match” in the official AFC terminology corresponds to “Competition” in the World Anti-Doping Code.
Match Officials	The referee, assistant referees, fourth official, Match Commissioner, referee inspector, the Person in charge of safety, and any other Persons appointed by the AFC to assume responsibility in connection with a Match.
Medical Committee	The AFC standing committee promulgated in the AFC Statutes, that deals with all medical aspects of football, including any doping-related matters.

Member Association	A Football Association which is a member of the AFC.
Metabolite	Any substance produced by a biotransformation process.
Minor	A natural Person who has not reached the age of eighteen (18) years.
National Anti-Doping Organisation (NADO)	The entity(ies) designated by each country as possessing the primary authority and responsibility to adopt and implement anti-doping rules, direct the collection of Samples, the management of test results, and the conduct of hearings at the national level. If this designation has not been made by the competent public authority(ies), the entity shall be the country's National Olympic Committee or its designee, such as the Member Association.
National Competition	A sports Competition that may involve National- or International-level Players and that is not an International Competition.
National-Level Player	Players who compete at the national level, as defined by each National Anti-Doping Organisation, consistent with the International Standard for Testing and Investigations.
National Olympic Committee	The organisation recognised by the International Olympic Committee. The term National Olympic Committee shall also include the National Sport Confederation in those countries where the National Sport Confederation assumes typical National Olympic Committee responsibilities in the anti-doping area.
No Fault or Negligence	The Player or other Person's establishing that they did not know or suspect, and could not reasonably have known or suspected even with the exercise of utmost caution, that they had Used or been administered the Prohibited Substance or Prohibited Method or otherwise violated an anti-doping rule. Except in the case of a Minor, for any violation of Article 6, the Player must also establish how the Prohibited Substance entered their system.

No Significant Fault or Negligence	The Player or other Person's establishing that their Fault or negligence, when viewed in the totality of the circumstances and taking into account the criteria for No Fault or negligence, was not significant in relationship to the anti-doping rule violation. Except in the case of a Minor, for any violation of Article 6, the Player must also establish how the Prohibited Substance entered their system.
Official	All office bearers and members of various Committees, manager, coaches, trainers, match officials, medical officials, staff and any other person responsible for technical, medical and administrative matters in the AFC, Member Associations, leagues, or clubs as well as other persons obliged to comply with the AFC Statutes.
Out-of-Competition	Any period that is not In-Competition.
Person	A natural Person or an organisation or other entity.
Player	A professional or amateur football player licensed by a Football Association.
Player Support Personnel	Any coach, trainer, manager, agent, team staff, official, medical, paramedical personnel, parent or any other Person working with, treating or assisting an Player participating in or preparing for sports Competition.
Possession	<p>The actual, physical Possession of a Prohibited Substance or Prohibited Method, or the constructive Possession of a Prohibited Substance or Prohibited Method.</p> <p>The constructive Possession of a Prohibited Substance or Prohibited Method shall be made out only if the Person has exclusive control or intends to exercise control over the Prohibited Substance or Prohibited Method or the premises in which a Prohibited Substance or Prohibited Method exists. However, if the Person does not have exclusive control over the Prohibited Substance or Prohibited Method or the premises in which a Prohibited Substance or Prohibited Method exists, constructive Possession shall only be found if the Person knew about the presence of the Prohibited Substance or Prohibited Method and intended to exercise control over it.</p>

	<p>There shall be no anti-doping rule violation based solely on Possession if, prior to receiving notification of any kind that the Person has committed an anti-doping rule violation, the Person has taken concrete action demonstrating that they never intended to have Possession and has renounced Possession by explicitly declaring it to an Anti-Doping Organisation.</p> <p>Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this definition, the purchase (including by any electronic or other means) of a Prohibited Substance or Prohibited Method constitutes Possession by the Person who makes the purchase.</p>
Prohibited List	The List published by WADA identifying the Prohibited Substances and Prohibited Methods.
Prohibited Method	Any method so described on the Prohibited List.
Prohibited Substance	Any substance, or class of substances, so described on the Prohibited List.
Provisional Hearing	An expedited abbreviated hearing occurring prior to a hearing under the provisions set forth in these Regulations that provides the Player or other Person with notice and an opportunity to be heard in either written or oral form.
Provisional Suspension	A temporary suspension from participating in any Competition prior to any final decision made at a hearing and/or meeting of the AFC Disciplinary Committee undertaken in accordance with these Regulations and the AFC Disciplinary Code.
Publicly Disclose or Publicly Report	To disseminate or distribute information to the general public or Persons beyond those Persons entitled to earlier notification in accordance with these Regulations.
Regional Anti-Doping Organisation	A regional entity designated by member countries to coordinate and manage delegated areas of their national anti-doping programs, which may include the adoption and implementation of anti-doping rules, the planning and collection of Samples, the management of results, the review of TUEs, the conduct of hearings, and the conduct of educational programs at a regional level.

Registered Testing Pool	A pool of high-priority Players established separately by the AFC, Member Associations or the NADOs that are subject to focused In-Competition and Out-of-Competition Testing as part of the AFC's, the Member Association's or the NADO's test distribution plan.
Sample or Specimen	Any biological material collected for the purposes of Doping Control.
Signatories	Those entities signing the Code and agreeing to comply with the Code, as provided in Article 23 of the WADA Code 2015.
Specified Substance	See Article 16.2.
Strict Liability	The rule which provides that pursuant to Articles 6 and 7, it is not necessary that intent, Fault, negligence, or knowing Use on the Player's part be demonstrated by the Anti-Doping Organisation in order to establish an anti-doping rule violation.
Substantial Assistance	<p>For purposes of these Regulations a Person providing Substantial Assistance must:</p> <p>(1) fully disclose in a signed written statement all information they possess in relation to anti-doping rule violations; and</p> <p>(2) fully cooperate with the investigation and adjudication of any case related to that information, including, for example, presenting testimony at a hearing if requested to do so by an Anti-Doping Organisation or hearing panel.</p> <p>Further, the information provided must be credible and must comprise an important part of any case which is initiated or, if no case is initiated, must have provided a sufficient basis on which a case could have been brought.</p>
Suitable Specific Gravity for Analysis	Specific gravity measured at 1.005 or higher with a refractometer, or 1.010 or higher with lab sticks.

Tampering	Altering for an improper purpose or in an improper way; bringing improper influence to bear; interfering improperly; obstructing, misleading or engaging in any fraudulent conduct to alter results or prevent normal procedures from occurring.
Target Testing	Selection of specific Players for Testing based on criteria set forth in the International Standard for Testing and Investigations.
Team Activity	All sporting activities (e.g. training, travelling, tactical sessions) on a collective basis with the Player's team or other activities under the supervision of the team (e.g. treatment by a team doctor).
Testing	The parts of the Doping Control process involving test distribution planning, Sample collection, Sample handling, and Sample transport to the laboratory.
Trafficking	<p>Selling, giving, transporting, sending, delivering or distributing (or Possessing for any such purpose) a Prohibited Substance or Prohibited Method (either physically or by any electronic or other means) by a Player, Player Support Person or any other Person subject to the jurisdiction of an Anti-Doping Organisation to any third party.</p> <p>This definition shall not include the actions of bona fide medical personnel involving a Prohibited Substance used for genuine and legal therapeutic purposes or other acceptable justification, and shall not include actions involving Prohibited Substances which are not prohibited in Out-of-Competition Testing unless the circumstances as a whole demonstrate such Prohibited Substances are not intended for genuine and legal therapeutic purposes or are intended to enhance sport performance.</p>
Therapeutic Use Exemption (TUE)	See Article 18.

UNESCO Convention	The International Convention against Doping in Sport adopted by the 33rd session of the UNESCO General Conference on 19 October, 2005 including any and all amendments adopted by the States Parties to the Convention and the Conference of Parties to the International Convention against Doping in Sport.
Use	The utilisation, application, ingestion, injection or consumption by any means whatsoever of any Prohibited Substance or Prohibited Method.
WADA	The World Anti-Doping Agency.

Reference to the competent AFC bodies in these Regulations applies to the equivalent body at Member Association level.

Words importing the singular include the plural and vice versa.

References to “include” or “in particular”, “e.g.” or similar are to be construed as being inclusive and without limitation to the listed examples.

References to “days” mean actual days, not business days.

References to “Chapters”, “Sections”, “Annexes”, and/or “Articles” are, unless expressly stated otherwise, references to the Chapters, Sections, Annexes, or Articles of these Regulations.

References to a specific gender in these Regulations are for simplification and apply to both genders.

All Annexes attached to these Regulations form an integral part of these Regulations.

The various headings and sub-headings used in these Regulations are for convenience only and shall not be deemed part of the substance of these Regulations or to affect in any way the language of the provisions to which they refer.

II. General Provisions

I. **Scope of application: substantive law and time**

- I.1. These Regulations shall apply to the AFC, its Member Associations, Players, clubs, Player Support Personnel, Match Officials, Officials and other Persons who participate in activities, Matches or Competitions organised by the AFC or its Member Associations by virtue of their agreement, membership, affiliation, authorisation, accreditation or participation.
- I.2. These Regulations shall apply to all Doping Controls over which the AFC and its Member Associations have jurisdiction.
- I.3. These Regulations apply to facts that arise after these Regulations have come into force. These Regulations also apply to previous facts if these Regulations are equally favourable or more favourable for the defendant Player or other Person and if the judicial bodies of the AFC are deciding on the facts after these Regulations have come into force. By contrast, rules governing procedure apply immediately upon the entering into force of these Regulations. The provisions of Article 86 shall prevail in case of conflict.

2. **Obligations of Member Associations**

- 2.1. All Member Associations shall undertake to comply with these Regulations. These Regulations shall be incorporated either directly, or by reference, into the rules of each Member Association. Each Member Association shall include in its rules the procedural regulations necessary to implement these Regulations and any changes that may be made to them.
- 2.2. All Member Associations shall, by signing the “Doping Control Declaration of Agreement”, undertake to comply with these Regulations.

- 2.3. The rules of each Member Association shall specifically provide that all Players, clubs, Player Support Personnel, Officials and other Persons under the jurisdiction of the Member Association shall be bound by these Regulations.
- 2.4. It is the responsibility of each Member Association to collect Samples for Doping Control at National Competitions and to initiate and direct Out-of-Competition Testing on its Players, as well as to ensure that all national-level Testing on its Players and the results management from such tests comply with these Regulations. In respect of these responsibilities, reference in these Regulations to the AFC shall, where appropriate, be understood as meaning the Member Association concerned.
- 2.5. It is recognised that in some countries the Member Association will conduct the Testing and results management process itself whilst, in others, some or all of the Member Association's responsibilities may be delegated or assigned to a National Anti-Doping Organisation (**NADO**). In respect of these countries, reference in these Regulations to the Member Association shall, where appropriate, be understood as meaning the NADO. The Member Association shall provide the AFC with any information relating to an anti-doping rule violation and decisions made by the NADO duly translated into English.

3. **Special obligations of Players and teams**

- 3.1. Member Associations, Players, clubs, Player Support Personnel, Match Officials, Officials and other Persons who participate in activities, Matches or Competitions organised by the AFC or its Member Associations by virtue of their agreement, membership, affiliation, authorisation, accreditation or participation shall be responsible for knowing what constitutes an anti-doping rule violation and the substances and methods that have been included in the Prohibited List.

- 3.2. Players are obliged to undergo doping tests as set forth in these Regulations. Every Player designated to undergo a doping test by a responsible official, whether as a result of Target Testing or drawing by lots, is obliged to provide a urine Sample and, if requested, a blood Sample, to undergo any medical examination that the responsible official deems necessary and to cooperate with the latter in this respect.
- 3.3. The Player's rights include the right to:
- 3.3.1. have the team doctor or other representative be present at any Sample collection process; and
 - 3.3.2. be informed and ask for additional information about the Sample collection process.
- 3.4. The Player's obligations include the requirement to:
- 3.4.1. remain within direct observation of the AFC Doping Control Officer, his assistant or the Chaperone at all times from the point of notification until completion of the Sample collection;
 - 3.4.2. comply with Sample collection procedures (the Player shall be advised of the possible consequences of failure to comply); and
 - 3.5.2. report immediately for a test, unless there are valid reasons for a delay, as determined in accordance with Annexe D.
- 3.5. Every Player and/or Member Association that has been identified for inclusion in a national or international Registered Testing Pool is obliged to provide whereabouts information as set forth in Annexe C. Players may delegate the whereabouts provision to a designated team representative.

4. **Test jurisdiction of the AFC**

- 4.1. The AFC has test jurisdiction over all clubs (and their Players) and Players who are affiliated to a Member Association or who participate in any Match or Competition organised by the AFC.

- 4.2. The AFC shall focus its Testing under these Regulations on Players who compete, or who are preparing to compete, in Matches or Competitions organised by the AFC.

5. **Definition of doping**

- 5.1. Doping is strictly forbidden under these Regulations.

- 5.2. Doping is defined as the occurrence of one (1) or more of the anti-doping rule violations set out within these Regulations.

- 5.3. Players or other Persons shall be responsible for knowing what constitutes an anti-doping rule violation and the substances and methods which have been included on the Prohibited List.

FIRST TITLE: SUBSTANTIVE LAW

III. Anti-Doping Rule Violations

The purpose of Articles 6 to 15 is to specify the circumstances and conduct which constitute anti-doping rule violations. Hearings in doping cases will proceed based on the assertion that one (1) or more of these specific rules have been violated.

The following constitute anti-doping rule violations:

6. Presence of a Prohibited Substance or its Metabolites or Markers in a Player's Sample

6.1. It is each Player's personal duty to ensure that no Prohibited Substance enters their body. Players are responsible for any Prohibited Substance or its Metabolites or Markers found to be present in their Samples. It is not necessary that intent, Fault, negligence or knowing Use on the Player's part be demonstrated in order to establish an anti-doping rule violation pursuant to Article 6.

6.2. Sufficient proof of an anti-doping rule violation pursuant to Article 6 is established by any of the following:

6.2.1. presence of a Prohibited Substance or its Metabolites or Markers in the Player's "A" Sample where the Player waives analysis of the "B" Sample and the "B" Sample is not analysed; or

6.2.2. where the Player's "B" Sample is analysed and the analysis of the Player's "B" Sample confirms the presence of the Prohibited Substance or its Metabolites or Markers found in the Player's "A" Sample; or

6.2.3. where the Player's "B" Sample is split into two (2) bottles and the analysis of the second bottle confirms the presence of the Prohibited Substance or its Metabolites or Markers found in the first bottle.

6.3. Excepting those substances for which a quantitative threshold is specifically identified in the Prohibited List, the presence of any quantity of a Prohibited Substance or its Metabolites or Markers in a Player's Sample shall constitute an anti-doping rule violation.

6.4. As an exception to the general rule of Article 6, the Prohibited List or International Standards may establish special criteria for the evaluation of Prohibited Substances that can also be produced endogenously.

7. Use or Attempted Use by a Player of a Prohibited Substance or a Prohibited Method

7.1. It is each Player's personal duty to ensure that no Prohibited Substance enters their body and that no Prohibited Method is used. It is not necessary that intent, Fault, negligence or knowing Use on the Player's part be demonstrated in order to establish an anti-doping rule violation for Use of a Prohibited Substance or a Prohibited Method.

7.2. The success or failure of the Use or Attempted Use of a Prohibited Substance or Prohibited Method is not material. It is sufficient that the Prohibited Substance or Prohibited Method was Used or Attempted to be Used for an anti-doping rule violation to be committed.

8. Evading, Refusing or Failing to Submit to Sample Collection

8.1. Evading Sample collection, or, without compelling justification, refusing or failing to submit to Sample collection after notification as authorised in these Regulations or other applicable anti-doping rules.

9. Whereabouts Failures

9.1. Any combination of three (3) missed tests and/or filing failures, as defined in the International Standard for Testing and Investigations, within a twelve (12) month period by a Player in a Registered Testing Pool.

10. Tampering or Attempted Tampering with any part of Doping Control

- 10.1. Conduct which subverts the Doping Control process but which would not otherwise be included in the definition of Prohibited Methods.
- 10.2. Tampering shall include, without limitation, intentionally interfering or attempting to interfere with a Doping Control official, providing fraudulent information to an Anti-Doping Organisation, or intimidating or attempting to intimidate a potential witness.

II. Possession of a Prohibited Substance or a Prohibited Method

- II.1. Possession by a Player In-Competition of any Prohibited Substance or any Prohibited Method.
- II.2. Possession by a Player Out-of-Competition of any Prohibited Substance or any Prohibited Method which is prohibited Out-of-Competition unless the Player establishes that the Possession is consistent with a Therapeutic Use Exemption (**TUE**) granted in accordance with Article 18 or other acceptable justification.
- II.3. Possession by a Player Support Person In-Competition of any Prohibited Substance or any Prohibited Method.
- II.4. Possession by a Player Support Person Out-of-Competition of any Prohibited Substance or any Prohibited Method which is prohibited Out-of-Competition in connection with a Player, Competition or training, unless the Player Support Person establishes that the Possession is consistent with a TUE granted to a Player in accordance with Article 18 or other acceptable justification.

12. Trafficking or Attempted Trafficking in any Prohibited Substance or Prohibited Method

- 12.1. Trafficking or Attempted Trafficking in any Prohibited Substance or Prohibited Method.

13. Administration or Attempted Administration of any Prohibited Substance or Prohibited Method

13.1. Administration or Attempted Administration to any Player In-Competition of any Prohibited Substance or Prohibited Method.

13.2. Administration or Attempted Administration to any Player Out-of-Competition of any Prohibited Substance or any Prohibited Method that is prohibited Out-of-Competition.

14. Complicity

14.1. Assisting, encouraging, aiding, abetting, conspiring, covering up or any other type of intentional complicity involving an anti-doping rule violation, Attempted anti-doping rule violation or violation of Article 29.1 by another Person.

15. Prohibited Association

15.1. The association with a Player or other Person subject to the authority of the AFC in a professional or sport-related capacity with any Player Support Person who:

15.1.1. if subject to the authority of an Anti-Doping Organisation, is serving a period of Ineligibility; or

15.2.1. if not subject to the authority of an Anti-Doping Organisation and where Ineligibility has not been addressed in a results management process pursuant to the Code, has been convicted or found in a criminal, disciplinary or professional proceeding to have engaged in conduct which would have constituted a violation of anti-doping rules if Code-compliant rules had been applicable to such Person. The disqualifying status of such Person shall be in force for the longer of six (6) years from the criminal, professional or disciplinary decision or the duration of the criminal, disciplinary or professional sanction imposed; or

- 15.1.3. is serving as a front or intermediary for an individual described in Articles 15.1.1 or 15.1.2.
- 15.2. In order for Article 15.1 to apply, it is necessary that the Player or other Person has previously been advised in writing by the AFC or another Anti-Doping Organisation with jurisdiction over the Player or other Person, or by WADA, of the Player Support Person's disqualifying status and the potential Consequence of prohibited association and that the Player or other Person can reasonably avoid the association. The Anti-Doping Organisation shall also use reasonable efforts to advise the Player Support Person who is the subject of the notice to the Player or other Person that the Player Support Person may, within fifteen (15) days, come forward to the Anti-Doping Organisation to explain that the criteria described in Article 15.1 do not apply to him or her.
- 15.2.1. Notwithstanding Article 39, this Article applies even when the Player Support Person's disqualifying conduct occurred prior to the effective date provided in Article 86.6.
- 15.3. The burden shall be on the Player or other Person to establish that any association with Player Support Personnel described in Article 15.1 is not in a professional or sport-related capacity.
- 15.4. If the AFC is aware of Player Support Personnel who meet the criteria described in Article 15.1, it may submit that information to WADA.

IV. The Prohibited List and Therapeutic Use Exemptions

16. Prohibited Substances and Prohibited Methods Identified on the Prohibited List

Prohibited Substances and Prohibited Methods

- 16.1. Unless otherwise communicated by the AFC, the Prohibited List and its revisions shall come into effect under these Regulations three (3) months after its publication by WADA without requiring any further action by the AFC or its Member Associations. All Players and other Persons shall be bound by the Prohibited List, and any revisions thereto, from their entry into force, without further formality. It is the responsibility of all Players and other Persons to familiarise themselves with the most up-to-date version of the Prohibited List and all revisions there to.

Specified Substances

- 16.2. For purposes of the application of Articles 6 to 15, all Prohibited Substances shall be Specified Substances except substances in the classes of anabolic agents and hormones and those stimulants and hormone antagonists and modulators so identified on the Prohibited List. The category of Specified Substances shall not include Prohibited Methods.

17. WADA's Determination of the Prohibited List

- 17.1. The determinations by WADA of the Prohibited Substances and Prohibited Methods that will be included on the Prohibited List, the classification of substances into categories on the Prohibited List, and the classification of a substance as prohibited at all times or In-Competition only, are final and shall not be subject to challenge by a Player or other Person based on an argument that the substance or method was not a masking agent or did not have the potential to enhance performance, represent a health risk or violate the spirit of sport.

18. Therapeutic Use Exemptions (TUEs)

- 18.1. The presence of a Prohibited Substance or its Metabolites or Markers, and/or the Use or Attempted Use, Possession or Administration or Attempted Administration of a Prohibited Substance or Prohibited Method, shall not be considered an anti-doping rule violation if it is consistent with the provisions of a TUE granted in accordance with the International Standard for Therapeutic Use Exemptions.
- 18.2. Any Player who consults a doctor and is prescribed treatment or medication for therapeutic reasons shall enquire whether the prescription contains Prohibited Substances and/or Prohibited Methods. If so, the Player shall request alternative treatment.
- 18.3. If there is no alternative treatment, the Player with a documented medical condition requiring the use of a Prohibited Substance and/or a Prohibited Method must first obtain a TUE. However, TUEs will only be granted in cases of clear and compelling clinical need where no competitive advantage can be gained by the Player.
- 18.4. The application for and approval of a TUE must strictly follow the procedure laid out in the WADA International Standard for Therapeutic Use Exemption and in the AFC TUE Policy in force.
- 18.5. Any Players falling within the jurisdiction of the AFC who have been included in the FIFA International Registered Testing Pool may only obtain TUEs in accordance with the rules stipulated by FIFA. FIFA publishes a list of those International Competitions for which a TUE from FIFA is required. TUEs granted by FIFA shall be reported to the AFC, the relevant Member Association and to WADA.

- 18.6. Any Players falling within the jurisdiction of the AFC who have been identified or included in a national Registered Testing Pool must obtain a TUE from their NADO, or from such other body as may be designated by their Member Association to grant TUEs, or that otherwise has competent authority to grant TUEs in the territory of the Member Association concerned. Member Associations shall in all cases be responsible for promptly reporting the granting of any TUEs under these rules to FIFA, the AFC and WADA.

Expiration, Cancellation, Withdrawal or Reversal of a TUE

- 18.7. A TUE granted pursuant to these Regulations:

- 18.7.1. shall expire automatically at the end of any term for which it was granted, without the need for any further notice or other formality;
- 18.7.2. may be cancelled if the Player does not promptly comply with any requirements or conditions imposed by the AFC TUE Group upon grant of the TUE;
- 18.7.3. may be withdrawn by the AFC TUE Group if it is subsequently determined that the criteria for grant of a TUE are not in fact met; or may be reversed on review by WADA or on appeal.

- 18.8. In such an event, the Player shall not be subject to any Consequences based on his/her Use or Possession or Administration of the Prohibited Substance or Prohibited Method in question in accordance with the TUE prior to the effective date of expiry, cancellation, withdrawal or reversal of the TUE. The review pursuant to these Regulations of any subsequent Adverse Analytical Finding shall include consideration of whether such finding is consistent with Use of the Prohibited Substance or Prohibited Method prior to that date, in which event no anti-doping rule violation shall be asserted.

V. Sanction on Individuals

Section 1: Imposition of a period of Ineligibility

19. **Ineligibility for Presence, Use or Attempted Use, or Possession of a Prohibited Substance or Prohibited Method**

19.1. The period of Ineligibility for a violation of Articles 6, 7, or 11, subject to potential elimination, reduction or suspension pursuant to Articles 21, 22, or 23, shall be:

19.1.1. four (4) years where:

19.1.1.1. the anti-doping rule violation does not involve a Specified Substance, unless the Player or other Person can establish that the anti-doping rule violation was not intentional; or

19.1.1.2. the anti-doping rule violation involves a Specified Substance and the AFC can establish that the anti-doping rule violation was intentional.

19.1.2. two (2) years where Article 19.1.1 does not apply.

19.2. For the purposes of Article 19, the term “intentional” is meant to identify those Players who cheat. It requires that the Player or other Person engaged in conduct which they knew constituted an anti-doping rule violation or knew that there was a significant risk that the conduct might constitute or result in an anti-doping rule violation and manifestly disregarded that risk.

19.2.1. An anti-doping rule violation resulting from an Adverse Analytical Finding for a substance which is only prohibited In-Competition shall be presumed to be not intentional if the substance is a Specified Substance and the Player can establish that the Prohibited Substance was Used Out-of-Competition.

19.2.2. An anti-doping rule violation resulting from an Adverse Analytical Finding for a substance which is only prohibited In-Competition shall not be considered intentional if the substance is not a Specified Substance and the Player can establish that the Prohibited Substance was Used Out-of-Competition in a context unrelated to sport performance.

20. Ineligibility for Other Anti-Doping Rule Violations

20.1. The periods of Ineligibility for anti-doping rule violations other than as provided in Article 19 shall be as follows, unless Articles 22 or 23 are applicable:

20.1.1. For violations of Article 8 or Article 10, the period of Ineligibility shall be four (4) years unless, in the case of failing to submit to Sample collection, the Player can establish that the commission of the anti-doping rule violation was not intentional (as defined in Article 19.2) in which case the period of Ineligibility shall be two (2) years.

20.1.2. For violations of Article 9, the period of Ineligibility shall be two (2) years, subject to reduction down to a minimum of one (1) year, depending on the Player's degree of Fault. The flexibility between two (2) years and one (1) year of Ineligibility in this Article is not available to Players where a pattern of last-minute whereabouts changes or other conduct raises a serious suspicion that the Player was trying to avoid being available for Testing.

20.1.3. For violations of Article 12 or 13, the period of Ineligibility shall be a minimum of four (4) years and maximum lifetime Ineligibility, depending on the seriousness of the violation. An Article 12 or Article 13 violation involving a Minor shall be considered a particularly serious violation and, if committed by Player Support Personnel for violations other than for Specified Substances, shall result in lifetime Ineligibility for Player Support Personnel. In addition, significant violations of Article 12 or 13 which may also violate non-sporting laws and regulations shall be reported to the competent administrative, professional or judicial authorities.

20.1.4. For violations of Article 14, the period of Ineligibility imposed shall be a minimum of two (2) years and maximum of four (4) years, depending on the Player or other Person's degree of Fault and other circumstances of the case.

20.1.5. For violations of Article 15, the period of Ineligibility shall be two (2) years, subject to reduction down to a minimum of one (1) year, depending on the Player or other Person's degree of Fault and other circumstances of the case.

20.2. For the purposes of Article 20, the term "intentional" shall have the same meaning as prescribed in Article 19.2.

Section 2: Elimination, reduction or suspension of period of Ineligibility

21. Elimination of the Period of Ineligibility where there is No Fault or Negligence

21.1. If a Player or other Person establishes in an individual case that they bear No Fault or Negligence, then the otherwise applicable period of Ineligibility shall be eliminated.

22. **Reduction of the Period of Ineligibility based on No Significant Fault or Negligence**

22.1. In relation to sanctions involving Specified Substances or Contaminated Products for violations of Articles 6, 7 or 11:

Specified Substances

22.1.1. Where the anti-doping rule violation involves a Specified Substance, and the Player or other Person can establish No Significant Fault or Negligence, then the period of Ineligibility shall be, at a minimum, a reprimand and no period of Ineligibility, and at a maximum, two (2) years of Ineligibility, depending on the Player's or other Person's degree of Fault.

Contaminated Products

22.1.2. In cases where the Player or other Person can establish No Significant Fault or Negligence and that the Prohibited Substance came from a Contaminated Product, then the period of Ineligibility shall be, at a minimum, a reprimand and no period of Ineligibility, and at a maximum, two (2) years Ineligibility, depending on the Player's or other Person's degree of Fault.

22.2. If a Player or other Person establishes in an individual case where Article 22.1 is not applicable that they bear No Significant Fault or Negligence, then, subject to further reduction or elimination as provided in Article 23, the otherwise applicable period of Ineligibility may be reduced based on the Player or other Person's degree of Fault, but the reduced period of Ineligibility may not be less than one-half of the period of Ineligibility otherwise applicable. If the otherwise applicable period of Ineligibility is a lifetime, the reduced period under this Article may be no less than eight (8) years.

23. Elimination, Reduction, or Suspension of Period of Ineligibility or other Consequences for Reasons Other than Fault

23.1. This Article also applies for Specified Substances and Contaminated Products.

Substantial assistance in discovering or establishing anti-doping rule violations

23.2. The AFC may, prior to a final appellate decision under these Regulations or the expiration of the time to appeal, suspend a part of the period of Ineligibility imposed in an individual case in which it has results management authority where the Player or other Person has provided Substantial Assistance to an Anti-Doping Organisation, criminal authority or professional disciplinary body which results in:

23.2.1. the Anti-Doping Organisation discovering or bringing forward an anti-doping rule violation by another Person; or

23.2.2. a criminal or disciplinary body discovering or bringing forward a criminal offense or the breach of professional rules committed by another Person and the information provided by the Person providing Substantial Assistance is made available to the AFC.

23.3. After a final appellate decision under these Regulations or the expiration of time to appeal, the AFC may only suspend a part of the otherwise applicable period of Ineligibility with the approval of WADA. The extent to which the otherwise applicable period of Ineligibility may be suspended shall be based on the seriousness of the anti-doping rule violation committed by the Player or other Person and the significance of the Substantial Assistance provided by the Player or other Person to the effort to eliminate doping in sport. No more than three-quarters of the otherwise applicable period of Ineligibility may be suspended. If the otherwise applicable period of Ineligibility is a lifetime, the non-suspended period under this Article must be no less than eight (8) years.

23.4. If the Player or other Person fails to continue to cooperate and to provide the complete and credible Substantial Assistance upon which a suspension of the period of Ineligibility was based, the AFC shall reinstate the original period of Ineligibility. If the AFC decides to reinstate a suspended period of Ineligibility or decides not to reinstate a suspended period of Ineligibility, such decision may be appealed by any Person entitled to appeal under these Regulations.

Admission of an anti-doping rule violation in the absence of other evidence

23.5. Where a Player or other Person voluntarily admits an anti-doping rule violation to the AFC Disciplinary Committee before having received notice of a Sample collection which could establish an anti-doping rule violation (or, in the case of any anti-doping rule violation other than that set out in Article 6, before receiving first notice of the admitted violation pursuant to Section 3 of Chapter IX of these Regulations) and that admission is the only reliable evidence of the violation at the time of admission, then the period of Ineligibility may be reduced, but not below one-half of the period of Ineligibility otherwise applicable.

Prompt admission of an anti-doping rule violation

23.6. Any Player or other Person potentially subject to a four (4) year sanction pursuant to Articles 19.1 or 20.1.1 who promptly admits to an anti-doping rule violation asserted by the AFC, may, subject to the discretion of the AFC and also upon the approval and at the discretion of WADA, receive a reduction in the period of Ineligibility of up to two (2) years, depending on the seriousness of the violation and the Player or other Person's degree of Fault.

Application of multiple grounds for reduction of a Sanction

23.7. Where a Player or other Person establishes entitlement to reduction in sanction under more than one (1) provision of Articles 21, 22, or 23, before applying any reduction or suspension under Article 23, the otherwise applicable period of Ineligibility shall be determined in accordance with Articles 19, 20, 21, and 22.

23.8. If the Player or other Person establishes entitlement to a reduction or suspension of the period of Ineligibility under Article 23, then the period of Ineligibility may be reduced or suspended, but not below one-fourth of the otherwise applicable period of Ineligibility.

Section 3: Increasing the period of Ineligibility and multiple violations

24. Multiple Violations

24.1. For a Player or other Person's second anti-doping rule violation, the period of Ineligibility shall be the greater of:

24.1.1. six (6) months;

24.1.2. one-half of the period of Ineligibility imposed for the first anti-doping rule violation without taking into account any reduction under Article 23; or

24.1.3. twice the period of Ineligibility otherwise applicable to the second anti-doping rule violation treated as if it was a first violation, without taking into account any reduction under Article 23.

The period of Ineligibility may subsequently be further reduced by the application of Article 23.

24.2. A third anti-doping rule violation shall result in a lifetime period of Ineligibility, except if the third violation fulfils the condition for elimination or reduction of the period of Ineligibility pursuant to Articles 21 or 22, or involves a violation of Article 9. In these particular cases, the period of Ineligibility shall be minimum eight (8) years to maximum lifetime Ineligibility.

24.3. An anti-doping rule violation for which a Player or other Person has established No Fault or Negligence shall not be considered a prior violation for purposes of this Article.

Additional rules for multiple violations

- 24.4. For the purpose of imposing sanctions pursuant to Article 24, an anti-doping rule violation will only be considered a second violation if the AFC can establish that the Player or other Person committed the second anti-doping rule violation after the Player or other Person received notice pursuant to Section 3 of Chapter IX, or after the AFC made reasonable efforts to give notice of the first anti-doping rule violation. If the AFC cannot establish this, the violations shall be considered together as a first violation, and the sanction imposed shall be based on the violation that carries the more severe sanction.
- 24.5. If, after the imposition of a sanction for a first anti-doping rule violation, the AFC discovers facts involving an anti-doping rule violation by the Player or other Person which occurred prior to notification of the sanction, then the AFC shall impose an additional sanction based on the sanction that could have been imposed if the two (2) violations had been adjudicated at the same time. Results in all Competitions dating back to the earlier anti-doping rule violation will be Disqualified as provided in Article 25.
- 24.6. For the purposes of Article 24, anti-doping rule violations must take place within the same ten (10) year period in order to be considered multiple violations.

Section 4: Common provisions regarding sanctions on individuals

25. Disqualification of Results in Competitions Subsequent to Sample Collection or Commission of an Anti-Doping Rule Violation

- 25.1. In addition to the automatic Disqualification of the results in the Competition which produced the positive Sample under these Regulations, all other competitive results of the Player obtained from the date a positive Sample was collected (whether In-Competition or Out-of-Competition), or other anti-doping rule violation occurred, through the commencement of any Provisional Suspension or Ineligibility period, shall, unless fairness requires otherwise, be Disqualified with all of the resulting Consequences including forfeiture of any medals, points and prizes.

26. Allocation of CAS Cost Awards and Forfeited Prize Money

26.1. The priority for repayment of CAS cost awards and forfeited prize money shall be:

26.1.1. payment of costs awarded by CAS; and subsequently

26.1.2. reimbursement of the expenses of the AFC.

27. Financial Consequences

27.1. On account of anti-doping rule violations, financial sanctions may be imposed in accordance with the AFC Disciplinary Code.

27.2. However, no financial sanction may be considered as grounds for reducing the period of Ineligibility or other sanction that would otherwise be applicable under these Regulations.

27.3. As a condition of regaining eligibility after being found to have committed an anti-doping rule violation, a Player may first repay all prize money or other financial support obtained from sports organisations, from the date a positive Sample was collected or other anti-doping rule violation occurred, until the commencement of any Provisional Suspension or Ineligibility period.

27.4. The forfeited prize money shall be allocated to reimburse the expenses of the Sample collection and the results management of this case.

28. Commencement of Ineligibility Period

28.1. Except as provided below, the period of Ineligibility shall start as soon as the decision providing for Ineligibility is communicated to the Player concerned.

Delays not attributable to the Player or other Person

- 28.2. Where there have been substantial delays in the hearing process or other aspects of Doping Control not attributable to the Player or other Person, the AFC Disciplinary Committee may decide that the period of Ineligibility starts at an earlier date commencing as early as the date of Sample collection or the date on which another anti-doping rule violation last occurred. All competitive results achieved during the period of Ineligibility, including retroactive Ineligibility, shall be Disqualified.

Timely admission

- 28.3. Where the Player or other Person promptly (which, in all events, for a Player means before the Player competes again) admits the anti-doping rule violation after being notified of the anti-doping rule violation by the AFC, the period of Ineligibility may start as early as the date of Sample collection or the date on which another anti-doping rule violation last occurred. In each case, however, where this Article is applied, the Player or other Person shall serve at least one-half of the period of Ineligibility going forward from the date the Player or other Person accepted the imposition of a sanction, the date of a hearing decision imposing a sanction, the date of the communication of the decision imposing a sanction, or the date the sanction is otherwise imposed. This Article shall not apply where the period of Ineligibility has already been reduced under Article 23.3.

Credit for Provisional Suspension or period of Ineligibility served

- 28.4. If a Provisional Suspension is imposed and respected by the Player or other Person, then the Player or other Person shall receive a credit for such period of Provisional Suspension against any period of Ineligibility which may ultimately be imposed. If a period of Ineligibility is served pursuant to a decision that is subsequently appealed, then the Player or other Person shall receive a credit for such period of Ineligibility served against any period of Ineligibility which may ultimately be imposed on appeal.

- 28.5. If a Player or other Person voluntarily accepts a Provisional Suspension in writing from the AFC and thereafter respects the Provisional Suspension, the Player or other Person shall receive a credit for such period of voluntary Provisional Suspension against any period of Ineligibility which may ultimately be imposed. A copy of the Player or other Person's voluntary acceptance of a Provisional Suspension shall be provided promptly to each party entitled to receive notice of an asserted anti-doping rule violation as provided in these Regulations in accordance with Article 68.
- 28.6. No credit against a period of Ineligibility shall be given for any time period before the effective date of the Provisional Suspension or voluntary Provisional Suspension regardless of whether the Player elected not to compete or was suspended by his club or Member Association.

29. **Status During Ineligibility**

Prohibition against participation during Ineligibility

- 29.1. No Player or other Person who has been declared Ineligible may, during the period of Ineligibility, participate in any capacity in a Competition or activity (other than authorised anti-doping education or rehabilitation programs) authorised or organised by the AFC or any Member Association or club, or in Competitions authorised or organised by any professional league or any international or national-level Competition organisation or any elite or national-level sporting activity funded by a governmental agency.
- 29.2. A Player or other Person subject to a period of Ineligibility longer than four (4) years may, after completing four (4) years of the period of Ineligibility, participate as a Player in local sport competitions not sanctioned or otherwise under the jurisdiction of the AFC or a Member Association, but only so long as the local sport event is not at a level that could otherwise qualify such Player or other Person directly or indirectly to compete in (or accumulate points toward) a National Competition or International Competition, and does not involve the Player or other Person working in any capacity with Minors.

29.3. A Player or other Person subject to a period of Ineligibility shall remain subject to Testing.

Return to training

29.4. As an exception to Articles 29.1 to 29.3, a Player may return to train with a team or to use the facilities of a club or Member Association during the shorter of:

29.4.1. the last two (2) months of the Player's period of Ineligibility, or

29.4.2. the last one-quarter of the period of Ineligibility imposed.

Violation of the prohibition of participation during Ineligibility

29.5. Where a Player or other Person who has been declared Ineligible violates the prohibition against participation during Ineligibility described in Articles 29.1 to 29.3, a new period of Ineligibility equal in length up to the original period of Ineligibility shall be added to the end of the original period of Ineligibility. The new period of Ineligibility may be adjusted based on the Player or other Person's degree of Fault and other circumstances of the case. The determination of whether a Player or other Person has violated the prohibition against participation, and whether an adjustment is appropriate, shall be made by the AFC. This decision may be appealed as provided in these Regulations.

29.6. Where a Player Support Person or other Person assists a Person in violating the prohibition against participation during Ineligibility, the AFC shall impose sanctions for a violation of Article 14 for such assistance.

Withholding of Financial Support during Ineligibility

29.7. In addition, for any anti-doping rule violation not involving a reduced sanction as described in Articles 21 or 22, some or all sport-related financial support or other sport-related benefits received by such Person shall be withheld by the AFC or the relevant Member Association.

30. Publication of Sanction

30.I. Each sanction may include automatic publication, as provided in these Regulations.

VI. Consequences to Teams

31. Target Testing of the team

31.I. Where more than one (1) member of a team has been notified of an anti-doping rule violation in accordance with Chapter IX in connection with a Competition, the competent body for the Competition shall conduct appropriate Target Testing of the team during the Competition Period.

32. Sanction on the club or Member Association

32.I. If more than two (2) members of a team are found to have committed an anti-doping rule violation during a Competition Period, the AFC Disciplinary Committee, if the AFC is the competent body, or otherwise the Member Association concerned, shall impose an appropriate sanction on the Member Association or club to which the members of the team belong in addition to any Consequences imposed upon the Players whom committed the anti-doping rule violation.

32.2. The sanctions provided for within the AFC Disciplinary Code are applicable.

VII. Provisional Suspension

33. Jurisdiction

33.I. Where it is asserted that an anti-doping rule has been violated in connection with any test conducted by the AFC, the Chairman of the AFC Disciplinary Committee shall be responsible for imposing the relevant Provisional Suspension.

33.2. For the purpose of this Chapter, references hereafter to the Chairman of the AFC Disciplinary Committee shall, where appropriate, be understood as meaning the relevant Person or body of the Member Association, and references to the Player shall, where appropriate, be understood as meaning any Player Support Personnel or other Person.

34. Mandatory Provisional Suspension after an Adverse Analytical Finding

34.1. In the case of an Adverse Analytical Finding for a Prohibited Substance or a Prohibited Method, other than a Specified Substance, a Provisional Suspension shall be imposed promptly without delay after the review and notification described in Article 52.

34.2. The Provisional Suspension may be lifted if the Player demonstrates to the AFC Disciplinary Committee that the violation is likely to have involved a Contaminated Product.

34.3. The Chairman of the AFC Disciplinary Committee is not obliged to hear the Player.

34.4. The Provisional Suspension shall remain in force until such time that a final decision is passed by the AFC Disciplinary Committee.

35. Optional Provisional Suspension based on an Adverse Analytical Finding for specified substances, Contaminated Products, or other anti-doping rule violations

35.1. In the case of an Adverse Analytical Finding for a Specified Substance, Contaminated Products or other anti-doping rule violations, a Provisional Suspension may be imposed.

35.2. The Chairman of the AFC Disciplinary Committee is not obliged to hear the Player.

36. **Voluntary suspension**

36.1. Alternatively, the Player may accept a voluntary suspension provided that this is confirmed in writing to the Chairman of the AFC Disciplinary Committee.

36.2. A voluntary suspension shall be effective only from the date of receipt of the Player's written confirmation of such by the AFC Anti-Doping Unit. Therefore, the relevant Member Association must promptly submit a copy of the Player's voluntary acceptance of a Provisional Suspension if it was addressed to a relevant individual or body of the Member Association.

37. **Notification**

37.1. A Player who has been provisionally suspended shall be notified immediately in accordance with the AFC Disciplinary Code and these Regulations.

37.2. In any case where a Member Association imposes or declines to impose a Provisional Suspension or a Player accepts a voluntary suspension, the Member Association shall inform the AFC Disciplinary Committee of this fact immediately.

38. **"B" Sample proves negative**

38.1. If a Provisional Suspension is imposed based on an Adverse Analytical Finding and a subsequent "B" Sample analysis does not confirm the Adverse Analytical Finding, then the Player shall not be subject to any further Provisional Suspension on account of a violation of Article 6.

38.2. In circumstances where the Player or team has been removed from a Competition based on a violation of Article 6 and the subsequent "B" Sample analysis does not confirm the "A" Sample finding, where, without otherwise affecting the Competition, it is still possible for the Player or his team to be reinstated, the Player or team may continue to take part in the Competition.

- 38.3. With reference to Article 38.2, in any other case where a reinstatement affects the Competition, the Player or team shall not continue to take part in the Competition and shall not be entitled to make any claim for damages or compensation.

VIII. Statute of Limitations

39. Statute of limitations

- 39.1. No anti-doping rule violation proceeding may be commenced against a Player or other Person unless they have been notified of the anti-doping rule violation as provided in these Regulations, or notification has been reasonably attempted, within ten (10) years from the date the violation is asserted to have occurred.

SECOND TITLE: TESTING AND PROCEDURAL RULES

IX. Testing

Section 1: Testing

40. General rules for Testing

- 40.1. In accordance with these Regulations, every Player may be subject to In-Competition Testing at the Matches in which he competes and to Out-of-Competition Testing at any time and place by the AFC or the relevant Member Association. Testing includes urine tests and blood tests.
- 40.2. Within its jurisdiction, the AFC may delegate Testing under these Regulations to any Member Association, WADA, Major Event Organisation, governmental agency, NADO or third party that it deems to be suitably qualified for the purpose. In this case, reference to the AFC Anti-Doping Unit or the AFC Doping Control Officer shall, where appropriate, be understood as meaning the mandated party or Person.

40.3. Only a single organisation shall be responsible for initiating and directing In-Competition Testing.

40.3.1. At International Competitions, the collection of Samples shall be directed by the international organisation that is the organising body for the Match and/or Competition.

40.3.2. At National Competitions, the collection of Samples shall be directed by the designated NADO of that country.

40.3.3. If an Anti-Doping Organisation is not responsible for initiating and directing Testing at a Competition, but is authorised nevertheless to conduct additional Testing during the Competition Period, it shall first contact the organising body of the Match and/or Competition to obtain the appropriate permission. If the Anti-Doping Organisation is not satisfied with the response of the organising body, it may ask WADA for permission to conduct additional Testing and to determine how to coordinate such additional Testing. WADA shall not grant any such approval before it has consulted in depth with the organising body for the Match and/or Competition.

40.4. In addition to the AFC and the relevant Member Association, the following organisations shall be responsible for initiating and directing Out-of-Competition Testing:

40.4.1. WADA;

40.4.2. the IOC in connection with the Olympic Games;

40.4.3. the NADO of the country or territory in which the Players are present.

40.5. Testing of individual Players shall be performed with no advance notice. For In-Competition Testing, place holder selection may be known in advance, but shall not be revealed to the Player until notification.

41. **Test distribution plan**

41.1. The AFC Anti-Doping Unit shall develop a test distribution plan for efficient and effective In-Competition and Out-of-Competition Testing for all Players over whom the AFC has jurisdiction.

41.2. In developing the test distribution plan, the AFC Anti-Doping Unit shall consider the risk of doping in football based on:

41.2.1. the AFC doping control database on positive tests and the respective substances detected;

41.2.2. the WADA statistics;

41.2.3. the history of doping in football;

41.2.4. the AFC Competition Calendar, including seasonal breaks;

41.2.5. the number of Players;

41.2.6. the physical demands of football; and

41.2.7. research.

- 41.3. The AFC Anti-Doping Unit shall also take the anti-doping activities of the Member Associations, the strength of the anti-doping programmes of the particular NADOs, and the outcome of previous test distribution planning cycles into account. The plan shall be updated, if necessary, on the basis of this regular review, particularly with regard to the relative merits of Out-of-Competition and In-Competition Testing in football.
- 41.4. The timing of Testing and the number of Sample collections shall be determined by the type of Sample collection, including Out-of-Competition, In-Competition, blood and urine Sample collection, in order to ensure optimum deterrence and detection of doping in football.
- 41.5. Player Support Personnel and/or any other Person with a conflict of interest shall not be involved in test distribution planning for their Players or in the process of selecting Players for Testing.
- 41.6. The AFC Anti-Doping Unit shall maintain a record of test distribution planning data in order to coordinate Testing activities with other Anti-Doping Organisations.
- 41.7. The Chain of Custody of the Samples shall ensure that Samples and the respective documentation forms arrive together at the laboratory.

42. **Selection of Players for Testing**

- 42.1. In implementing the test distribution plan, the AFC Anti-Doping Unit shall select Players for Sample collection using random selection methods and Target Testing, as applicable.

42.2. Target Testing shall be based on an intelligent assessment of the risks of doping and the most effective use of resources to ensure optimum detection and deterrence. In football, as a team sport, Target Testing shall be primarily aimed at identifying systematic doping in a team. If more than one (1) Player in a team has been tested positive, Target Testing shall be performed on all Players in the team. For individual Players, Target Testing may be performed as a consequence of behaviour indicating doping, abnormal biological parameters (e.g. blood parameters, steroid profiles), injury, repeated failure to make whereabouts filings, Player test history and when a Player is reinstated after a period of Ineligibility.

42.3. Testing that is not Target Testing shall be determined by random selection in accordance with the AFC doping control procedure (cf Annexe D). In-Competition, the AFC Doping Control Officer shall be authorised to select additional Players for Sample collection (e.g. for behaviour indicating doping). Out-of-Competition, the AFC Doping Control Officer shall follow the instructions for the selection of the Player(s) as given on the respective authorisation form by the AFC Anti-Doping Unit.

43. **Sample collection personnel: AFC Doping Control Officers, assistants, Chaperones**

43.1. The AFC Anti-Doping Unit and the relevant Competition organising committee shall designate an accredited AFC Doping Control Officer to carry out In-Competition tests at the Matches in question.

43.2. The AFC Anti-Doping Unit shall also designate the AFC Doping Control Officers responsible for Out-of-Competition doping tests as defined in the test distribution plan.

43.3. The AFC Doping Control Officer must have undergone specific training. The AFC Doping Control Officer shall be responsible for the entire doping test procedure, including blood sampling and the immediate dispatch of urine Samples to the relevant laboratory and of copies of the forms to the AFC. The AFC shall provide the materials required to carry out the tests.

- 43.4. The AFC Anti-Doping Unit may also appoint one (1) or several assistants to the AFC Doping Control Officer, if necessary (e.g. in the case of double-headers). Furthermore, the AFC Doping Control Officer may be supported by Chaperones.
- 43.5. The AFC Doping Control Officer may delegate the urine sampling procedure or parts thereof to his assistant. The blood sampling procedure may not be delegated unless the assistant is a physician. Nevertheless, if national legislation allows professionals other than doctors to collect Samples of bodily fluids (with all consequences including medical confidentiality according to medical ethics and the Hippocratic Oath), an exception may be made regarding the assistant by the AFC Anti-Doping Unit. In the case of delegation, reference to the AFC Doping Control Officer shall, where appropriate, be understood as meaning the assistant.
- 43.6. All other Sample collection personnel, in addition to the AFC Doping Control Officer, shall have been trained for their assigned responsibilities, shall not have a conflict of interest in the outcome of the Sample collection for which they are appointed and shall not be Minors.
- 43.7. All Sample collection personnel shall have official identification that is provided either by the AFC or the AFC-authorized Anti-Doping Organisation/ relevant competent body. The minimum identification requirement is official documentation naming the AFC or the AFC-authorized Anti-Doping Organisation by which the Person has been authorised. In the case of AFC Doping Control Officers, this documentation shall include their name and photograph and an expiry date.

44. **Failure to comply with Doping Control**

44.1. When any member of the Sample collection personnel becomes aware of any matters occurring before, during or after a Sample collection session that may lead to a determination of a failure to comply, he must inform the AFC Doping Control Officer immediately.

44.2. The AFC Doping Control Officer shall then:

44.2.1. inform the Player or other party concerned of the consequences of a possible failure to comply;

44.2.2. complete the Player's Sample collection session, if possible;

44.2.3. provide a detailed written report of any possible failure to comply to the AFC Anti-Doping Unit.

44.3. The AFC Anti-Doping Unit shall then:

44.3.1. inform the Player or other party concerned of the possible failure to comply in writing and grant an opportunity to respond;

44.3.2. instigate an investigation of the possible failure to comply based on all relevant information and documentation;

44.3.3. document the evaluation process;

44.3.4. make the final determination available to other Anti-Doping Organisations in accordance with Section 4 of Chapter X of these Regulations.

44.4. If the AFC Anti-Doping Unit determines that there has been a potential failure to comply, it shall:

44.4.1. promptly notify the Player or other party in writing of the possible consequences (i.e. that a potential failure to comply will be investigated by the AFC Disciplinary Committee or its equivalent in the Member Association and that appropriate follow-up action will be taken in accordance with these Regulations and the AFC Disciplinary Code);

44.4.2. notify the AFC Disciplinary Committee of all relevant facts.

44.5. Any additional necessary information about the potential failure to comply shall be obtained from all relevant sources, including the Player or other party, as soon as possible and recorded.

44.6. The AFC Disciplinary Committee shall investigate the potential failure to comply and take appropriate follow-up action in accordance with these Regulations and the AFC Disciplinary Code.

44.7. The AFC Anti-Doping Unit shall establish a system for ensuring that the outcomes of its investigation into the potential failure to comply are considered for the purposes of results management and, if applicable, for further planning and Target Testing.

45. **Whereabouts Information**

45.1. The provisions to be respected by the Players governing whereabouts information are set forth under Annexe C of these Regulations.

Section 2: Analysis of Samples

46. Use of accredited and approved laboratories

46.1. Analysis of Samples shall be carried out in WADA-accredited laboratories or as otherwise approved by WADA (cf Annexe F). The choice of the WADA-accredited laboratory (or other laboratory or method) used for the Sample analysis shall be determined exclusively by the AFC Anti-Doping Unit.

46.2. Samples shall be analysed to detect Prohibited Substances and Prohibited Methods identified in the Prohibited List and other substances as may be directed by WADA pursuant to its monitoring programme; or to assist the AFC in profiling relevant parameters in an Player's urine, blood or other matrix, including DNA or genomic profiling; or for any other legitimate anti-doping purpose. Samples may be collected and stored for future analysis.

46.3. No Sample may be used for any purpose other than that described in the previous paragraph without the Player's written consent. Moreover, Samples used for purposes other than described in the previous paragraph shall have any means of identification removed such that they cannot be traced back to a particular Player.

47. Standards for Sample analysis and reporting

47.1. Laboratories shall analyse Samples and report results in conformity with the International Standard for Laboratories. The head of the laboratory shall send the test results immediately by confidential fax or encrypted e-mail to the AFC Anti-Doping Unit.

47.2. The AFC Anti-Doping Unit may request that laboratories analyse its Samples using more extensive menus than those described in the Technical Document of WADA.

47.3. The AFC Anti-Doping Unit may request that laboratories analyse its Samples using less extensive menus than those described in the Technical Document of WADA.

47.4. As provided in the International Standard for Laboratories, laboratories at their own initiative and expense may analyse Samples for Prohibited Substances or Prohibited Methods not included on the Sample analysis menu described in the Technical Document or specified by the Testing authority. Results from any such analysis shall be reported to the AFC and have the same validity and consequence as any other analytical result only if accepted by the AFC Anti-Doping Unit.

48. **Retesting Samples**

47.1. Any Sample may be stored and reanalysed for the purpose of detection of Prohibited Substances and/or Prohibited Methods and other substances as described in this Chapter at any time exclusively at the direction of the AFC. The circumstances and conditions for retesting Samples shall conform with the requirements of the International Standard for Laboratories and the International Standard for Testing and Investigations.

49. **Property**

49.1. All Samples provided by Players in Doping Controls conducted under the responsibility of the AFC shall immediately become the property of the AFC.

50. **Guidance**

50.1. If, at any stage, any question or issue arises concerning the analysis or interpretation of the results of a Sample, the Person responsible for the analysis at the laboratory may consult the AFC Anti-Doping Unit for guidance.

Section 3: Results management

51. Management process

- 51.1. Following notification of an Adverse Analytical Finding or other anti-doping rule violation set out in these Regulations, the matter shall be subject to the results management process set forth below.

- 51.2. In the case of a Player tested by the AFC, the results management process shall be conducted by the AFC Anti-Doping Unit. In all other cases, it shall be conducted by the relevant Person or body of the Player's Member Association. Requests for assistance in conducting, or information about, the results management process may be made to the AFC Anti-Doping Unit at any time.

- 51.3. For the purpose of this Chapter, references hereafter to the AFC Anti-Doping Unit shall, where appropriate, be understood as meaning the relevant Person or body of the Member Association and references to the Player shall, where appropriate, be understood as meaning any Player Support Personnel or other Person.

52. Initial review regarding Adverse Analytical/Atypical Findings and notification

- 52.1. Upon receipt of an Adverse Analytical or an Atypical Finding in an "A" Sample, the AFC Anti-Doping Unit shall conduct a review to determine whether:
 - 52.1.1. an applicable TUE has been granted or will be granted to the Player for the Prohibited Substance;

 - 52.1.2. there is any apparent departure from the International Standard for Laboratories, the International Standard for Testing and Investigations or other applicable provision in these Regulations such as to undermine the validity of the finding.

- 52.2. If the initial review of an Adverse Analytical Finding does not reveal an applicable TUE or entitlement to a TUE or departure that caused the Adverse Analytical Finding, the AFC Anti-Doping Unit shall at once confidentially notify the AFC General Secretary, the Chairman of the AFC Disciplinary Committee, the Chairman of the AFC Medical Committee, and the Player's Member Association and/or club of the positive result of the "A" Sample. The Player shall be notified simultaneously in the manner set forth under this Article.
- 52.3. If the initial review of an Atypical Finding does not reveal an applicable TUE or an apparent departure that caused the Atypical Finding, the AFC Anti-Doping Unit shall conduct the required investigation. After the investigation has been completed, the Player (in the manner provided below), his club, the Member Association concerned, and WADA shall be notified, whether or not the Atypical Finding will be brought forward as an Adverse Analytical Finding.
- 52.4. In the case of an Adverse Analytical Finding, the Player must be promptly notified of (cf Article 61):
- 52.4.1. the Adverse Analytical Finding;
 - 52.4.2. the anti-doping rule violated;
 - 52.4.3. his right to promptly request the analysis of the "B" Sample and, failing such request within the time limit set by these Regulations, of the fact that the "B" Sample analysis may be deemed waived. The Player shall be advised at the same time that, if the "B" Sample analysis is requested, all related laboratory costs shall be borne by the Player, unless the "B" Sample fails to confirm the "A" Sample, in which case the costs shall be borne by the AFC;

- 52.4.4. the fact that analysis of the “B” Sample may be conducted at the request of the AFC regardless of the Player’s decision in this respect;
- 52.4.5. the scheduled date, time and place for the “B” Sample analysis if the Player or the AFC chooses to request an analysis of the “B” Sample;
- 52.4.6. the opportunity for the Player and/or the Player’s representative to attend the “B” Sample opening and analysis; and
- 52.4.7. the Player’s right to request copies of the “A” and “B” Sample laboratory documentation package, which includes information as required by the International Standard for Laboratories.

52.5. Notice of an Atypical Finding will not be provided before completion of the investigation under this Article.

53. Analysis of the “B” Sample in Adverse Analytical Findings

- 53.1. The Player has the right to request the analysis of the “B” Sample, within twelve (12) (In-Competition) or forty eight (48) (Out-of-Competition) hours of being notified. The request of the analysis of the “B” Sample has no impact on a Provisional Suspension of the Player.
- 53.2. A Player may accept an “A” Sample analytical result by waiving his right to the “B” Sample analysis. The AFC Anti-Doping Unit may, however, request the analysis of the “B” Sample at any time if it believes that such analysis will be relevant to consideration of the Player’s case.
- 53.3. The AFC Anti-Doping Unit shall communicate the request for analysis of the “B” Sample immediately to the head of the laboratory where the “B” Sample is being kept. The analysis of the “B” Sample should be carried out within forty eight (48) hours of the AFC’s request or as soon as possible.

- 53.3.1. The laboratory is required to be ready to perform the “B” Sample analysis within this time frame, as laid down in the agreement between the AFC and the respective laboratory prior to the Match and/or Competition where controls are being conducted.
- 53.3.2. If the laboratory is unable to perform the “B” Sample analysis within this time frame for technical or logistical reasons, the analysis shall take place at the next available date for the laboratory. This shall not be considered as a deviation from the International Standard for Laboratories susceptible to invalidate the analytical procedure and analytical results. No other reason shall be accepted for changing the date of the “B” Sample analysis.
- 53.4. The Player and/or his representative shall be allowed to be present at the opening of the “B” Sample analysis and to attend the analysis throughout. A representative of the Player’s Member Association or club may also be present and attend throughout, as may a representative of the AFC.
- 53.5. The results of the “B” Sample analysis shall be sent immediately by confidential fax or encrypted e-mail to the AFC Anti-Doping Unit. On receipt of the laboratory report, the AFC Anti-Doping Unit shall conduct any follow-up investigation that may be required by the Prohibited List. Upon completion of this investigation, the AFC Anti-Doping Unit shall promptly notify the Player regarding the results of the follow-up investigation and whether or not the AFC asserts, or continues to assert, that an anti-doping rule violation has occurred.

54. Review of Atypical Passport Findings and Adverse Passport Findings

54.1. Review of Atypical Passport Findings and Adverse Passport Findings shall take place as provided in the International Standard for Testing and Investigations and International Standard for Laboratories. At such time as the AFC is satisfied that an anti-doping rule violation has occurred, it shall promptly give the Player (and simultaneously the Player's NADO and WADA) notice of the anti-doping rule violation asserted and the basis of that assertion.

55. Review of Whereabouts Failures

55.1. The AFC shall review potential filing failures and missed tests, as defined in the International Standard for Testing and Investigations, in respect of Players who file their whereabouts information with the AFC, in accordance with Annex I to the International Standard for Testing and Investigations. At such time as the AFC is satisfied that an Article 9 anti-doping rule violation has occurred, it shall promptly give the Player (and simultaneously the Player's NADO and WADA) notice that it is asserting a violation of Article 9 and the basis of that assertion.

56. Review of other anti-doping rule violations

56.1. In the case of any possible anti-doping rule violation where there is no Adverse Analytical Finding and no Atypical Finding, the AFC Anti-Doping Unit shall conduct any investigation based on the facts of the case that it deems to be necessary.

56.2. At such time as the AFC Anti-Doping Unit has reason to believe that an anti-doping violation might have occurred, it shall promptly notify the Player, the Player's club and Member Association and WADA of the anti-doping rule that appears to have been violated, and the basis of the violation.

56.3. The Player shall be afforded an opportunity, within a time limit set by the AFC Disciplinary Committee, to provide an explanation in response to the anti-doping rule violation asserted.

57. Retirement from Sport

57.1. If a Player or other Person retires while the AFC is conducting any results management process, the AFC retains jurisdiction to complete its results management process.

57.2. If a Player or other Person retires before any results management process has begun and the AFC would have had results management authority over the Player or other Person at the time the Player or other Person committed an anti-doping rule violation, the AFC has authority to conduct results management in respect of that anti-doping rule violation.

58. Retired Player Returning to Competition

58.1. If an International-Level or National-Level Player in a Registered Testing Pool retires and then wishes to return to active participation in sport, the Player shall not compete in International Competitions or National Competitions until the Player has made themselves available for Testing, by giving six (6) months prior written notice to FIFA, the AFC and their NADO. The AFC may grant an exemption to the six (6) month written-notice rule where the strict application of that rule would be manifestly unfair to a Player. This decision may not be appealed.

- 58.2. If a Player retires from sport while subject to a period of Ineligibility and then wishes to return to active competition in sport, the Player shall not compete in International Competitions or National Competitions until the Player has made themselves available for Testing by giving six (6) months prior written notice (or notice equivalent to the period of Ineligibility remaining as of the date the Player retired, if that period was longer than six (6) months) to the AFC and NADO. The AFC may grant an exemption to the six (6) month written-notice rule where the strict application of that rule would be manifestly unfair to a Player. This decision may not be appealed.
- 58.3. If a Player retires while a results management process is under way, the AFC retains jurisdiction to complete its results management process.
- 58.4. If a Player retires before any results management process has begun, the Anti-Doping Organisation that would have had results management jurisdiction over the Player at the time the Player committed an anti-doping rule violation has jurisdiction to conduct results management.

X. Procedural Rules

Section 1: General provisions

59. Jurisdiction

- 59.1. Where it is asserted that an anti-doping rule has been violated in connection with any test conducted by the AFC, the case shall be submitted to the AFC Disciplinary Committee. In all other cases, it shall be submitted to the relevant hearing panel of a Member Association (or NADO).
- 59.2. The AFC Disciplinary Committee shall decide appropriate sanctions in compliance with these Regulations and the AFC Disciplinary Code.
- 59.3. In the case of a Player tested by the AFC, the AFC has the exclusive right to publish the test results and the relevant measures thereof.

59.4. For the purpose of Chapter X, references hereafter to the AFC Disciplinary Committee shall, where appropriate, be understood as meaning the relevant hearing panel of the Member Association (or NADO) and references to the Player shall, where appropriate, be understood as meaning any Player Support Personnel or other person.

60. Addressees of decisions and other documents

60.1. Decisions and other documents intended for Players, clubs, Match Officials and Officials are addressed to the Member Association concerned on the condition that it forwards the documents to the parties concerned without delay. In the event that the documents were not also or solely sent to the party concerned, these documents are considered to have been communicated properly to the ultimate addressee four (4) days after communication of the documents to the Member Association.

61. Form of decisions

61.1. Decisions communicated by fax shall be legally binding. Alternatively, decisions may be communicated by registered letter, which shall also be legally binding.

61.2. The communication of decisions by e-mail is only permitted where attempts to communicate a decision by facsimile has failed.

61.3. In exceptional circumstances, the parties may be informed solely of the terms of the decision. The motivated decision will be communicated in full, written form. The time limit to lodge an appeal, where applicable, begins upon receipt of this motivated decision.

Section 2: Fair Hearing

62. Right to a fair hearing

62.1. Every Player who has been provisionally suspended or who has accepted a voluntary suspension shall have the right to request a hearing in front of the AFC Disciplinary Committee before any definite sanction is determined in accordance with these Regulations and the AFC Disciplinary Code.

63. Hearing principles

63.1. The AFC Disciplinary Committee shall be fair and impartial and the hearing process shall respect the following rights of the Player:

63.3.1. the right to be assisted by counsel and an interpreter at the Player's own expense;

63.3.2. the right to be informed in a fair and timely manner of the asserted anti-doping rule violation;

63.3.3. the right to respond to the asserted anti-doping rule violation and resulting consequences;

63.3.4. the right to present evidence, including the right to call and question witnesses;

63.3.5. the right to a timely, written and reasoned decision, specifically including an explanation of the reason(s) for any period of Ineligibility.

64. Considerations of the AFC Disciplinary Committee

64.1. At the hearing, the AFC Disciplinary Committee shall consider first whether or not an anti-doping rule violation has been committed.

- 64.2. The AFC Disciplinary Committee may draw an adverse inference against the Player who is asserted to have committed an anti-doping rule violation based on the Player's refusal, after a request made in a reasonable time in advance of the hearing, to appear at the hearing (either in Person or by telephone as directed by the AFC Disciplinary Committee) and to answer questions from the AFC Disciplinary Committee.
- 64.3. If the AFC Disciplinary Committee considers that an anti-doping rule violation has been committed, it shall consider the appropriate measures applicable under Articles 19 and 20 prior to the imposition of any period of Ineligibility. The Player shall have the opportunity to establish that there are specific or exceptional circumstances in his case that justify a reduction or elimination of the sanction otherwise applicable.
- 64.4. Where no hearing occurs, the AFC Disciplinary Committee shall consider whether an anti-doping rule violation was committed and, if so, the appropriate measures to take based on the content of the file, and render a reasoned decision explaining the actions taken.

65. Procedure at a Competition

- 65.1. The Chairman of the AFC Disciplinary Committee may expedite the procedure at a Competition. He may conduct the hearing on his own or take other measures at his discretion, especially where the resolution of an anti-doping rule violation may affect the participation of a Player in the Competition.

Section 3: Proof of doping

66. Burdens and Standards of Proof

- 66.1. The AFC shall have the burden of establishing that an anti-doping rule violation has occurred. The standard of proof shall be whether the AFC has established an anti-doping rule violation to the comfortable satisfaction of the AFC Disciplinary Committee, bearing in mind the seriousness of the allegation which is made. This standard of proof in all cases is greater than a mere balance of probability but less than proof beyond a reasonable doubt.
- 66.2. Where these Regulations place the burden of proof upon the Player or other Person alleged to have committed an anti-doping rule violation to rebut a presumption or establish specified facts or circumstances, the standard of proof shall be by a balance of probability.

67. Methods of Establishing Facts and Presumptions

- 67.1. Facts related to anti-doping rule violations may be established by any reliable means, including admissions.
- 67.2. The following rules of proof shall be applicable in doping cases:
- 67.2.1. Analytical methods or decision limits approved by WADA after consultation within the relevant scientific community and the subject of peer review are presumed to be scientifically valid. Any Player or other Person seeking to rebut this presumption of scientific validity shall, as a condition precedent to any such challenge, first notify WADA of the challenge and the basis of the challenge. CAS on its own initiative may also inform WADA of any such challenge. At WADA's request, the CAS panel shall appoint an appropriate scientific expert to assist the panel in its evaluation of the challenge. Within ten (10) days of WADA's receipt of such notice, and WADA's receipt of the CAS file, WADA shall also have the right to intervene as a party, appear amicus curiae, or otherwise provide evidence in such proceeding.

67.2.1.I. This above provision is also applicable to any hearing before any judicial body of the AFC. In this context, references to the CAS shall be construed as meaning the applicable judicial body of the AFC.

67.2.2. WADA-accredited laboratories, and other laboratories approved by WADA, are presumed to have conducted Sample analysis and custodial procedures in accordance with the International Standard for Laboratories. The Player or other Person may rebut this presumption by establishing that a departure from the International Standard for Laboratories occurred which could reasonably have caused the Adverse Analytical Finding. If the Player or other Person rebuts the preceding presumption by showing that a departure from the International Standard for Laboratories occurred which could reasonably have caused the Adverse Analytical Finding, then the AFC shall have the burden to establish that such departure did not cause the Adverse Analytical Finding.

67.2.3. Departures from any other International Standard or other anti-doping rule or policy set forth in the Code or these Regulations which did not cause an Adverse Analytical Finding or other anti-doping rule violation shall not invalidate such evidence or results. If the Player or other Person establishes a departure from another International Standard or other anti-doping rule or policy which could reasonably have caused an anti-doping rule violation based on an Adverse Analytical Finding or other anti-doping rule violation, then the AFC shall have the burden to establish that such departure did not cause the Adverse Analytical Finding or the factual basis for the anti-doping rule violation.

- 67.2.4. The facts established by a decision of a court or professional disciplinary tribunal of competent jurisdiction which is not the subject of a pending appeal shall be unable to be rebutted by a Player or other Person to whom the facts established by the decision are applicable unless the Player or other Person establishes that the decision violated principles of natural justice.
- 67.2.5. The hearing panel in a hearing on an anti-doping rule violation may draw an inference adverse to the Player or other Person who is asserted to have committed an anti-doping rule violation based on the Player's or other Person's refusal, after a request made in a reasonable time in advance of the hearing, to appear at the hearing (either in person or telephonically as directed by the hearing panel) and to answer questions from the hearing panel or the AFC.

Section 4: Confidentiality and reporting

68. Information concerning potential anti-doping rule violations

- 68.1. The Player or other Person shall be notified as provided in Section 3 of Chapter IX.
- 68.2. The Anti-Doping Organisation that is responsible for managing the results shall notify the Player's Member Association, NADO, FIFA, the AFC and WADA by no later than completion of the process described under Articles 52, 56 and 57.
- 68.3. Notification shall include the Player's name, country, sport, club, competitive level, whether the test was In-Competition or Out-of-Competition, the date of Sample collection, and the analytical result reported by the laboratory.
- 68.4. The same Persons and Anti-Doping Organisations shall be regularly updated on the status and findings of any review or proceedings conducted pursuant to Section 3 of Chapter IX, Chapter VI, Sections 2 and 6 of Chapter X and shall be provided with a prompt written reasoned explanation or decision explaining the resolution of the matter.

- 68.5. The AFC shall be notified in accordance with Article 37 of the decision of the hearing panel pursuant to Sections 2 and 6 of Chapter X.
- 68.6. The recipient organisations shall not disclose this information beyond those Persons with a need to know (which would include the appropriate personnel at the applicable Member Association and/or club) until the AFC or the Member Association concerned, according to the results management responsibility, has made public disclosure or has failed to make public disclosure as required under Article 69.
- 68.7. An Anti-Doping Organisation that declares, or that receives notice of, a whereabouts-related failure in respect of a Player shall not disclose that information beyond those Persons with a need to know unless and until that Player is found to have committed an anti-doping rule violation under Article 9 based on such whereabouts-related failure. Such Persons who need to know shall also maintain the confidentiality of such information until the same point.

69. Public disclosure

- 69.1. No Anti-Doping Organisation or WADA-accredited laboratory, or official of either, shall publicly comment on the specific facts of a pending case (as opposed to general description of process and science) except in response to public comments attributed to the Player, other Person or their representatives.

- 69.2. Only after it has been determined in a hearing in accordance with Section 2 of Chapter X that an anti-doping rule violation has occurred, or after such hearing has been waived, or the assertion of an anti-doping rule violation has not been timely challenged, may the AFC or the Member Association concerned, depending on who has responsibility for managing the results, Publicly Report the disposition of the anti-doping matter including the anti-doping rule violated, the name of the Player or other Person committing the violation, the Prohibited Substance or Prohibited Method involved and the consequences imposed according to their communication policy. The AFC or the Member Association concerned may also Publicly Report appeal decisions concerning anti-doping rule violations and they may also send all hearing and appeal decisions to WADA.
- 69.3. In any case where it is determined, after an appeal, that the Player or other Person did not commit an anti-doping rule violation, the decision may be disclosed publicly only with the consent of the Player or other Person who is the subject of the decision. The AFC or the Member Association shall Publicly Disclose the decision in its entirety or in such revised form as the Player or other Person may approve.
- 69.4. For the purpose of this Article, publication shall be accomplished at a minimum by placing the required information on the AFC or the Member Association's website.

70. Information concerning whereabouts and Testing

70.1. The current whereabouts information of Players who have been identified by the AFC for inclusion in its International Registered Testing Pool may be provided to WADA and to other Anti-Doping Organisations having jurisdiction to test the Player through ADAMS where reasonably feasible, as provided under the relevant article of the Code. This information shall be: maintained in strict confidence at all times; used exclusively for the purposes of planning, coordinating or conducting Testing; and destroyed after it is no longer relevant for these purposes.

70.2. The AFC may report all In-Competition and Out-of-Competition tests on Players from its International Registered Testing Pool to the WADA clearing house. This information will be made accessible to the Player, the Player's Member Association, National Olympic Committee, NADO, and the International Olympic Committee.

70.3. The AFC shall, at least annually, publish a general statistical report of its Doping Control activities, with a copy provided to WADA.

71. Data protection

71.1. Handling of the personal information relating to Players or third parties that is collected, stored, processed or disclosed when performing the obligations under these Regulations has to comply with the applicable data protection and privacy laws and AFC Data Protection Regulations, as well as the International Standard for the Protection and Privacy of Personal Information issued by WADA.

Section 5: Recognition

72. Application and recognition of decisions

72.1. The AFC and its Member Associations will recognise and respect actions subject to the right to appeal provided in these Regulations, Testing, hearing results or other final adjudications of any Signatory of the Code that are consistent with the Code and are within that Signatory's authority.

72.2. The AFC and its Member Associations shall recognise the measures taken by other bodies which have not accepted the Code if the rules of those bodies are otherwise consistent with these Regulations.

73. Recognition by Member Associations

73.1. Where Doping Controls have been carried out by the AFC or a Member Association in accordance with these Regulations, every Member Association shall recognise the results of such Doping Controls.

73.2. Where decisions have been made by the AFC or a Member Association regarding a breach of these Regulations, every Member Association shall recognise such decisions and shall take all necessary action to render such decisions effective.

Section 6: Appeals

74. Decisions Subject to Appeal

74.1. Decisions made under these Regulations may be appealed as set forth below in Articles 75 to 80 or as otherwise provided in these Regulations, the Code or the International Standards. Such decisions shall remain in effect while under appeal unless the appellate body orders otherwise. Before an appeal is commenced, any post-decision review provided in the Anti-Doping Organisation's rules must be exhausted, provided that such review respects the principles set forth in Article 75.2 of these Regulations, except as provided in Article 74.3.

- 74.2. The scope of review on appeal includes all issues relevant to the matter and is expressly not limited to the issues or scope of review before the initial decision maker.
- 74.3. In making its decision, CAS does not need to give deference to the discretion exercised by the body whose decision is being appealed.
- 74.4. Where WADA has a right to appeal under Articles 74 to 80 and no other party has appealed a final decision of a competent decision-making body of the AFC, WADA may appeal such decision directly to CAS without having to exhaust other internal remedies in the AFC judicial process.

75. Appeals from Decisions Regarding Anti-Doping Rule Violations, Consequences, Provisional Suspensions, Recognition of Decisions and Jurisdiction

- 75.1. The following types of decisions may be appealed exclusively as provided by Articles 75-80 of these Regulations:
- 75.1.1 A decision that an anti-doping rule violation was committed, a decision imposing Consequences or not imposing Consequences for an anti-doping rule violation, or a decision that no anti-doping rule violation was committed;
 - 75.1.2 a decision that an anti-doping rule violation proceeding cannot go forward for procedural reasons (including, for example, prescription);
 - 75.1.3 a decision by WADA not to grant an exception to the six (6) month notice-requirement for a retired Player to return to Competition pursuant to Article 58;
 - 75.1.4 a decision by WADA assigning results management pursuant to Article 7.1 of the Code;

- 75.1.5. a decision by the AFC not to bring forward an Adverse Analytical Finding or an Atypical Finding as an anti-doping rule violation, or a decision not to go forward with an anti-doping rule violation after an investigation under these Regulations;
 - 75.1.6. a decision to impose a Provisional Suspension as a result of a Provisional Hearing;
 - 75.1.7. the AFC's failure to comply with Chapter VI;
 - 75.1.8. a decision that the AFC lacks jurisdiction to rule on an alleged anti-doping rule violation or its Consequences;
 - 75.1.9. a decision to suspend, or not suspend, a period of Ineligibility or to reinstate, or not reinstate, a suspended period of Ineligibility pursuant to Article 23.1;
 - 75.1.10. a decision pursuant to Article 29.3; and
 - 75.1.11. a decision by the AFC not to recognise another Anti-Doping Organisation's decision under Article 72.
- 75.2. In cases arising from participation in an International Competition or in cases involving International-Level Players, a decision of the final competent decision-making body of the AFC or the Member Associations may be appealed exclusively to CAS.

- 75.3. In cases where Article 75.2 is not applicable, the decision may be appealed to a national-level appeal body, being an independent and impartial body established in accordance with rules adopted by the NADO having jurisdiction over the Player or other Person. The rules for such appeal shall respect the following principles a timely hearing; a fair and impartial hearing panel; the right to be represented by counsel at the Person's own expense; and a timely, written, reasoned decision. If the NADO has not established such a body, the decision may be appealed to CAS in accordance with the provisions applicable before such court.
- 75.4. In cases involving Article 75.2, the following parties shall have the right to appeal to CAS:
- 75.4.1. the Player or other Person who is the subject of the decision being appealed;
 - 75.4.2. the other party to the case in which the decision was rendered;
 - 75.4.3. the AFC;
 - 75.4.4. the NADO of the Person's country of residence or countries where the Person is a national or license holder;
 - 75.4.5. the International Olympic Committee or International Paralympic Committee, as applicable, where the decision may have an effect in relation to the Olympic Games or Paralympic Games, including decisions affecting eligibility for the Olympic Games or Paralympic Games; and
 - 75.4.6. WADA.

75.5. In cases involving Article 75.3:

75.5.1. the parties having the right to appeal to the national-level appeal body shall be as provided in the NADO's rules but, at a minimum, shall include those same parties as set out in Article 75.4.1 to 75.4.6;

75.5.2. the parties having the right to appeal to CAS with respect to the decision of the national-level appeal body shall be WADA, the International Olympic Committee, the International Paralympic Committee, and the AFC. Any party filing an appeal shall be entitled to assistance from CAS to obtain all relevant information from the Anti-Doping Organisation whose decision is being appealed and the information shall be provided if CAS so directs.

75.6. Notwithstanding any other provision herein, the only Person who may appeal from a Provisional Suspension is the Player or other Person upon whom the Provisional Suspension is imposed.

75.7. Cross appeals and other subsequent appeals by any respondent named in cases brought to CAS under the Code are specifically permitted. Any party with a right to appeal pursuant to these Regulations must file a cross appeal or subsequent appeal at the latest with the party's answer.

76. Failure to Render a Timely Decision

76.1. Where, in a particular case, the AFC fails to render a decision with respect to whether an anti-doping rule violation was committed within a reasonable deadline set by WADA, WADA may elect to appeal directly to CAS as if the AFC had rendered a decision finding no anti-doping rule violation. If the CAS hearing panel determines that an anti-doping rule violation was committed and that WADA acted reasonably in electing to appeal directly to CAS, then WADA's costs and attorney fees in prosecuting the appeal shall be reimbursed to WADA by the AFC.

76.2. Where, in a particular case, a Member Association fails to render a decision with respect to whether an anti-doping rule violation was committed within a reasonable deadline set by the AFC, the AFC may elect to appeal directly to CAS as if the Member Association had rendered a decision finding no anti-doping rule violation. If the CAS hearing panel determines that an anti-doping rule violation was committed and that the AFC acted reasonably in electing to appeal directly to CAS, then the AFC's costs and attorney fees in prosecuting the appeal shall be reimbursed to the AFC by the Member Association.

77. Appeals Relating to TUEs

77.I. TUE decisions may be appealed exclusively as provided in Articles 18 and 82.

78. Notification of Appeal Decisions

78.I. Any Anti-Doping Organisation that is a party to an appeal shall promptly provide the appeal decision to the Player or other Person and to the other Anti-Doping Organisations that would have been entitled to appeal under Article 75.4 of these Regulations.

79. Appeal from Decisions Pursuant to Article 83

79.I. Decisions by the AFC pursuant to Article 83 may be appealed exclusively to CAS by the Member Association.

80. Time for Filing Appeals

80.I. The time to file an appeal to CAS shall be twenty-one (21) days from the date of receipt of the motivated decision by the appealing party. The above notwithstanding, the following shall apply in connection with appeals filed by a party entitled to appeal but which was not a party to the proceedings that led to the decision being appealed:

- 80.1.1. Within fifteen (15) days from notice of the decision, such party(ies) shall have the right to request a copy of the case file from the body that issued the decision;
 - 80.1.2. If such a request is made within the fifteen (15) day period, then the party making such request shall have twenty one (21) days from receipt of the file to file an appeal to CAS.
- 80.2. The above notwithstanding, the filing deadline for an appeal filed by WADA shall be the later of:
- 80.2.1. Twenty one (21) days after the last day on which any other party in the case could have appealed; or
 - 80.2.2. Twenty one (21) days after WADA's receipt of the complete file relating to the decision.
- 80.3. The time to file an appeal made pursuant to Article 75.3 to an independent and impartial body established at national level in accordance with rules established by the NADO shall be indicated by the same rules of the NADO.
- 80.4. The above notwithstanding, the filing deadline for an appeal or intervention filed by WADA shall be the later of:
- 80.4.1. Twenty one (21) days after the last day on which any other party in the case could have appealed, or
 - 80.4.2. Twenty one (21) days after WADA's receipt of the complete file relating to the decision.

80.5. Where the AFC appeals against a decision of a Member Association or Anti-Doping Organisation to CAS under this Chapter, the applicable law for the proceeding shall be the AFC Statutes, these Regulations and the AFC Disciplinary Code.

81. AFC not required to exhaust Internal remedies

81.1. Where the AFC has a right to appeal under this Chapter and no other party has appealed a final decision of a competent decision-making body of an Anti-Doping Organisation, the AFC may appeal such a decision directly to CAS without having to exhaust other internal remedies in the Anti-Doping Organisation judicial process.

82. Appeals against decisions granting or denying a therapeutic use exemption

82.1. WADA, at the request of a Player or on its own initiative, may review the granting or denial of any TUE by the AFC. Decisions by WADA reversing the granting or denial of a TUE may be appealed exclusively to CAS by the Player or the AFC.

82.2. Decisions by the AFC, Member Associations or NADOs denying TUEs, which are not reversed by WADA, may be appealed by Players to CAS or to the national-level appeal body as described under these Regulations. If the national-level appeal body reverses the decision to deny a TUE, that decision may be appealed to CAS by WADA.

82.3. When the AFC, a Member Association or NADO fails to take action on a properly submitted application for a TUE within a reasonable time, this failure to decide may be considered a denial for the purpose of the appeal rights provided in this Article.

83. Sanctions and costs assessed against sporting bodies

83.1. The AFC has the authority to withhold some or all funding or other non-financial support to Member Associations that are not in compliance with these Regulations.

83.2. Member Associations shall be obligated to reimburse the AFC for all costs (including without limitation to laboratory fees, hearing expenses and travel) related to a violation of these Regulations committed by a Player or other Person affiliated with that Member Association.

FINAL TITLE

84. Official languages

84.1. These Regulations shall be officially published in English.

84.2. In case of any discrepancy in the unofficial interpretation of any translation of these Regulations, the English text will be authoritative.

85. Additional regulations

85.1. The provisions of the AFC Disciplinary Code and all other AFC Regulations shall apply in addition to these Regulations

85.2. In case of any discrepancy between these Regulations and any applicable AFC Regulations, these Regulations will be authoritative.

86. Amendment and Interpretation

86.1. Matters not provided for in these Regulations and cases of force majeure shall be settled by the final decision of the relevant AFC committee.

86.2. These Regulations shall be implemented and construed according to the AFC Statutes, AFC Disciplinary Code and AFC Regulations.

86.3. These Regulations may be amended by the AFC.

86.4. These Regulations shall be interpreted as an independent and autonomous text and not by reference to existing law or statutes.

86.5. The headings used for the various Chapters, Sections, and Articles of these Regulations are for convenience only and shall not be deemed part of the substance of these Regulations or to affect in any way the language of the provisions to which they refer.

86.6. These Regulations were adopted by the AFC Executive Committee on 29 November 2014 and come into force on 1 January 2015 (Effective Date). They shall not apply retroactively to matters pending before the Effective Date subject to the following:

86.6.1. Anti-doping rule violations taking place prior to the Effective Date count as “first violations” or “second violations” for purposes of determining sanctions pursuant to Articles 6 to 15 for Violations taking place after the Effective Date.

- 86.6.2. The retrospective periods in which prior violations can be considered for purposes of multiple violations under Article 24.5 and the statute of limitations set forth in Article 39 are procedural rules and should be applied retroactively; provided, however, that Article 39 shall only be applied retroactively if the statute of limitations period has not already expired by the Effective Date. Otherwise, with respect to any anti-doping rule violation case which is pending as of the Effective Date and any anti-doping rule violation case brought after the Effective Date based on an anti-doping rule violation which occurred prior to the Effective Date, the case shall be governed by the substantive anti-doping rules in effect at the time the alleged anti-doping rule violation occurred unless the panel hearing the case determines the principle of *lex mitior* appropriately applies under the circumstances of the case.
- 86.6.3. Any Article 9 whereabouts failure (whether a Filing Failure or a Missed Test, as those terms are defined in the International Standard for Testing and Investigations) prior to the Effective Date shall be carried forward and may be relied upon, prior to expiry, in accordance with the International Standard for Testing and Investigation, but it shall be deemed to have expired twelve (12) months after it occurred.
- 86.6.4. With respect to cases where a final decision finding an anti-doping rule violation has been rendered prior to the Effective Date, but the Player or other Person is still serving the period of Ineligibility as of the Effective Date, the Player or other Person may apply to the Anti-Doping Organisation which had results management responsibility for the anti-doping rule violation to consider a reduction in the period of Ineligibility in light of these Regulations. Such application must be made before the period of Ineligibility has expired. The decision rendered may be appealed pursuant to Article 75. These Regulations shall have no application to any case where a final decision finding an anti-doping rule violation has been rendered and the period of Ineligibility has expired.

86.6.5. For purposes of assessing the period of Ineligibility for a second violation in accordance with Article 24.1, where the sanction for the first violation was determined based on rules in force prior to the Effective Date, the period of Ineligibility which would have been assessed for that first violation had these Regulations been applicable, shall be applied.

86.7. Subject always to these Regulations, anti-doping rule violations committed pursuant to those regulations in force prior to the Effective Date shall be taken into account as prior offences for purposes of determining sanctions with respect to multiple sanctions.

For the AFC Executive Committee

Shaikh Salman bin Ebrahim Al Khalifa
President

Dato' Alex Soosay
General Secretary

ANNEXE A

I. The Prohibited List

- I.1. Reference is made to the Prohibited List published by WADA, which is available on www.wada-ama.org.

ANNEXE B

I. Therapeutic Use Exemptions Applications

- I.1. An application for a TUE will be reviewed by the AFC TUE Advisory Group.
- I.2. A Player may be granted a TUE if he demonstrates that each of the following conditions are met. Such conditions may be revised by the AFC TUE Advisory Group in compliance with the International Standard for TUEs and will be published in the AFC TUE policy:
 - I.2.1. The Player shall submit an application for a TUE within the time limit stipulated in the published AFC TUE policy in force.
 - I.2.2. The Prohibited Substance or Prohibited Method in question is needed to treat an acute or chronic medical condition such that the Player would experience a significant impairment to health if the Prohibited Substance or Prohibited Method were to be withheld.
 - I.2.3. The therapeutic use of the Prohibited Substance or Prohibited Method is highly unlikely to produce any additional enhancement of performance beyond what might be anticipated by a return to the Player's normal state of health following the treatment of the acute or chronic medical condition.
 - I.2.4. There is no reasonable therapeutic alternative to the use of the Prohibited Substance or Prohibited Method.

- I.2.5. The necessity for the Use of the Prohibited Substance or Prohibited Method is not a consequence, wholly or in part, of the prior Use (without a TUE) of a substance or method which was prohibited at the time of such Use.
- I.3. A TUE will be cancelled by the AFC TUE Advisory Group if:
 - I.3.1. a Player does not promptly comply with any requirements or conditions imposed by the AFC TUE Advisory Group;
 - I.3.2. the term for which the TUE was granted has expired;
 - I.3.3. a Player is advised that the TUE has been withdrawn by the AFC TUE Advisory Group; or
 - I.3.4. a decision granting a TUE has been reversed by WADA or CAS.
- I.4. An application for a TUE will not be considered for retroactive approval, except in cases where:
 - I.4.1. emergency treatment or treatment of an acute medical condition was necessary; or
 - I.4.2. due to exceptional circumstances, there was insufficient time or opportunity for an applicant to submit, or the AFC TUE Advisory Group to consider, an application prior to Doping Control.

Confidentiality of information

- I.5. The collection, storage, processing, disclosure and retention of personal information by the AFC in the TUE process complies with the International Standard for the Protection of Privacy and Personal Information.

- 1.6. A Player applying for a TUE shall provide written consent for the transmission of all information pertaining to the application to members of all TUE committees with authority under the Code to review the file and, as required, other independent medical or scientific experts, and to all necessary staff involved in the management, review or appeal of TUEs, and WADA. In accordance with the provisions of the Code, the applicant shall also provide written consent for the decision of the AFC TUE Advisory Group to be distributed to other relevant Anti-Doping Organisations and Member Associations.
- 1.7. Should the assistance of external, independent experts be required, all details of the application shall be circulated without identifying the Player concerned.
- 1.8. The members of the AFC TUE Advisory Group, all independent experts and the staff of the AFC Medical Department and the AFC Anti-Doping Unit involved, will conduct all of their activities in strict confidence and will sign confidentiality agreements. In particular, they shall keep the following information confidential:
 - 1.8.1. All medical information and data provided by the Player and doctor(s) involved in the Player's care.
 - 1.8.2. All details of the application, including the name of the doctor(s) involved in the process.
- 1.9. Should the Player wish to revoke the right of the AFC TUE Advisory Group or any TUE committee to obtain any health information on his behalf, the Player must notify his medical practitioner in writing of the fact. As a consequence of such a decision, the Player will not receive approval for a TUE or renewal of an existing TUE.

ANNEXE C

Whereabouts

I. Registered testing pool

- I.1. FIFA shall establish an International Registered Testing Pool (**IRTP**) which shall comprise of individual international-level Players who are ineligible following a decision by a FIFA-body or who are categorised as being high-risk Players. Those Players will be designated individually by the FIFA Anti-Doping Unit and notified via the Member Association concerned. An explanation for the designation is not required.
 - I.2.1. All players within the jurisdiction of the AFC who are notified by FIFA that they have been designated as members of the FIFA IRTP shall refer to the FIFA Anti-Doping Regulations for the relevant rules governing testing and whereabouts requirements.
- I.2. The AFC shall establish two (2) different categories of Registered Testing Pool (**RTP**) with specific whereabouts requirements:
 - I.2.1. The elite testing pool (**ETP**) includes clubs and/or representative teams participating at an elite AFC level specifically selected by the AFC.
 - I.2.2. The pre-Competition testing pool (**PCTP**) includes the representative teams participating in Competitions specifically selected by the AFC during the two (2) month preparation phase prior to the commencement of such Competitions. The relevant representative teams will be informed of their selection at least three (3) months prior to the start of the Competition.

- I.3. The AFC must inform the Member Association of the clubs and representative teams that have been included in the ETP or a PCTP immediately in writing of:
 - I.3.1. their inclusion in the (as applicable) ETP or PCTP;
 - I.3.2. the consequent requirement to file accurate and complete whereabouts information; and
 - I.3.3. the consequences of any failure to comply with that requirement.

Each Member Association is required to ensure that the respective Players of its clubs and representative teams are aware of and comply with the whereabouts information that it files in accordance with these Regulations.

- I.4. Players who have announced their retirement and are no longer in the ETP may not resume competing unless they:
 - I.4.1. notify the Member Association concerned at least six (6) months before they expect to return to competition;
 - I.4.2. fulfil the same whereabouts requirements as Players in the ETP; and
 - I.4.3. are available for no-advance-notice Out-of-Competition Testing at any time during the period before their actual return to competition.
- I.5. Players who are serving a period of Ineligibility will remain in the relevant RTP until the end of the period of Ineligibility, unless they are designated for inclusion in the FIFA IRTP.
- I.6. Players who are injured and unable to play will remain in the relevant RTP and might be subject to Target Testing, unless they are designated for inclusion in the FIFA IRTP.

- 1.7. The AFC shall periodically review and update as necessary its criteria for including clubs and representative teams in the ETP and PCTP. The clubs and representative teams concerned must be informed of any changes that are made via their Member Association.

2. Filing obligations

- 2.1. Each club or representative team that is included in an RTP is required to file accurate and complete whereabouts information in the manner set forth within Article 3 of this Annexe C.
- 2.2. A Player of a club or representative team in the ETP or PCTP may delegate the task of making some or all of the whereabouts filings required within Article 3 of this Annexe C to his Member Association (e.g. to be carried out by a coach or manager). It is assumed that a valid delegation has been made for all of the relevant whereabouts filings, unless otherwise determined by the Player or as stipulated below within Article 2.3.
- 2.3. A Player of a club or representative team in the ETP or PCTP who is serving a period of Ineligibility or who is injured or has given notice of retirement has to provide his whereabouts information directly to the Member Association concerned for the time he still remains in the ETP or PCTP.

3. Whereabouts requirements

- 3.1. ETP: using the form provided by the AFC, each club via its Member Association must file whereabouts information to the AFC Anti-Doping Unit as per the designated quarterly deadline provided by the AFC in any formal notification.
- 3.2. PCTP: using the form provided by the AFC, each Member Association concerned must file whereabouts information for all of the Team Activity days of its representative team during the two (2) month period prior to the designated Competition.

3.3. At a minimum, the following information shall be provided:

- 3.3.1. name of the relevant representative team;
- 3.3.2. full mailing address and fax number for formal notice purposes;
- 3.3.3. specific confirmation of the Players' consent to the sharing of their whereabouts filing with other Anti-Doping Organisations having authority to test them;
- 3.3.4. for each day of any Team Activity during the respective period in question, the full address of the place where the team will be residing (e.g. temporary lodgings, hotel);
- 3.3.5. the team's Competition schedule for the respective period in question, including the name and address of each location where the team is scheduled to compete during this time and the dates on which it is scheduled to compete at such locations; and
- 3.3.6. for each day of any Team Activity during the respective period in question, the times of any collective activity (e.g. training) or individual activity under the supervision of the team (e.g. medical treatment), and other regular activities, if applicable, along with the venue and any other details required in order for the team to be located during the times in question.

4. **Whereabouts requirements**

- 4.1. A club or representative team in an RTP must be present and available for Testing on any given Team Activity day in the relevant period at the time and location it has specified for the Team Activity in its whereabouts filing. If located for Testing, the whole team must remain until the Sample collection has been completed.

5. Liability for filing failure or missed tests

- 5.1. The relevant Member Association of each Player in an RTP is ultimately responsible at all times for providing accurate and complete whereabouts filings on behalf of and as delegated by those Players as required in these Regulations.
- 5.2. Each Player in the ETP or PCTP is responsible for ensuring his availability for Testing at the given location specified for Team Activity in his whereabouts filing. If an attempt to test the Player during the Team Activity is unsuccessful, the Player will be liable for a missed test pursuant to Article 9 of these Regulations, subject to the requirements set forth in Article 8 of this Annexe C.
- 5.3. If any of the required information changes after a whereabouts filing is made, then, in accordance with the provisions set forth in Article 3 of this Annexe C, an update must be filed so that the whereabouts filing remains accurate at all times. If an update is not filed, and as a result an attempt to test a Player is unsuccessful, the Player will be liable for a missed test pursuant to Article 9 of these Regulations, subject to the requirements set forth in Article 8 of this Annexe C.
- 5.4. Each Member Association of a club or representative team in an RTP is responsible for providing accurate and complete whereabouts filings as required in these Regulations and for ensuring that the club or representative team is available for Testing at the time and location specified for Team Activity in its whereabouts filing. If a Member Association fails to comply with the applicable whereabouts requirements, the Member Association may be sanctioned in accordance with the AFC Disciplinary Code.

6. Anti-doping rule violations

- 6.1. A Player in any AFC RTP shall be deemed to have committed an anti-doping rule violation pursuant to Article 9 of these Regulations if he commits a total of three (3) whereabouts failures (which may be any combination of filing failures and/or missed tests adding up to three (3) in total) within any twelve (12) month period, irrespective of which Anti-Doping Organisation has declared the whereabouts failures in question.
- 6.2. The twelve (12) month period begins on the date that a Player commits a whereabouts failure. It is not affected by any successful Sample collection conducted with respect to the Player during the twelve (12) month period. However, if a Player that has committed one (1) whereabouts failure does not commit a further two (2) whereabouts failures within twelve (12) months of the first whereabouts failure, at the end of that twelve (12) month period the first whereabouts failure “expires” for the purposes set forth in Article 8 of this Annexe C.
- 6.3. Where a Player retires from but then returns to competition, his period of non-availability for Out-of-Competition Testing shall be disregarded for the purposes of calculating the twelve (12) month period.
- 6.4. Any Player who, via the relevant Member Association, provides fraudulent information in his whereabouts filing, whether in relation to his location during the specified Team Activity, or in relation to his whereabouts outside that time slot, or otherwise, thereby commits an anti-doping rule violation pursuant to Article 8 and/or Article 10 of these Regulations. Sanctions may be imposed by the AFC Disciplinary Committee.
- 6.5. If a Member Association fails to provide the AFC with accurate and complete whereabouts information for a Player who is registered with a club or representative team in an RTP, it shall be subject to an evaluation by the AFC Anti-Doping Unit for a filing failure. The provisions set forth within Article 7 of this Annexe C shall apply.

6.6. If, as a result of such an evaluation, the AFC Anti-Doping Unit concludes that there has been a failure to provide whereabouts information, the AFC Anti-Doping Unit shall notify the Member Association accordingly and submit the case to the AFC Disciplinary Committee, which shall decide appropriate sanctions in compliance with the AFC Disciplinary Code against the Member Association.

7. Results management in respect of a filing failure

The results management process in respect of an apparent filing failure shall be as follows:

7.1. A Member Association may only be declared to have committed a filing failure where the AFC Anti-Doping Unit, following the results management procedure set forth below, can establish each of the following:

7.1.1. that the Member Association was duly notified:

7.1.1.1. that its club(s) or representative team(s) had been designated for inclusion in an RTP;

7.1.1.2. of the requirement to make accurate and complete whereabouts filings; and

7.1.1.3. of the consequences of any failure to comply with that requirement.

7.1.2. that the Member Association failed to comply with that requirement by the applicable deadline;

7.1.3. that the Member Association's failure to comply was at least negligent. For these purposes, the Member Association will be presumed to have committed the failure negligently upon proof that it was notified of the requirement yet failed to comply with it. That presumption may only be rebutted by establishing that no negligent behaviour on its part caused or contributed to the failure.

- 7.2. If it appears that all of the requirements set forth within Article 7.1 of this Annexe C have been met, then, no later than fourteen (14) days after the date of discovery of the apparent filing failure, the AFC Anti-Doping Unit must send notice to the Member Association concerned in the manner set forth in Section 1 of Chapter X of these Regulations, inviting a response within fourteen (14) days of receipt of the notice. The notice should inform the Member Association:
- 7.2.1. that, in order to avoid a further filing failure, the Member Association must make the required whereabouts filing within a deadline set by the AFC Anti-Doping Unit. The deadline shall be set at least twenty four (24) hours after receipt of the notice and no later than the end of the month in which the notice is received;
 - 7.2.2. that, unless the Member Association persuades the AFC Anti-Doping Unit that there has not been any filing failure, an alleged whereabouts failure will be recorded against the Member Association;
 - 7.2.3. whether any other whereabouts failures have been alleged against the Member Association previously prior to this alleged whereabouts failure; and
 - 7.2.4. of the consequences to the Player if a hearing panel upholds the alleged whereabouts failure.
- 7.3. Where the Member Association disputes the apparent filing failure, the AFC Anti-Doping Unit must reassess whether all of the requirements set forth in Article 7.1 of this Annexe C have been met. The AFC Anti-Doping Unit must advise the Member Association, by letter sent no later than fourteen (14) days after receipt of the Member Association's response, whether or not it maintains that there has been a filing failure.

- 7.4. If no response is received from the Member Association by the relevant deadline, or if the AFC Anti-Doping Unit maintains that there has been a filing failure, the AFC Anti-Doping Unit shall send notice to the Member Association that an alleged filing failure is to be recorded. The AFC Anti-Doping Unit shall at the same time advise the Member Association that it has the right to an administrative review of that decision.
- 7.5. Where requested by the Member Association, such administrative review shall be conducted by a designee of the AFC Anti-Doping Unit who was not involved in the previous assessment of the alleged filing failure. The review shall be based on written submissions only, and shall consider whether all of the requirements set forth in Article 7.1 of this Annexe C have been met. The review shall be completed within fourteen (14) days of receipt of the request and the decision shall be communicated by letter sent no more than seven (7) days after the decision is made.
- 7.6. If it appears, upon such review, that the requirements set forth in Article 7.1 of this Annexe C have not been met, then the alleged filing failure shall not be treated as a whereabouts failure for any purpose. The Member Association shall be notified accordingly.
- 7.7. If the Member Association does not request an administrative review of the alleged filing failure by the relevant deadline, or if the administrative review leads to the conclusion that all of the requirements set forth in Article 7.1 of this Annexe C have been met, then the AFC Anti-Doping Unit shall record an alleged filing failure against the Member Association and shall notify the Member Association, WADA and all other relevant Anti-Doping Organisations of that alleged filing failure and the date of its occurrence in the manner set forth in Article 68.7 of these Regulations.
- 7.8. Any notice sent to a Member Association pursuant to this Article 7 informing of the decision that there has been no filing failure shall also be sent to WADA and any other party with a right of appeal set out in Chapter X of these Regulations. This decision may be appealed by WADA and/or such parties in accordance with that Chapter.

8. Results management in respect of a missed test

The results management process in the case of an apparent missed test shall be as follows:

- 8.1. The AFC Doping Control Officer shall file a report on any unsuccessful attempt with the AFC Anti-Doping Unit, setting out the details of the attempted Sample collection, including the date of the attempt, the location visited, the exact arrival and departure times at the location, the step(s) taken at the location to try to find the Player, including details of any contact made with third parties, and any other relevant details about the attempted Sample collection.
- 8.2. A Player may only be declared to have missed a test where the AFC Anti-Doping Unit can establish each of the following:
 - 8.2.1. that when the Member Association was given notice that its club or representative team had been included in an RTP, it was advised of the liability for a missed test if the Player was unavailable for Testing at the location set out in the whereabouts finding specified for the Team Activity;
 - 8.2.2. that an AFC Doping Control Officer attempted to test the Player on a given day in the quarter, by visiting the location specified in the whereabouts filing for the Team Activity;
 - 8.2.3. that during that specified Team Activity, the AFC Doping Control Officer did all that was reasonable in the circumstances to try to locate the Player, short of giving the Player or Member Association any advance notice of the test;
 - 8.2.4. that the provisions set forth herein under Article 8.3 of this Annexe C have been met, if applicable; and

8.2.5. that the Player's failure to be available for Testing at the specified location for the Team Activity was at least negligent. For these purposes, the Player will be presumed to have been negligent upon proof of the matters set forth under this paragraph. That presumption may only be rebutted by the Player establishing that no negligent behaviour on his part caused or contributed to him:

8.2.5.1. being unavailable for Testing at such location during such time slot; and

8.2.5.2. his Member Association failing to update his most recent whereabouts filing to give notice of a different location where he would instead be available for Testing during a specified Team Activity on the relevant day.

8.3. To ensure fairness, where an unsuccessful attempt has been made to test a Player during a Team Activity specified in his whereabouts filing, any subsequent attempt to test that Player may only be counted as a missed test if that subsequent attempt takes place after the Member Association has received notice, in accordance with Article 8.4 of this Annexe C, of the original unsuccessful attempt.

8.4. If it appears that all of the requirements set forth in Article 8.2 of this Annexe C have been met, then no later than fourteen (14) days after the date of the unsuccessful attempt, the AFC Anti-Doping Unit must send notice to the Player of the unsuccessful attempt in the manner set forth in Section 1 of Chapter X of these Regulations, inviting a response within fourteen (14) days of receipt of the notice. The notice should inform the Player:

8.4.1. that, unless the Player persuades the AFC Anti-Doping Unit that there has not been any missed test, an alleged missed test will be recorded;

- 8.4.2. whether any other whereabouts failures have been declared against him in the twelve (12) month period prior to this alleged missed test; and
 - 8.4.3. of the consequences to the Player if a hearing panel upholds the alleged missed test.
 - 8.5. Where the Player disputes the apparent missed test, the AFC Anti-Doping Unit must reassess whether all of the requirements set forth in Article 8.2 of this Annexe C have been met. The AFC Anti-Doping Unit must advise the Player, by letter sent no later than fourteen (14) days after receipt of its response, whether it maintains that there has been a missed test.
 - 8.6. If no response is received by the relevant deadline, or if the AFC Anti-Doping Unit maintains that there has been a missed test, the AFC Anti-Doping Unit shall send notice to the Player that an alleged missed test is to be recorded. The AFC Anti-Doping Unit shall at the same time advise the Player that he has the right to request an administrative review of the alleged missed test. The report on the unsuccessful attempt must be provided at this point if it has not been provided earlier in the process.
 - 8.7. Where requested, such administrative review shall be conducted by a designee of the AFC Anti-Doping Unit who was not involved in the previous assessment of the alleged missed test. The review shall be based on written submissions only, and shall consider whether all of the requirements set forth in Article 8.2 of this Annexe C have been met. If necessary, the relevant AFC Doping Control Officer may be asked to provide further information to the designee. The review shall be completed within fourteen (14) days of receipt of the request and the decision shall be communicated by letter sent no more than seven (7) days after the decision is made.

- 8.8. If it appears, upon such review, that the requirements set forth in Article 8.2 of this Annexe C have not been met, then the unsuccessful attempt to test the Player shall not be treated as a missed test for any purpose. The Player shall be notified accordingly.
- 8.9. If the Player does not request an administrative review of the alleged missed test by the relevant deadline, or if the administrative review leads to the conclusion that all of the requirements set forth in Article 8.2 of this Annexe C have been met, then the AFC Anti-Doping Unit shall record an alleged missed test and shall notify the Player and WADA and all other relevant Anti-Doping Organisations of that alleged missed test and the date of its occurrence in the manner set forth in Article 68.7 of these Regulations.
- 8.10. Any notice sent to a Player pursuant to this Article 8 agreeing that there has been no missed test shall also be sent to WADA and any other party with a right of appeal set out in Chapter X of these Regulations, and may be appealed by WADA and/or such parties in accordance with that Chapter.

9. Responsibility for conducting proceedings

- 9.1. The AFC Anti-Doping Unit shall keep a record of all whereabouts failures alleged in respect of each Player within its RTPs. Where it is alleged that such a Player has committed three (3) whereabouts failures within any twelve (12) month period, the responsibility for bringing proceedings against the Player pursuant to Article 9 of these Regulations shall be as follows:
- 9.1.1. the AFC shall be responsible if two (2) or more of those whereabouts failures were alleged by the AFC or, if the whereabouts failures were alleged by three (3) different Anti-Doping Organisations, the Player concerned was included in the ETP or PCP as of the date of the third whereabouts failure;

- 9.1.2. the Member Association or NADO concerned shall be responsible if two (2) or more of those whereabouts failures were alleged by it or, if the whereabouts failures were alleged by three (3) different Anti-Doping Organisations, the Player concerned was included in the national Registered Testing Pool as of the date of the third whereabouts failure. In this case, references to the AFC or AFC Disciplinary Committee shall, where appropriate, be understood as meaning the Member Association or NADO or relevant hearing panel.
- 9.2. The AFC shall have the right to request and receive further information about alleged whereabouts failures from any other Anti-Doping Organisation in order to assess the strength of the evidence of such alleged whereabouts failures and to bring proceedings in accordance with Article 9 of these Regulations. If the AFC decides in good faith that the evidence in relation to such alleged whereabouts failures is insufficient to support such proceedings in accordance with Article 9 of these Regulations, then it may decline to bring proceedings based on such alleged whereabouts failures. Any decision by the Anti-Doping Organisation responsible that a declared whereabouts failure should be disregarded for lack of sufficient evidence shall be communicated to the other Anti-Doping Organisations and to WADA, shall be without prejudice to WADA's right of appeal set out in Chapter X of these Regulations, and in any event shall not affect the validity of the other whereabouts failures alleged against the Player in question.
- 9.3. The AFC shall also consider in good faith whether or not a Provisional Suspension should be imposed on the Player pending determination of the proceedings, in accordance with Chapter VII of these Regulations.
- 9.4. A Player alleged to have committed an anti-doping rule violation pursuant to Article 9 of these Regulations shall have the right to have such allegation determined at a full evidentiary hearing in accordance with Section 2 of Chapter X of these Regulations.

- 9.5. The AFC Disciplinary Committee shall not be bound by any determination made during the results management process, whether as to the adequacy of any explanation offered for a whereabouts failure or otherwise. Instead, the burden shall be on the AFC to establish all of the requisite elements of each alleged whereabouts failure.
- 9.6. If the AFC Disciplinary Committee decides that one (1) or two (2) alleged whereabouts failures have been established to the required standard, but that the third alleged whereabouts failure has not, then no violation of Article 9 of these Regulations shall be found to have occurred. However, if the Player then commits one (1) or two (2) further whereabouts failures within the relevant twelve (12) month period, new proceedings may be brought based on a combination of the whereabouts failure(s) established to the satisfaction of the hearing panel in the previous proceedings (in accordance with Article 68.3 of these Regulations) and the whereabouts failure(s) subsequently committed by the Player.
- 9.7. Where the AFC fails to bring proceedings against a Player under Article 9 of these Regulations within thirty (30) days of WADA receiving notice of that Player's third alleged whereabouts failure in any twelve (12) month period, then it shall be deemed that the AFC has decided that no anti-doping rule violation was committed, for the purposes of triggering the appeal rights set forth in Chapter X of these Regulations.

ANNEXE D

I. Necessary information

- I.1. At all AFC Doping Controls, the AFC Doping Control Officer shall ensure that the Player is informed that:
 - I.1.1. the Sample collection is to be conducted under AFC authority;
 - I.1.2. he is required to undergo Sample collection;
 - I.1.3. failure to comply may involve consequences;
 - I.1.4. should the Player choose to consume any provided or his own food or fluids (non-alcoholic drinks) prior to providing a Sample, it is entirely at his own responsibility;
 - I.1.5. the Sample provided by the Player to the AFC Doping Control Officer shall be the first urine passed by the Player subsequent to the summons to Doping Control.
- I.2. All Players shall be accompanied by an official team representative at all times, preferably the team doctor.

2. Procedure for In-Competition tests

- 2.1. A minimum of two (2) of the four (4) Players drawn by lots (in accordance with Article 3.6 of this Annexe D) from each competing team shall be tested at every Match at which doping tests are to be carried out. The first two (2) Players drawn from each team shall be tested and the other two (2) shall replace them in the case of injury. In the case of Competitions with lower Player numbers, (e.g. beach soccer or futsal) a minimum of one (1) Player per team shall be tested. For Target Testing of a team In-Competition, a minimum of four (4) Players from the respective team shall be drawn by lots and tested.

Preparing for the Sample collection session

- 2.2. The AFC Doping Control Officer shall obtain the official Players' lists for both teams from the AFC Match Commissioner or the AFC General Coordinator before each Match.
- 2.3. Form 0-1 (Annexe E) shall be completed before each Match by the team doctor and handed over personally or by a Person of trust to the AFC Doping Control Officer. The team doctor shall enter in legible handwriting on form 0-1 any medication taken by the Players or administered to them in the 72 hours preceding the Match, indicating the name of the substance, the dose, when and for how long prescribed and the method of administration. The team doctor shall also note down, on the basis of the information at his disposal, medications and food supplements taken by the Players without medical prescription.
- 2.4. Details of the medication declared on form 0-1 shall be disclosed only if a doping test proves positive. Should any medication indicated on form 0-1 prove to be a Prohibited Substance, the AFC Doping Control Officer shall have the right to conduct further investigations, which could lead to the Player's suspension. Form 0-1 shall otherwise remain in the possession of the AFC Doping Control Officer at all times.
- 2.5. The Players to be tested shall be drawn by lots by the AFC Doping Control Officer in the doping control room at half-time. In addition to the AFC Doping Control Officer and his assistant, the following Persons shall be present:
 - 2.5.1. an official representative from each of the competing teams;
 - 2.5.2. if requested, the AFC Match Commissioner or his deputy.

- 2.6. The AFC Doping Control Officer shall conduct the draw as follows:
 - 2.6.1. referring to the official Players' lists, he shall check the names and shirt numbers of the Players;
 - 2.6.2. he shall then spread out on a table the Plexiglas tags containing the numbers of all the Players eligible and able to play as well as the injured Players and/or those ineligible to play for disciplinary reasons sitting on the bench of each of the two teams;
 - 2.6.3. he shall make sure that none of the numbers is missing before placing them into two different coloured fabric bags, one for each team;
 - 2.6.4. he shall then draw four (4) numbers from each bag and, without looking at them, place each of them in separate envelopes marked #1 to #4 for each team;
 - 2.6.5. finally, he shall seal all eight (8) envelopes, sign them on the back over the glued seal, have them countersigned by the team representatives and store them in a safe place;
 - 2.6.6. the fabric bags shall be set aside in two (2) separate envelopes, sealed and countersigned by the team representatives.
- 2.7. The two (2) Players from each team whose numbers have been placed in envelopes #1 and #2 shall undergo a doping test. However, if either of these two (2) Players is injured before the Match is over, the AFC Doping Control Officer shall decide whether or not the injury is severe enough to prevent the Player from undergoing a doping test. If he decides the injury is severe enough, the Player whose number is in envelope #1 shall be replaced for the doping test by the Player in envelope #3 and the Player whose number is in envelope #2 shall be replaced for the doping test by the Player in envelope #4.

- 2.8. In addition, the AFC Doping Control Officer is entitled to appoint additional Players to be tested at any time prior to, during or after the Match. An explanation for the appointment is not required.

Notification of Players

- 2.9. Fifteen (15) minutes before the end of the Match (lasting 90 minutes), the AFC Doping Control Officer shall open envelopes #1 and #2 for each team in the doping control room in the presence of a representative of each team.
- 2.10. In the case of futsal matches, the AFC Doping Control Officer shall open envelopes #1 and #2 for each team in the doping control room in the presence of a representative from each team ten (10) minutes after the start of the second half.
- 2.11. The AFC Doping Control Officer shall then indicate on form 0-2 the name and number of the Player drawn and sign the form themselves and have the representative of the team sign it. The AFC Doping Control Officer shall then hand the relevant copies of the form to the representative of each team. The green copies of form 0-2 shall be handed over to the AFC Match Commissioner or the AFC General Coordinator who is sitting at the touchline.
- 2.12. If a Player is shown the red card at any time of the Match, the AFC Doping Control Officer shall decide whether the Player is to be escorted by the Chaperones to the doping control room, his team's changing room or the area of the stand allocated to his team to watch the Match from there until the names of the Players selected for the doping test are known, so that he is available to undergo the test immediately after the Match, if necessary. The Player may propose to voluntarily provide a Sample in order to be released after the procedure. However the AFC Doping Control Officer may accept or decline the Player's proposal without giving any justification.

3. Procedure for Out-of-Competition no-advance-notice tests during team activities

- 3.1. The AFC conducts no-advance-notice doping tests based on the whereabouts of teams in the elite testing pool (**ETP**) and pre-Competition testing pool (**PCTP**). In accordance with the test distribution plan, the AFC Anti-Doping Unit selects teams for Testing. The AFC Anti-Doping Unit then identifies the date(s) of the respective test(s) and seeks to establish the location of the selected team by referring to the team whereabouts information provided. The AFC Anti-Doping Unit plans the approach accordingly and assigns a AFC Doping Control Officer available at the respective location(s) on the respective date(s) to conduct the no-advance-notice test, and inform him of the whereabouts of the team on the respective date(s).
- 3.2. If the team cannot be contacted by the AFC Doping Control Officer after reasonable attempts have been made using the whereabouts information provided, the matter shall be reported to the AFC Anti-Doping Unit as soon as possible, as set forth in Annexe C. The AFC Anti-Doping Unit shall then proceed to evaluate whether there has been a whereabouts filing failure in accordance with Annexe C.
- 3.3. If the AFC Doping Control Officer has located the team, he shall identify himself to the head or deputy head of delegation of the relevant team or club by presenting his authorisation as an AFC Doping Control Officer and the assignment for the respective control, and discuss the procedure for the doping test with him, the team doctor and, if applicable, the coach.

- 3.4. The head of delegation of the relevant team or club shall give the AFC Doping Control Officer an up-to-date list of the Players in the team, including any who are absent at the time the doping test is undertaken. The reasons for any such absences shall be given to the AFC Doping Control Officer, as well as the scheduled time of arrival at or return to the location of the Team Activities for these Players. The AFC Doping Control Officer shall decide whether these Players are to be included in the draw procedure for Players having to undergo a doping test. He shall further notify the AFC Anti-Doping Unit, who shall proceed to evaluate whether there has been a whereabouts filing failure in accordance with Annexe C.
- 3.5. The AFC Doping Control Officer shall hand the team doctor a copy of form 0-1, on which the team doctor shall enter all of the drugs administered and prescribed to all of the Players involved in Team Activity during the last seventy two (72) hours, if necessary, after consultation with the Players. The arrangements set forth under Article 2.3 of this Annexe D shall also apply with respect to the particulars to be entered on form 0-1 and the procedure for using this form.
- 3.6. A minimum of four (4) Players from the respective team shall be drawn by lots. The number of Players, however, may vary according to the AFC annual doping control plan, and in the case of Target Testing. The AFC Doping Control Officer shall draw the names of the Players who are required to undergo a doping test. Individual Players from the team may also be subject to Target Testing. In addition to the AFC Doping Control Officer and, if applicable, his assistant, two official representatives of the team concerned shall be in attendance.
- 3.7. The AFC Doping Control Officer shall conduct the draw as follows:
- 3.7.I. referring to the up-to-date list of the Players present at the Team Activity, he shall check the names and numbers of the Players;

- 3.7.2. he shall then spread out on a table the Plexiglas tags containing the numbers of all the Players registered in accordance with Article 3.4 of this Annexe D;
 - 3.7.3. he shall ensure that no numbers are missing before placing them into a fabric bag;
 - 3.7.4. he shall then draw at least four (4) numbers from this bag.
- 3.8. If one (1) or more of the Players drawn are injured or ill, the AFC Doping Control Officer shall decide whether they shall still need to undergo a doping test or whether they can be replaced by other Players already or yet to be drawn or appointed.

Notification of Players

- 3.9. The AFC Doping Control Officer and the team official/team doctor present at the draw shall sign form 0-2. The AFC Doping Control Officer shall notify the Player. The AFC Doping Control Officer shall:
- 3.9.1. identify himself to the Player by showing him his authorisation as an AFC Doping Control Officer and the assignment for the respective control;
 - 3.9.2. ask the Player to produce identification and confirm the Player's identity to ensure that the Player who is to be notified is the same Player who has been selected for Doping Control. The method of identification of the Player or the failure by the Player to confirm his identity shall be documented and reported to the AFC Anti-Doping Unit. In such case, the AFC Anti-Doping Unit shall decide whether it is appropriate to report the situation as a failure to comply as set forth under Article 44 of the Regulations.

4. Procedure for Out-of-Competition no-advance-notice tests on individual Players

- 4.1. The AFC conducts no-advance-notice doping tests based on the individual whereabouts of Players in the RTP. In accordance with the test distribution plan, the AFC Anti-Doping Unit selects individual Players for Testing via random or target methods. The AFC Anti-Doping Unit then identifies the dates of the respective tests and seeks to establish the location of the selected Player by referring to the whereabouts information provided for the Player, plans the approach and timing of notification accordingly and assigns an AFC Doping Control Officer available on the respective dates at the respective locations to conduct the no-advance-notice test, and informs him of the whereabouts of the Player on the respective dates.
- 4.2. For no-advance-notice Out-of-Competition Sample collection, reasonable attempts should be made to notify Players of their selection for Sample collection. The AFC Doping Control Officer shall record all notification attempts that were made by him during such period.
- 4.3. When the Player is a Minor, or in situations where an interpreter is required and available, the AFC Doping Control Officer shall consider whether a third party must be notified prior to notification of the Player.
- 4.4. The identification procedure set forth under Article 3.9 of this Annexe D shall be followed. The AFC Doping Control Officer shall also inform the Player of his rights, including his right:
- 4.4.1. to have a representative and, if available, an interpreter;
 - 4.4.2. to ask for additional information about the Sample collection process;
 - 4.4.3. to request a delay in reporting to the doping control room for valid reasons (as set forth under Article 5 of this Annexe D); and
 - 4.4.4. to request modifications because of disabilities,

- 4.4.5. as well as of his responsibilities, including the requirement:
 - 4.4.6. to report for a test within one (1) hour unless there are valid reasons for a delay;
 - 4.4.7. to remain within direct observation, as set forth under Article 5 of this Annexe D; and
 - 4.4.8. to remain within direct observation of the AFC Doping Control Officer until completion of the Sample collection process.
- 4.5. If the Player cannot be contacted by the AFC Doping Control Officer after reasonable attempts have been made using the whereabouts information provided by the Player, the matter shall be reported to the AFC Anti-Doping Unit as soon as possible, as set forth in Article 8.1 of Annexe C. The AFC Anti-Doping Unit shall then proceed to evaluate whether there has been a whereabouts failure in accordance with Annexe C.

5. Reporting time

- 5.1. From the time of notification until the Player leaves the doping control room at the end of his Sample collection session, he shall be kept under observation at all times.
- 5.2. In general, the following applies:
 - 5.2.1. for In-Competition controls, each Member Association and/or team concerned shall ensure that Players selected to undergo a doping test follow the Chaperone to the doping control room straight from the pitch as soon as the Match is over;
 - 5.2.2. for no-advance-notice tests on Players in the RTP, once the Player has been notified, he must report to the room assigned for Doping Control within one (1) hour.

- 5.3. The AFC Doping Control Officer may at his discretion consider any reasonable requirement or any request by the Player for permission to delay reporting to the doping control room, and may grant such permission if the Player can be continuously kept under direct observation during the delay and if the request relates to the following activities:

For In-Competition Testing:

- 5.3.1. participation in a victory ceremony;
- 5.3.2. fulfilment of media commitments (e.g. flash interviews, but not press conferences);
- 5.3.3. obtaining necessary medical treatment; and
- 5.3.4. any other exceptional circumstances that may be justified, and which shall be documented.

For Out-of-Competition Testing:

- 5.3.5. completing a training session;
- 5.3.6. receiving necessary medical treatment;
- 5.3.7. obtaining photo identification; and
- 5.3.8. any other exceptional circumstances that can be justified, and which shall be documented.

- 5.4. The AFC Doping Control Officer shall document any reasons for delay in reporting to the doping control room only if those require further investigation by the AFC. Any failure of the Player to remain under constant observation shall also be recorded on form 0-2.
- 5.5. The AFC Doping Control Officer shall reject a request for delay from a Player if it is not possible for the Player to be continuously chaperoned.
- 5.6. If, while keeping the Player under observation, the AFC Doping Control Officer observes any matter with potential to compromise the test, he shall report and document the circumstances. If deemed appropriate by the AFC Doping Control Officer, he shall follow the requirements of Article 44 of these Regulations, and/or consider if it is appropriate to collect an additional Sample from the Player.

6. Doping control room

- 6.1. The doping control room shall ensure the Player's privacy and for In-Competition Testing shall always, and for no-advance-notice Testing, where possible, be used solely as a doping control room for the duration of Sample collection. The AFC Doping Control Officer shall record any significant deviations from these criteria.
- 6.2. In the case of In-Competition Doping Controls, only the following people are allowed into the doping control room:
 - 6.2.1. the Players who have been selected for Testing;
 - 6.2.2. an official representative from the participating teams, preferably the team doctor;
 - 6.2.3. the AFC Doping Control Officer;
 - 6.2.4. the accredited assistant(s) of the AFC Doping Control Officer;

- 6.2.5. a local official, if requested;
 - 6.2.6. the AFC Match Commissioner, if requested;
 - 6.2.7. the AFC General Coordinator, if requested;
 - 6.2.8. an interpreter approved by the AFC , if requested; and
 - 6.2.9. an independent observer who must be a doctor according to the AFC's requirements.
- 6.3. In the case of no-advance-notice doping tests during Team Activities, only the following people are allowed into the doping control room:
- 6.3.1. any Players who have been selected for Testing;
 - 6.3.2. the Person accompanying the Player, ideally the team doctor;
 - 6.3.3. the AFC Doping Control Officer;
 - 6.3.4. the accredited assistant(s) of the AFC Doping Control Officer; and
 - 6.3.5. an interpreter approved by AFC, if requested.
- 6.4. In the case of no-advance-notice doping tests on individual Players, only the following people are allowed into the doping control room:
- 6.4.1. the Player who has been selected for Testing;
 - 6.4.2. the Person accompanying the Player or witness as determined by the Player; and
 - 6.4.3. the AFC Doping Control Officer.

- 6.5. The Players selected for Testing shall remain in the waiting area of the doping control room until they are ready to give Samples. In-Competition, non-alcoholic drinks shall be made available to the Players in the form of unopened and sealed plastic bottles, some of which are placed in a refrigerator in the doping control room.
- 6.6. For In-Competition Testing, the local security bodies shall take the necessary measures to ensure that no Persons other than those authorised pursuant to Article 6.2 of this Annexe D enter the doping control room. The entrance to the doping control room shall be constantly guarded. Responsibility for security during Out-of-Competition tests shall be borne by the relevant team delegations. The AFC Doping Control Officer is entitled to refuse unauthorised Persons access to the doping control room.
- 6.7. In exceptional circumstances, the AFC Doping Control Officer may give approval for a Player to leave the doping control room, provided that he has agreed the following conditions of leave with the Player:
 - 6.7.1. the purpose of the Player leaving the doping control room;
 - 6.7.2. the time of return (or return upon completion of an agreed activity);
and
 - 6.7.3. that the Player must remain under observation at all times.
- 6.8. The AFC Doping Control Officer shall document the actual time of the Player's departure and return.

7. Conducting the Sample collection session: collection of urine Samples

- 7.1. The AFC Doping Control Officer is responsible for the Sample collection session, especially for ensuring that the Sample is properly collected, identified and sealed. He shall check the Player's identity against the Player's accreditation or other identity card and the current forms. He shall also ensure that the Player has been informed of his rights and responsibilities and the requirements of the Sample collection session.
- 7.2. The AFC Doping Control Officer records information on the In-Competition or Out-of-Competition Sample collection, stating whether it was an advance- or no-advance-notice Sample collection, the date, the Player's name, the Player's number and team, if applicable, on form 0-2.
- 7.3. First, the Player is offered a choice of Sample collection equipment that shall comply with the requirements stipulated in the International Standard for Testing. The Player themselves shall pick:
 - 7.3.1. a sealed and sterilised beaker; and
 - 7.3.2. a box containing two (2) sealed and numbered bottles, one marked Sample "A" and the other Sample "B".

The AFC Doping Control Officer and the Player shall check that all code numbers match and that this code number is recorded accurately by the AFC Doping Control Officer on form 0-2. If the numbers do not match, the Player shall choose another box and the AFC Doping Control Officer shall record the matter on form 0-2.

- 7.4. The AFC Doping Control Officer shall instruct the Player to check that all seals on the selected equipment are intact and the equipment has not been tampered with. If the Player is not satisfied with the selected equipment, he may select another. If the Player is not satisfied with any of the equipment available for selection, this shall be recorded by the AFC Doping Control Officer.

- 7.4.1. If the AFC Doping Control Officer does not agree with the Player that all of the equipment available for the selection is unsatisfactory, he shall instruct the Player to proceed with the Sample collection session.
- 7.4.2. If the AFC Doping Control Officer agrees with the Player that all of the equipment available for the selection is unsatisfactory, he shall terminate the collection of the Player's urine Sample and this shall be recorded by the AFC Doping Control Officer.
- 7.5. The Player shall retain control of the collection equipment and any Sample provided until the Sample is sealed. Additional assistance may be provided to any Player by the Person accompanying the Player or the AFC Doping Control Officer as authorised by the Player.
- 7.6. The AFC Doping Control Officer or his assistant shall proceed to an area of privacy to collect the Sample. The Player shall then urinate into the beaker under the direct supervision of the AFC Doping Control Officer or his assistant, who shall be of the same gender as the Player. The AFC Doping Control Officer or his assistant shall ensure an unobstructed view of the Sample leaving the Player's body.
- 7.6.1. The total urine volume in bottles "A" and "B" shall be at least ninety (90) millilitres. The AFC Doping Control Officer shall verify, in full view of the Player, that the suitable volume of urine for analysis has been provided and record the urine volume. Where the volume of urine is insufficient, the AFC Doping Control Officer shall inform the Player that a further Sample shall be collected and conduct the procedure as prescribed in Article 7.13 of this Annexe D. The decision shall rest with the AFC Doping Control Officer. The time of partial and full Sample provision is recorded on form 0-2.

- 7.7. The Player shall decide whether he or the AFC Doping Control Officer shall pour the urine into bottles. The decision taken shall be documented in writing on form 0-2. If the Player decides to do it themselves, the AFC Doping Control Officer shall explain the procedure to him. Bottle “B” shall be filled to a minimum of thirty (30) millilitres, and the remainder of the urine poured into bottle “A” to a minimum of sixty (60) millilitres. Should there still be urine remaining, the AFC Doping Control Officer shall ensure that the Player fills first bottle “A” and then bottle “B” to capacity as per the recommendation of the equipment manufacturer. The AFC Doping Control Officer shall instruct the Player to ensure that a small amount of urine is left in the collection vessel to test that the residual urine is in accordance with Article 7.9 of this Annexe D.
- 7.8. After the urine Sample has been poured into bottles “A” and “B”, the Player shall decide whether he or the AFC Doping Control Officer shall seal them. The Player and the AFC Doping Control Officer shall ensure that the bottles have been properly sealed and compare the code numbers on both bottles, the bottle caps, and the particulars on form 0-2 once again.
- 7.9. The AFC Doping Control Officer shall ascertain the specific weight, using the remaining residual urine in the beaker, and record the result on form 0-2. Afterwards, the Player may require that any residual urine that will not be sent for analysis is discarded in full view of the Player. If the Sample does not have a Suitable Specific Gravity for Analysis, the AFC Doping Control Officer shall inform the Player that he is required to provide a further Sample and conduct the procedure as set forth in Article 7.14 of this Annexe D.
- 7.10. Form 0-2 shall then be signed by the Player, the Person accompanying him, if applicable, and the AFC Doping Control Officer.
- 7.11. The AFC Doping Control Officer shall then complete form 0-2 by providing the following information: AFC Competition (if applicable, otherwise select “Out-of-Competition”), Match, Match number (if applicable), venue, date, code number of the “A” and “B” Samples and specific weight of the urine Samples, and sign the form.

- 7.12. The “A” and “B” Samples of every tested Player shall be taken with the blue copy of form 0-2 to the laboratory by the AFC Doping Control Officer themselves or dispatched by courier. In the case of the latter, the courier shall give the AFC Doping Control Officer a copy of a Chain-of-Custody form, signed by both, certifying that the doping Sample shall be properly transported in the appropriate containers and duly delivered.

Procedure if the stipulated urine volume of 90ml is not obtained

- 7.13. The Player shall select a box as set forth in Article 7.3 of this Annexe D. He shall open bottle “A” only and select an interim sealing set (interim sealing device and numbered security tape). The Player or the AFC Doping Control Officer (cf Article 7.7 of this Annexe D) shall pour the urine into bottle “A” and seal it, using the interim sealing device before replacing the cap on the bottle. Next, he shall place bottle “A” back in the box, which also contains bottle “B”, and seal it with the security tape, the number of which is registered on form 0-2.
- 7.13.1. The AFC Doping Control Officer and the Player shall check that the code number and the volume and identity of the insufficient Sample are recorded accurately on form 0-2. The sealed box shall remain under the control of either the AFC Doping Control Officer or the Player.
- 7.13.2. The Player shall then return to the waiting room. As soon as the Player is able to give a further urine Sample, he shall select a new, sealed and sterilised beaker, and the procedure for collection shall be repeated as set forth under this Article.
- 7.13.3. After checking the seal of the interim sealing device, the AFC Doping Control Officer or the Player (cf Article 7.7 of this Annexe D) shall then pour the urine from bottle “A” into the beaker containing the freshly provided urine. Any irregularity with the integrity of the seal shall be recorded by the AFC Doping Control Officer and investigated according to Article 44 of the Regulations.

7.13.4. If the urine volume is still below ninety (90) millilitres, the process shall be repeated. Once the required urine volume has been obtained, the procedure shall be continued as set out in Articles 7.8 to 7.12 of this Annexe D.

Procedure if the urine Sample does not meet the requirement for Suitable Specific Gravity for Analysis

7.14. When the Player is able to provide an additional Sample, the AFC Doping Control Officer shall repeat the procedure for collection of the Sample as set out in Articles 7.8 to 7.12 of this Annexe D.

7.14.1. The AFC Doping Control Officer shall continue to collect additional Samples until the requirement for Suitable Specific Gravity for Analysis is met, or until the AFC Doping Control Officer determines that there are exceptional circumstances that mean that for logistical reasons it is impossible to continue with the Sample collection session. Such exceptional circumstances shall be documented accordingly by the AFC Doping Control Officer. In such circumstances, if appropriate, the AFC may investigate a possible anti-doping rule violation.

7.14.2. The AFC Doping Control Officer shall record the fact that the Samples collected belong to a single Player and the order in which the Samples were provided. He shall then send all Samples, irrespective of their specific gravity, to the laboratory for analysis. The laboratory shall, in conjunction with the AFC, determine which Samples shall be analysed.

8. Conducting the Sample collection session: collection of blood Samples

- 8.1. The AFC test distribution plan defines from which Players of those who have been selected to undergo doping control blood Samples shall be taken.
- 8.2. In-Competition, a part of the doping control room shall be partitioned off to carry out the blood sampling procedure.
- 8.3. The collection of blood Samples from the Players shall, in general, be carried out before the Players provide urine Samples.
- 8.4. The AFC Doping Control Officer shall explain the blood sampling procedure to the selected Players so that the Players understand the procedure and the need to comply at the beginning. Prior to the blood Samples being taken, the Players shall be asked if they:
 - 8.4.1. have understood the procedure and purpose of sampling;
 - 8.4.2. have taken medications that may affect the blood-drawing procedure (particularly those that affect clotting), e.g. aspirin, warfarin, non-steroidal anti-inflammatory agents; extra care shall be taken concerning haemostasis for these Players; and
 - 8.4.3. have any bleeding disorder that may have an effect on clotting time.
- 8.5. AFC Doping Control Officers are responsible for:
 - 8.5.1. hygiene and a sterile technique;
 - 8.5.2. handling of blood sampling equipment;
 - 8.5.3. handling of blood Samples (e.g. mixing with anti-coagulants);
 - 8.5.4. ensuring that each Sample is properly collected, identified, sealed, stored and dispatched; and

- 8.5.5. answering related questions during the provision of the Sample and after-care of the Players.
- 8.6. With reference to Articles 8.3 to 8.5 of this Annexe D, Players shall be given a choice of blood Sample equipment containing two (2) boxes with the same code numbers.
- 8.7. The AFC Doping Control Officer or the assistant shall wear sterile gloves during the procedure and only they and the Players are allowed to handle the Samples.
- 8.8. The AFC Doping Control Officer shall clean the skin with a sterile disinfectant wipe or swab and, if required, apply a tourniquet. Blood sampling shall be carried out by applying a proficient (*legeartis*) intravenous injection that excludes any health risk, notwithstanding the risk of local haematomas.
- 8.9. The volume of blood removed shall be adequate to satisfy the relevant analytical requirements for the Sample analysis to be performed and shall be drawn from a Player's vein, preferably from a superficial vein at the inner part of the lower arm, whilst the Player is sitting on a chair and resting his arm on a suitable support. The AFC Doping Control Officer shall apply a dressing to any puncture site.
- 8.10. If the volume of blood that can be removed from the Player at the first attempt is insufficient, the AFC Doping Control Officer shall repeat the procedure. A maximum of two (2) attempts shall be made. Should all attempts fail, the AFC Doping Control Officer shall terminate the collection of the blood Sample and record this and the reasons for terminating the collection on form 0-2.
- 8.11. If a Player's vein collapses after a small volume of blood has been collected, the procedure shall be repeated on the other arm to obtain a sufficient volume of blood.

- 8.12. If the Sample requires further on-site processing, such as centrifugation or separation of serum, the Player shall remain to observe the Sample until its final sealing in a secure, tamper-evident kit.
- 8.13. The Player shall decide whether he or the AFC Doping Control Officer shall seal the box once the AFC Doping Control Officer or his assistant has completed the procedure for taking blood. In full view of the Player, the AFC Doping Control Officer shall check that the sealing is satisfactory. The AFC Doping Control Officer shall then place the coded, sealed box containing the Player's blood Sample into the transport cooling bag.
- 8.14. The AFC Doping Control Officer shall dispose of used blood sampling equipment not required for completing the Sample collection session in accordance with the required local standards for handling blood.
- 8.15. The sealed Sample shall be stored in a manner that protects its integrity, identity and security prior to transport from the doping control room to the laboratory.

9. Requirements for Sample collection

- 9.1. Any behaviour by the Player and/or Persons associated with the Player or anomalies with potential to compromise the Sample collection shall be recorded by the AFC Doping Control Officer on form 0-2. If appropriate, the AFC Anti-Doping Unit shall investigate a possible failure to comply as set forth under Article 44 of these Regulations.
- 9.2. The AFC Doping Control Officer shall provide the Player with the opportunity to document any concerns he may have about how the Sample collection session was conducted.

- 9.3. In conducting the Sample collection session, the following information shall be recorded as a minimum:
- 9.3.1. the date, time and type of summons to Doping Control (no-advance-notice, advance-notice, In-Competition or Out-of-Competition);
 - 9.3.2. the Competition/location, date and time of Sample provision;
 - 9.3.3. the name of the Player and the Player's number;
 - 9.3.4. the name of the Player's team;
 - 9.3.5. the name of the Player's doctor and/or Person accompanying the Player (during Team Activities);
 - 9.3.6. the Sample code number;
 - 9.3.7. the required laboratory information on the Sample;
 - 9.3.8. the medications and supplements taken and recent blood transfusion details (if applicable) as declared by the team doctor/Player;
 - 9.3.9. any irregularities in procedures;
 - 9.3.10. the Player's comments or concerns regarding the conduct of the Sample collection session, if provided;
 - 9.3.11. the name and signature of the Player's doctor and/or Person accompanying the Player (if applicable);
 - 9.3.12. the name and signature of the Player; and
 - 9.3.13. the name and signature of the AFC Doping Control Officer.

- 9.4. At the conclusion of the Sample collection session, the Player and AFC Doping Control Officer shall sign appropriate documentation to indicate their satisfaction that the documentation accurately reflects the details of the Player's Sample collection session, including any concerns recorded by the Player. During Team Activities, the Player's doctor and/or Person accompanying the Player shall sign the documentation as a witness of the proceedings. In individual Testing, the Person accompanying the Player or witness, if applicable, shall sign the documentation.
- 9.5. The AFC Doping Control Officer shall provide the Player with a copy of form 0-2 of the Sample collection session that has been signed by the Player.

10. **Post-test administration**

- 10.1. The AFC Anti-Doping Unit shall define criteria ensuring that any Sample will be stored in a manner that protects its integrity, identity and security prior to transport from the doping control room to the laboratory. The AFC Doping Control Officer shall ensure that any Sample is stored in accordance with these criteria.
- 10.2. The AFC Anti-Doping Unit shall develop a system to ensure that the documentation for each Sample is completed and securely handled.
- 10.3. The AFC Anti-Doping Unit shall ensure that instructions for the type of analysis to be conducted are laid down in the agreement with the laboratory chosen in accordance with Section 2 of Chapter IX of these Regulations.

II. Transport of Samples and documentation

- II.1. The AFC Anti-Doping Unit shall authorise a transport system that ensures Samples and documentation will be transported in a manner that protects their integrity, identity and security.
- II.2. Samples shall always be transported to the laboratory chosen in accordance with Section 2 of Chapter IX of these Regulations, using the AFC's authorised Sample transport method, as soon as practicable after the completion of the Sample collection session. Samples shall be transported in a manner that minimises the potential for Sample degradation due to factors such as time delays and extreme temperature variations.
- II.3. Documentation identifying the Player shall not be included with the Samples or documentation sent to the laboratory chosen in accordance with Section 2 of Chapter IX of these Regulations.
- II.4. The AFC Doping Control Officer shall send all relevant Sample collection session documentation to the AFC Anti-Doping Unit using the AFC's authorised courier service as soon as practicable after the completion of the Sample collection session.
- II.5. The Chain of Custody shall be checked by the AFC Anti-Doping Unit if receipt of either of the Samples with accompanying documentation or Sample collection session documentation is not confirmed at its intended destination or if a Sample's integrity or identity may have been compromised during transport. In this instance, the AFC Anti-Doping Unit shall consider whether the Sample should be voided.
- II.6. Documentation relating to a Sample collection session and/or an anti-doping rule violation shall be stored by the AFC for a minimum of ten (10) years as per Chapter VIII of these Regulations.

ANNEXE E

FORMS

ANNEXE F

I. List of WADA-accredited laboratories

- I.I. Reference is made to the list of World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA)-accredited laboratories published by WADA, which is available on www.wada-ama.org.



Asian Football Confederation

AFC House, Jalan 1/155B, Bukit Jalil, 57000 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Tel : +603 8994 3388 | Fax : +603 8994 2689

the-AFC.com