

ASSESSMENT VISIT TO NEPAL AND BHUTAN

The AFC Club Licensing Administration conducted its first AFC Cup Club Licensing implementation assessment visit in All Nepal Football Association (ANFA) and Bhutan Football Federation (BFF) on 10 - 14 February 2017.

The two-day visits to each Member Association entailed meeting with the MA and football clubs' top management with the objectives of ensuring necessary support is given to the club licensing managers, addressing the current challenges in each Member Association and providing support to club licensing development, including the AFC CLAS activities.

These visits led to an understanding that one of the biggest obstacles for football clubs to comply is a significant shortage of AFC 'A' licensed or equivalent coaches, followed by infrastructure and finance criteria. Specifically, in the case of Bhutan, none of the clubs are registered as a legal entity.



Hence, a discussion was initiated by inviting the local legal experts, leading to the conclusion that clubs can now register as a CSO (Civil Society Organisation) to comply with the AFC Cup Club Licensing Regulations – L.6.4.1: Legal Entity.

The AFC Head of Club Licensing Unit, Mr Mahajan Vasudevan Nair, commented: "I was contented with the extensive support coming from both Member Associations on the development of club licensing.

"The AFC will provide its continuous support to help clubs to fulfil the requirements set forth in the AFC Cup Club Licensing Regulations.

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Mr Mahajan Vasudevan Nair, AFC Head of Club Licensing Unit



CLUB LICENSING MANAGER – PROFILE



Ahmad Masha
Jordan Football Association

How did you end up working in football administration?

Working in the football industry has always been my passion. An opportunity arose when I found out that there was an open position in the Jordan Football Association (JFA) while I was an International Relations Officer in the Jordan Nuclear Regulatory Commission. I then applied and was offered the position with the JFA as a Public Relations Officer.

What are your other responsibilities in the JFA, besides handling club licensing matters?

I work closely with the development department in implementing projects, for instance live streaming, the league development programme, competition management system etc. to improve the quality of the JFA's football competitions and clubs.

What are the main goals that you are trying to achieve in/through Club Licensing in JFA?

The main goals are to ensure all competitions at the national level are well organised while ensuring the sustainability of football clubs in all levels, including the management and financial matters. Furthermore, we want clubs to be constantly developing in all aspects, especially under the youth development programmes which will be reflected eventually in the JFA on the whole, as well as in the Jordan national football teams.



Enkhjin Batsumber
Mongolian Football Federation

How did you end up working in football administration?

I started with running a new football club in Mongolia and had experience in running few projects with my club at that time. Then, I was offered a position with the Mongolia Football Federation (MFF).

What are your other responsibilities in the MFF, besides handling club licensing matters?

I am also the national team manager in the MFF.

What are the main goals that you are trying to achieve in/through club licensing in MFF?

My main goal is to bring the clubs to the professional level by instilling sustainable growth and activities.

FFA CLUB LICENSING WORKSHOP



Football Federation Australia Limited (FFA) concluded its first Club Licensing Workshop in Sydney, Australia on February 9, 2017, bringing a total number of 15 representatives from 10 clubs to participate at the workshop.

“The purpose of the workshop,” the FFA’s Club Licensing Manager Ms Jo Fernandes said, “is to educate the Hyundai A-League Clubs on the AFC CLAS and discuss the importance of Club Licensing and how it can relate to the club’s operations.”

Through this workshop, the clubs learn to understand the importance of the framework of Club Licensing, how it can benefit

clubs’ professional operations in the long run and the technical operations of AFC CLAS.

After the workshop, Ms Jo will finalise the Club Licensing Regulations, together with the Core Process Timeline while assisting clubs on the usage of AFC CLAS.

The General Secretary and CEO of the FFA, Mr David Gallop AM, expressed his appreciation to the AFC Key Presenters, Mr Liyaj Pallikandy, AFC Software Solution Architect, and Mr David McVeigh, AFC Club Licensing Consultant for their thorough and informative presentations. Ms Jo also thanked the support provided by AFC Club Licensing Administration at the planning and preparation stages.

PSSI IS BACK ON CLUB LICENSING MAP



The Football Association of Indonesia (PSSI) has resumed its activities after FIFA lifted the suspension which had been in place since May 2015 and it is expected to implement the Club Licensing System this year to participate in the 2018 AFC club competitions.

Having been suspended by FIFA for the past two years, the PSSI management was eager to put everything in place to get football activities restarted in Indonesia. With this opportunity, the AFC Head of Club Licensing Unit, Mr Mahajan Vasudevan Nair, and AFC Development Officer (ASEAN Region) Mr Visakan Subramanian visited Indonesia on 3 - 4 March 2017 to assist PSSI in Club Licensing implementation.

As a result of the discussions, PSSI decided to run three leagues in each season. The first two leagues are targeted at the professional level, while the third league is set for the amateur level. The PSSI is also looking at implementing two (2) Club Licensing Systems – the AFC Club Licensing System for the AFC Champions League and National Club Licensing System for the PSSI Domestic League.

Welcome aboard, PSSI.

AFC ENTRY CONTROL BODY

The AFC Entry Control Body (ECB) was established in late December 2016 with the purpose of safeguarding the integrity of the AFC club competitions by guaranteeing the eligibility of participating clubs. The judicial body consists of one (1) Chairperson and four (4) Deputy Chairpersons.

The Entry Control Body has jurisdiction in the following instances:

1. The AFC or a club alleges that a club has been directly or indirectly involved in match manipulation;
2. The AFC or a club alleges that there exists a violation of rules relating to control or influence;

3. The AFC or a club alleges that a Member Association has nominated the incorrect club or clubs to participate in a competition;
4. The AFC or a club alleges that a Member Association has incorrectly granted a license for a club to participate in a competition;
5. A club submits an Extraordinary Application to participate in a competition.

The submission of an AFC Club Licensing Extraordinary Application must be addressed to the AFC Entry Control Body in accordance with Annexe 4 of the AFC Club Licensing Regulations. To find out more about the Procedural Rules Governing the AFC Entry Control Body, please go to: [LINK](#)

AFC CLUB LICENSING ADMINISTRATION CORNER



By the first quarter, all Club Licensing Administrations are expected to complete the following :

- Club Licensing Regulations, including the Core Process Timeline submitted on CLAS for AFC's approval
- The establishment of First Instance Body (FIB) and Appeal Body (AB)
- Started the Club Licensing Workshop for your respective football clubs
- Any exceptions policy requests have been submitted to AFC Club Licensing Administration for approval.
- License applicants are ready to start their documents submission process.
- Fulfil the AFC Minimum Coaching Requirement (MCR) :
 - AFC Club Licensing Regulations
 - Head Coach : AFC 'A' Coaching Certificate
 - Assistant Coach : AFC 'A' Coaching Certificate
 - Head of Youth Development : AFC 'A' Coaching Certificate
 - Youth Coaches : at least one (1) AFC 'B' Coaching Certificate and others AFC 'C' Coaching Certificate.
 - Club Technical Director : AFC 'A' Coaching Certificate (Minimum/Recommended)
 - Goalkeeper Coach : AFC Goalkeeping Level 1 Coaching Certificate
 - Fitness Coach : AFC 'B' Coaching Certificate
 - AFC Cup Club Licensing Regulations
 - Head Coach : AFC 'A' Coaching Certificate

**** Do take note that all other certifications, besides AFC and UEFA, need to be equivalent, recognised and approved by the AFC ****

**** For any questions related to Coaching Qualifications Education and RECC, please to [LINK](#) and [LINK](#) ****

For those who are interested in hosting the AFC Club Licensing Annual Workshop 2017 or want more details related to the workshop, please write us an email at afc.clublicensing@the-afc.com before 14 of April 2017.