

SAUDI ARABIAN FOOTBALL FEDERATION



**Election Regulations
For Saudi Arabian Football Federation**

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Chapter One:

Article (1): Definitions:

The following terms and expressions, wherever mentioned in these Regulations, shall have the meanings indicated in front of each of them. The reference to the singular shall apply to plural and vice versa, unless the context otherwise requires:

The Kingdom:	The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.
The Federation:	The Saudi Arabian Football Federation (SAFF).
The Fédération Internationale:	Fédération Internationale de Football Association (FIFA)
The Asian Confederation	Asian Football Confederation (AFC)
The General Assembly:	The legislature and the supreme authority of the Federation.
The Board of Directors:	The executive body of the Federation.
The General Secretariat:	The Administrative Board of the Federation.
The Secretary General:	Executive Director of the General Secretariat of the Federation.
The Statute / basic law:	The basic law of the Federation.
The regulation:	The regulation of elections of the Saudi Arabian Football Federation (SAFF).
The Members:	Members of the General Assembly of the Federation.
The election:	The means by which the members of the General Assembly choose the President, the Deputy and the members of the Board of Directors of the Federation.
The Committee of Election:	The Committee consisting of the Electoral Committee and the Electoral Appeal Committee.
The Electoral Committee:	The committee concerned with the organization and supervision of elections, and on the procedures for their accreditation at the Federation level.
The Electoral Appeal Committee	The committee concerned with considering and adjudicating electoral appeals and grievances at the Federation level.
The Electoral cycle:	The four years starting from the date of election of the Federation's Board of Directors.
The Electoral Process:	The executive stages of the elections of the Federation.
The Electoral period:	The duration of the elections of the Federation.

The Voter:	Member of the General Assembly of the Federation.
The Candidate:	Any person who fulfills the conditions stipulated in the Statute and this list to be included in one of the electoral lists.
The List of Voters:	A list of persons eligible to vote in the elections.
The Electoral List:	A list of (11) eleven candidates for the Board of Directors, namely, the President, the Vice President and the members are elected together.
The Ordinary majority:	Those who approve, whose number is more than half of all members present, who are eligible to vote.
The Absolute Majority:	Those who approve, whose number is more than half of the total members who are eligible to vote.
Voting:	Voters cast their ballots to choose electoral lists.
Voting card:	A paper or other technical means in which the voter confirms the name of the person whom he had chosen.
Voting time:	The date specified for the Voting.

Chapter Two: Scope of Application of the Regulations and Principles Governing the Electoral Process

Article (2) Scope of Application of the Regulations

Subject to the provisions of the Statute, these Regulations shall be the main reference for the elections of the Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Federation, and the controlling to the Procedures of the Election Committee.

Article 3 General principles governing the electoral process

Elections shall be held on the basis of adherence to the following principles:

1. The independence of the electoral process in accordance with the principle of separation of powers in the Federation.
2. Transparency in practicing the electoral process.
3. Ensure that members exercise their rights in choosing the electoral list.
4. Announcing the election procedures in the available means of media.
5. No interference by any external party except the Fédération Internationale de Football Association (FIFA).

Chapter Three: Committees concerned with the electoral process

Article (4): The Electoral committee

1. The members of the Electoral committee shall be appointed in accordance with the provisions of the Statute.

٢. The Electoral Committee shall organize and supervise all stages of the elections of the Board of Directors and issue the relevant decisions.

Article 5 Formation of the Electoral Committee

1. The Electoral Committee shall consist of a president and (3) members, provided that at least one of them holds a bachelor's degree in law or its equivalent.

٢. The Secretary-General shall appoint the Rapporteur of the Electoral Committee, who shall be responsible for the preparation of all administrative and executive matters for the work of the Electoral Committee.

Article 6: Termination of works of the Electoral Committee

The functions and works of the Electoral Committee shall end with the end of the appeal period specified in the electoral time table.

Article (7): Conditions of Membership of the Electoral Committee:

1. The members of the Electoral Committee shall not be members of the General Assembly of the Federation, the Board of Directors of the Federation, the Standing Committees or the General Secretariat.

٢. The membership of a member of the Electoral Committee shall be ended in the event of the nomination of one of the persons with whom he has a relationship up to the fourth degree, marriage or a direct or indirect working relationship to the chairmanship or membership of the Board of Directors.

3. The members of the Electoral Committee shall observe the utmost integrity and impartiality in carrying out their duties.

Article (8): Competencies of the Electoral Committee:

The Electoral Committee shall have the following competencies:

1. Issuing the electoral time table.

٢. Set the date of opening the door for candidacy for the chairmanship and membership of the Board of Directors of the Federation.

3. Oversee and control the opening of candidacy and receive the files of candidates.

4. Supervise the closing of the candidacy door for the chairmanship and membership of the

Board of Directors and prepare the necessary minutes.

5. Approving the preliminary and final lists of candidates for the chairmanship and membership of the Board of Directors after investigating them and ensuring that they meet all the conditions stipulated in these regulations.

6. Approving the preliminary and final lists of the members of the General Assembly who are entitled to attend the Assembly and vote on the day of election.

7. Exclusion of the candidates whom it considers, who do not meet the conditions stipulated in these regulations.

٨. Exclude any members whom it considers, of the general assembly members, who do not meet the conditions stipulated in these regulations.

٩. Following up the activities of the candidates and preventing abuses or violations.

١٠. Forming executive committees to manage the electoral process.

١١. Determine the location of the general assembly meetings, which are scheduled for elections in coordination with the Federation.

١٢. Preparation of organizational and procedural manuals and business forms for the electoral process.

١٣. Educate voters and candidates about their rights and duties.

14. Set the necessary instructions for organizing the general assembly meetings, which are scheduled for elections.

15. Request for information and manage relations with government agencies (if necessary).

Article (9) Meetings and Decisions of the Electoral Committee:

The quorum for the meeting of the Electoral Committee shall be in the presence of an absolute majority and its decisions shall be issued by an ordinary majority. In the case of an equal vote, the vote of the Chairman of the Committee shall be considered the most likely.

٢. Decisions shall be recorded in minutes signed by the President and Rapporteur of the Electoral Committee.

Article (10): The Electoral Appeal Committee:

1. The members of the Electoral Appeals Committee shall be appointed in accordance with the provisions of the Statute.

٢. The Electoral Appeals Committee shall consider and adjudicate appeals against the decisions of the Electoral Committee.

Article (11) Formation of the Electoral Appeal Committee:

1. The Committee shall consist of a Chairman and (2) members, provided that at least one of them should holds a Bachelor degree of Laws or equivalent.

٢. The Secretary-General of the Federation shall appoint a Rapporteur for the Electoral Appeals Committee, who shall be responsible for preparing all administrative and executive matters for the work of the Electoral Appeal Committee.

Article (12): Termination of the Electoral Appeal Committee:

The functions and works of the Electoral Appeals Committee shall end with the end of the appeal period specified in the electoral time table.

Article (13): Conditions for Membership of the Electoral Appeal Committee:

١. Members of the Electoral Appeals Committee shall not be members of the General Assembly of the Federation, the Board of Directors of the Federation, the Standing Committees or the General Secretariat.

٢. The membership of the Electoral Appeals Committee member shall be ended in the event of nomination of a person with whom he has a relationship up to the fourth degree, marriage or a direct or indirect working relationship to the chairmanship or membership of the Board of Directors.

3. The members of the Electoral Appeals Committee shall observe the utmost integrity and impartiality in carrying out their duties.

Article (14) Competencies of the Electoral Appeal Committee:

The Electoral Appeals Committee shall have the competence to consider and adjudicate electoral appeals or grievances submitted to it in accordance with the provisions of this regulation, and shall abide by the procedures and deadlines set by the Electoral Committee and shall be an integral part of the decisions it makes when considering appeals or grievances submitted to it.

Article (15) Meetings and Decisions of the Electoral Appeal Committee:

1. The quorum for the meeting of the Electoral Appeals Committee shall be in the presence of an absolute majority and its decisions shall be made by an ordinary majority. In the case of an equal vote, the vote of the Chairman of the Committee shall be considered the most likely.

٢. Decisions shall be recorded in minutes signed by the President and Rapporteur of the Electoral Appeals Committee.

3. Any appeal and its justification shall be sent to the Electoral Appeals Committee or handed

over to the General Secretariat of the Federation within the time specified in the time table.

4. The Electoral Appeals Committee shall consider and decide on the appeal within (five days) from the date of receipt.

5. The decisions of the Electoral Appeal Committee shall be final, binding and non-appealable before the Saudi Arbitration Sports Center or any other party.

Chapter Four: Rules for Forming the General Assembly, Electing the Chairman and Members of the Board of Directors, and the Provisions for Candidacy and Election

Article (16) Formation of the General Assembly

1. The General Assembly shall consist of the number of members contained in the Statute.

٢. Delegates should be affiliated to the member they represent, be appointed or elected by the competent authority, and must be able to demonstrate this upon request.

3. The delegates of the General Assembly representing their clubs shall be members of the boards of those clubs.

4. Each member of the General Assembly shall have one vote. Voting is not permitted for representatives of the members who are not present, and voting on his behalf or correspondence voting is not permitted.

5. The members of the Board of Directors and the Secretary General of the Federation shall attend the meetings of the General Assembly. They shall not vote. Members of the Board of Directors may not be chosen or elected as a representative of the member of the General Assembly during their tenure of work on the Board of Directors of the Federation.

6. The General Secretariat shall prepare the list of voters according to which the voting shall be held on the day of voting, including the names of the representatives of the members of the General Assembly who are entitled to vote on the day of the polling and announce it in accordance with the election schedule.

Article (17) conditions for nominations to Board of Directors:

1. The Chairman and the Board of Directors shall be nominated in accordance with the mechanism set forth in the Statute.

٢. The conditions to be met by the candidate for the position of President shall be determined according to the conditions stipulated in the Statute.

3. The conditions for candidates for the post of Vice-President and members shall be determined in accordance with the conditions stipulated in the Statute.

4. The candidate is not allowed to run in more than one electoral list.
5. The following categories are prohibited from running for membership in the Board of Directors:
 - a. Military personnel only with the prior permission of their references.
 - b. Non-retired players, coaches and referees.
6. The electoral lists shall be submitted to the General Secretariat by hand or in a manner determined by the Electoral Committee during the period specified for the nomination and in accordance with the Statute.
٧. The Electoral Committee verifies whether all nominations and candidates comply with the conditions.
 ٨. The Electoral Committee shall register the nominations in a special register (alphabetically) and issue, at the end of the registration period, a minutes of the completion of the registration procedures of the candidates, signed by its President and the members of the Electoral Committee. A list of candidates for the elections of the Board of Directors shall be attached.
9. The lists of candidates shall be announced initially - and then finally according to the dates specified in the election time table - at the headquarters of the Federation or in the local newscards or through technical means or social networks of the Federation.
١٠. Any candidate within an electoral list may waive his candidacy. The assignment shall be submitted in writing to the General Secretariat within the period specified in the electoral timetable. He shall be replaced by another candidate from outside the electoral list within (2) days from the date of submission of the waiver.
11. Each electoral list shall have the right to campaign systematically through all the available media, from the date of the announcement of the final lists of candidates until the day before the polling day. No electoral list shall be in solidarity with any other electoral list directly or indirectly.

Article (18) Quorum and Resolutions of the General Assembly:

The general assembly meetings shall be held during the period at which elections are held, in accordance with the conditions and requirements stipulated in the Statute.

Article (19) Final List of the Candidates:

The final electoral lists of the candidates shall be sent to all members of the General Assembly not later than (7) days before the date of meeting of the general assembly to elect the Board of

Directors. They are also sent to relevant government agencies and are advertised at the Federation headquarters or through technical means or social networks of the Federation.

Article (20) Deadline for Holding the General Assembly for Election of the Board of Directors:

The Electoral Committee shall, through the General Secretariat of the Federation, invite the General Assembly to elect the Chairman and members of the Board of Directors at least (7) seven days before the meeting, together with the final electoral lists. The General Assembly shall be announced through various media.

Article (21): Election

1. Elections shall be held in the manner of election on the list in accordance with the procedures laid down in the Statute.

٢. The term of office of the Board of Directors shall be in accordance with the period stipulated in the Statute and shall commence from the date of the announcement of the final result of the elections.

Chapter Five: Electoral Process Procedures

Article (22) Voting and Ballot cards:

1. Elections shall be held by secret ballot.

٢. The General Secretariat of the Federation shall issue the ballot cards under the supervision and responsibility of the Electoral Committee and shall be clearly and legibly printed.

3. Ballot cards shall have a different color in each round of election.

4. The ballot cards shall contain the data clearly to facilitate the election in accordance with these regulations through them.

Article (23) Ballot Boxes:

١. Before the voting process begins, the ballot box must be opened and presented to the Assembly members and then closed.

٢. Ballot boxes should be transparent and placed in a visible location near the members of the electoral committee.

3. A member of the Electoral Committee must monitor the ballot boxes during the voting process.

Article (24) Polling cabinets:

The Polling cabinets shall be located near the ballot boxes so that the general assembly members

who are entitled to vote can fill their ballots cards secretly.

Article (25) Voting:

1. The Chairman of the Electoral Committee shall explain in detail the voting process, which is represented in (ballot boxes, valid and invalid ballot cards, counting, required majority, results, and efficiency of electoral rules) with reference, if possible, to the relevant texts.
٢. The Chairman of the Electoral Committee shall call each member of the General Assembly authorized to vote in alphabetical, and request him to proceed to the front of the hall until verifying his identity and the voting procedures have been completed.
3. The member shall go forward and receive the ballot card after he has signed on the voters list and goes inside the voting cabinet and proves his choice in the ballot card.
4. The member shall then place the card in the ballot box.
5. The counting of votes shall begin as soon as the members who have the right to vote have finished placing the ballot cards in the box. The box is opened and all cards are emptied in front of the audience and the counting of votes begins.
6. Voting procedures shall be in accordance with the procedures set forth in these Regulations.

Article (26): Counting of votes:

Votes shall be counted independently and calculated publicly at the polling place in preparation for the announcement of the final results of each round.

Article (27) Invalidity of ballot cards:

1. The following ballot cards shall be considered invalid in the voting process:
 - a. Ballot cards that do not bear the official distinctive marks determined by the Electoral Committee.
 - b. Ballot cards bearing any words other than the names of the candidates.
 - c. Unread ballot cards.
 - d. Ballot cards bearing any words other than the names of the candidates.
 - e. Ballot cards with specific markings for their identification.
2. Spelling or typographical errors can only cause a vote to be cancelled if they do not allow the precise identification of candidates.
3. The President of the Electoral Committee shall write on the back of any ballot card the word (canceled) in red and the reasons for the invalidity of that card and confirm this by signing it.
4. The decision of the Electoral Committee shall be considered as a final, binding and non-

appealable decision in the event of a dispute regarding the validity or invalidity of any ballot card, the eligibility of voting or not, the recording of the minutes, the announcement of the results or any other matter related to the counting process.

Article (28): Screening and Declaration of Results:

1. Ballot results are calculated based on the correct no. of registered ballot cards.
۲. Once the ballot box is opened at any stage of the election, the members of the Electoral Committee shall, after confirming the validity of the ballot cards afterwards, announce the result in a loud voice. If the number of ballot cards is equal to or less than the number of ballot cards issued, the ballot shall be considered valid. But if the number of ballot cards is greater than the number of ballot cards issued, the ballot shall be declared invalid and repeated immediately.
3. After confirming the number of ballot cards, the members of the Electoral Committee will start counting the number of votes fixed in the ballot paper and reading them aloud.
4. Immediately after the completion of the counting process for each stage and its verification, the Chairman of the Electoral Committee shall formally announce the results before the members of the General Assembly.
5. If a second round of voting is required, the voting procedures shall be repeated according to the aforementioned articles. Members of the General Assembly shall be notified of the statutory provisions applicable to the second round of voting for any changes in the required majority or the names of the candidates who have been excluded.

Article (29) Announcement of Final Results

1. After each round of elections, the Chairman of the Electoral Committee shall formally announce the results before the members of the General Assembly. Minutes of this shall be registered and signed by the President and the members of the Electoral Committee.
۲. The final minutes shall be distributed to the members of the general assembly and a copy shall be sent to the relevant authorities, and included in the record of the minutes of the general assembly.

Article (30) Checking the legality of procedures:

The Electoral Committee shall exclusively verify the identity of those authorized to vote and ensure compliance with voting procedures.

Chapter Six: Final Provisions

Article (31) Final Provisions

١. The provisions of the Statutes of the Federation and the International Federation in respect of elections and their observation and the sanctions imposed for any violation of their provisions shall be observed.

٢. The Election Committee shall hand over all official documents related to the elections to the General Secretariat of the Federation, which is responsible for passing them to the relevant authorities and archiving them when necessary.

3. All matters relating to elections, which are not covered by these Regulations, are subject to the discretion of the Elections Committee, which may exclude any list or any of its members in case of violation of the provisions of the Federation's Statute or its regulations, these Regulations or international statutes and regulations.

Article (32) Entry into Force and validity

1. Amendments to these Regulations were adopted and approved at the General Assembly Meeting held in Riyadh on 22/12/1439 AH, corresponding to 02/09/2018 AD, and became effective and valid from the date of their approval.

٢. This Regulation shall cancel all inconsistent systems, regulations, circulars or decisions, and shall not operate in any contradictory text.