



# COMPETITION REGULATIONS

## AFC FUTSAL CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP 2020



AFC  
FUTSAL CLUB  
CHAMPIONSHIP

# Competition Regulations

## AFC Futsal Club Championship 2020

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## DEFINITIONS

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

Accommodation	Any location approved by the AFC which provides accommodation to the AFC Delegation and Participating Clubs.
Accreditation Card	Any physical item which is issued by the AFC and/or Organising Association which provides the recipient the right to access a Controlled Access Area (or part thereof) where the Controlled Access Area is under the control of the AFC or Organising Association.
Advertising Rights	The right to promote brand and/or corporate names and/or products and/or services at and/or in relation to the Competition by whatever means available, whether existing now or to be developed in the future, whether at the Indoor Stadium or Facility Areas or within the Controlled Access Areas, in association with the Competition Marks and/or AFC Marks, by in-stadium/out-stadium perimeter signage and other advertising, digital signage and screens, closed circuit television, equipment usage or other methods and through printed matter (including digitally delivered printed matter) such as programmes, posters, letterheads, press releases, newsletters and Tickets, and subject to any AFC regulations, the right to display such advertising on the clothing or footwear worn, or on any equipment used, carried or transported by the AFC Delegation (including for the avoidance of doubt Match Officials), medical and security staff, ball boys, player escorts, flag bearers and/or photographers. The display of the name and/or logo of the bona fide supplier of clothing on the strip of the uniforms of the AFC Delegation (including for the avoidance of doubt Match Officials) are also included. For the avoidance of doubt, advertising on the strip of Participating Players is excluded, other than where it is the trade mark of the bona fide manufacturer and is in accordance with FIFA and/or AFC regulations. Similarly, branding on any equipment, goods and/or services used in connection with the Competition, save where supplied by a Licensee, may only include customary branding of the bona fide manufacturer and may not be associated in any way with the Commercial Rights.
AFC	The Asian Football Confederation.

AFCAS	The AFC Administration System, the AFC's online competition management and registration system.
AFC Commercial Rights Partner	The entity appointed by the AFC as the sole and exclusive representative of the AFC with regard to the sale of the Commercial Rights (or any part thereof) and the provision of services in relation thereto.
AFC Committee	One (1) or more (as the context defines) of the Standing Committees of the AFC as promulgated within the AFC Statutes.
AFC Delegation	(i) AFC staff; (ii) Match Officials; (iii) other officials appointed by the AFC; (iv) AFC Committee members; and (v) AFC guests.
AFC Futsal and Beach Soccer Committee	The AFC internal organising committee for the Competition which has been appointed in accordance with the AFC Statutes, and which has ultimate authority over all matters relating to the organisation of the Competition.
AFC Futsal Club Championship 2020	The Competition.
AFC Marks	All design marks, slogans, designations, names, logos, insignia, emblems or devices (in any application) owned and/or controlled by the AFC (in any language) relating to the AFC itself, but excluding the Competition Marks.
AFC Website	The domain <a href="http://www.the-afc.com">http://www.the-afc.com</a> owned by the AFC, including without limitation all other domains or official media platforms and channels created and/or owned by the AFC (e.g. Facebook, YouTube, Twitter, etc).
Broadcast Licensee	Any entity, including the Host Broadcaster, which has been granted the Media Rights from the AFC or the AFC Commercial Rights Partner for the Competition.
Champion	The Participating Club that wins the final Match of the Competition.
Clean Indoor Stadium	An Indoor Stadium or Official Training Site whether inside, in the air space above or the outer perimeter, delivered to the AFC at a prescribed time, that is free from: (i) any advertising and commercial signage of any kind, whether on any Indoor Stadium infrastructure, staff uniforms, accreditations, fences, equipment or elsewhere;

	(ii) third party agreements relating to the use and operation of the Indoor Stadium (or part thereof); and/or
	(iii) Indoor Stadium or venue naming rights.
Commercial Rights	Advertising Rights, Concession Rights, Hospitality Rights, Image Rights, Media Rights, Merchandising Rights, Promotional Rights, Sponsorship Rights, and Travel and Tour Rights.
Competition	The AFC Futsal Club Championship 2020, which includes without limitation, all Matches as set out in the Match Schedule, all qualifying Matches, all activities on the Field of Play (other than Matches), opening ceremonies, presentation or closing ceremonies, press conferences or Official Functions connected therewith.
Competition Data	Any and all information related to the Competition, including fixture lists, Image Rights, information and/or statistics about the Participating Clubs and/or Participating Players, information and/or statistics about their participation and/or performance in the Competition, Match analysis, Referee decisions, and any other information in relation to the Competition.
Competition Marks	All design marks, slogans, designations, names, logos, insignia, emblems, mascot or devices (in any application) owned and/or controlled by the AFC (in any language) relating to the Competition.
Competition Website	The official website of the Competition with a dedicated URL including without limitation all other domains or official media platforms and channels of the Competition created and/or owned by the AFC (e.g. Facebook, YouTube, Twitter, etc).
Complimentary Tickets	Tickets which are supplied without charge.
Concession Rights	Sampling, vending and other distribution methods and payment methods connected therewith for and of products or services, including without limitation all food, beverage and pourage rights at the Indoor Stadium and Control Access Areas.
Controlled Access Areas	(i) any Indoor Stadium; (ii) any Official Training Site; (iii) any official hotel (public areas being excepted), subject to and to the extent agreed in any executed hotel agreement; (iv) any official exclusion zone encircling an Indoor Stadium on a Match day;

- (v) any official parking area, accreditation centre, International Broadcast Compound, and/or hospitality area;
- (vi) the venue of any Official Function;
- (vii) any official AFC fan park;
- (viii) Facility Areas; and/or
- (ix) any other location and/or facility designated by the AFC as a Controlled Access Area, associated to the Competition to which access is permitted only to those in possession of an Accreditation Card, Ticket, and/or other officially-sanctioned entry permit.

**Extra Time** Two (2) equal periods of additional time which shall be played in accordance with these Regulations should there be no Winner at the conclusion of a Match in the Knockout Stage.

**Facility Areas** The location of Official Functions, ceremonies, press centres, ticket offices, competition hotels, media areas (including without limitation areas used for viewing of any public exhibition), sponsor village areas (including without limitation “AFC fan park” areas, and areas used for the activation of the Commercial Rights), official hospitality areas (including without limitation areas used for the exploitation of the Hospitality Rights), and information centres controlled by or on behalf of the AFC and used in connection with the Competition whether at the Indoor Stadium or elsewhere at the Venues.

**FIFA** The Fédération Internationale de Football Association.

**Football Association** The controlling body for football within a country or territory recognised by the AFC.

**Force Majeure** Any event affecting the performance or any provision of these Regulations arising from or attributable to acts, events, omissions or accidents which are beyond the reasonable control of a party, and shall include but not be limited to abnormally inclement weather, flood, lightning, storm, fire, explosion, earthquake, structural damage, epidemic or other natural disaster, failure or shortage of power supplies, war, terrorist action, military operations, riot, crowd disorder, strike, lock-outs or other industrial action, or civil commotion.

**Futsal Laws of the Game** The laws of futsal laid down by the FIFA.

**Group Stage** The first stage of the Competition held in accordance with these Regulations.

Hospitality Rights	The opportunity to offer and sell hospitality and entertainment facilities at the Venues or within the Controlled Access Areas in combination with Tickets as may be purchased from the Organising Association whether such facilities are in boxes, marquees or otherwise, but excluding those private facilities reserved for AFC officials and its guests not forming part of the Commercial Rights.
Host Broadcaster	The party appointed by the AFC to ensure and provide the production of broadcast signals of the Matches and other events of the Competition, and the provision of all related services in accordance with the Media Rights granted to it.
Host City	Any city and/or identifiable metropolitan area in which any Match is staged.
Host Country	Host Football Federation/Association.
Image Rights	The right to use still and/or moving images and/or representations of images of Participating Clubs and Participating Players participating in the Competition, and including, for the avoidance of doubt, images of Participating Officials, Match Officials, and other officials forming part of the Competition.
Indoor Stadium	Any indoor stadium at which a Match is played. For the avoidance of doubt, this includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) the entire premises (to the extent that a valid Accreditation Card or Ticket is required in order to gain access) of an indoor stadium facility inside the outer indoor stadium perimeter fence and (on Match days and any day on which any official training takes place within the indoor stadium), the aerial space above such indoor stadium premises;</li> <li>(ii) parking facilities;</li> <li>(iii) VIP and hospitality areas (including any hospitality village);</li> <li>(iv) the Media tribune;</li> <li>(v) concessions areas;</li> <li>(vi) commercial display areas;</li> <li>(vii) buildings;</li> <li>(viii) the Pitch;</li> <li>(ix) any broadcast compound or indoor stadium media centre;</li> <li>(x) any stands; and,</li> <li>(xi) any areas beneath the stands.</li> </ul>



Kicks from the Penalty Mark	'Kicks from the Penalty Mark' as described in the Futsal Laws of the Game.
Knockout Stage	The second stage of the Competition held in accordance with these Regulations.
Match	A Futsal match in its entirety (including a replayed and/or deferred Futsal match, Extra Time and Kicks from the Penalty Mark) which takes place as part of the Competition in accordance with the Match Schedule. For the avoidance of doubt, a Match formally commences when the Indoor Stadium is officially opened to spectators and formally concludes when the Indoor Stadium is officially closed to spectators.
Match Officials	Any individual appointed to officiate a Match in the Competition in the role of referee, second referee, third referee, timekeeper and, the appointed Referee Instructor(s) and/or Referee Assessor(s).
Match Schedule	The official schedule which sets out, without limitation, the dates and times on which Matches will be played, the Indoor Stadium at which the Matches will be played, and the names of the Participating Clubs.
Media	Any individual granted a media Accreditation Card by the AFC.
Media Rights	The right and license to produce, edit, and transmit, for intelligible reception throughout the world in any language and in any format, and on any platform including film, fixed media, digital media, games, internet, public exhibition, radio, mobile, and television, a visual, audio-visual, and/or audio signal and/or image or recording (including without limitation the basic feed, multi feeds, additional feeds, audio feeds, a feed incorporating Competition Data, world feed, and unilateral feeds) of the Competition, and all interview activities and action during and forming part of the Competition including Official Functions and the Image Rights by any and all means of transmission distribution, exhibition and reception, now existing or hereinafter developed including but not limited to analogue, digital, satellite cable and interactive communication systems, on a live, delayed, and unlimited repeat basis, in full or in part (including without limitation by way of clips and/or highlights and/or support programmes and/or magazine shows and/or news access), and all rights to exploit any and all commercial opportunities (including for example broadcast sponsorship and commercial

airtime opportunities) arising from and/or in connection with such rights.

Member Association	A Football Association which is a member of the AFC.
Merchandise Rights	The right granted to Official Licensees for the use and exploitation of the Competition Marks and/or official designation in the manufacture, packaging, distribution, and sale of goods and services of all kinds, including items of equipment (i.e. futsal balls), clothing, coins, medals, games (electronic or otherwise), other collectibles and premiums related to the Competition.
Official Function	Any event which is officially organised or sanctioned by the AFC in connection with the Competition. For the avoidance of doubt, this expressly includes, without limitation, all matches and/or events held at Official Training Sites, the opening ceremony, the closing ceremony, any AFC gala dinner, lunch, or banquet, cultural events, official press conferences and launch events.
Official Licensee	Any entity to which the AFC and the AFC Commercial Rights Partner has granted the right to exercise and exploit the Commercial Rights (or any part thereof) in respect of the Competition.
Official Training Site	Any site designated by the Organising Association and approved by the AFC for use by the Participating Clubs throughout the duration of the Competition for training purposes.
Organising Association	A Member Association approved by the AFC to organise, stage and host Matches in the Competition.
Participating Official	Any official who is registered to participate in the Competition.
Participating Player	Any player who is registered to participate in the Competition.
Participating Club	Any club affiliated to a Member Association approved by the AFC to participate in the Competition.
Field of Play	The area described in Law 1 of the Futsal Laws of the Game issued by FIFA.
Promotional Rights	Any rights to official publications, official suppliers, official products, sales promotion including but not limited to the right to organise promotional competitions (including without limitation any sweepstakes or lotteries) and to make awards and give

prizes, official music rights, the right to use an Official Designation and all other rights of commercial value in regard to the Competition.

Proprietary Interests	Without limitation, intellectual property, copyright and analogous rights, trademark rights, moral rights, performing rights, personality rights, and all remedies available under the applicable laws of unfair competition comprised in the Commercial Rights.
Regulations	These Competition Regulations.
Runner Up	The Participating Club that loses the final Match of the Competition.
Sponsorship Rights	The right, in any and all media, throughout the world, and in all languages, to promote an association between the Competition and certain products, services, and/or brands, and shall include (by way of illustration only) the exclusive right to exercise rights of association with the Competition, including without limitation the right to: (i) use an official designation; (ii) use the AFC Marks and/or applicable Competition Marks on branded products and/or product packaging (including Premiums, and in relation to the Competition Marks only on items for retail sale) and/or advertising; (iii) receive commercial programme Tickets; and (iv) receive broadcast sponsorship opportunities in connections with broadcasts of a Match or Official Function.
Team Official Delegation	The final-registered delegation of a Participating Club for the duration of the relevant stage of the Competition subject to the limits set out in the Competition Regulations.
Third Place	The Participating Club that wins the 3/4 Playoff.
Ticket	A pass providing access to a venue for the purpose of attending a Match, official training, or Official Function.
Ticketing	All operational measures to provide Tickets to all spectators of every Match and for Official Functions of the Competition allowing them to enter the Indoor Stadium or a Venue. Ticketing shall include the management of the operation necessary for the production, sale, distribution, delivery and payment of the Tickets of the Competition.

Travel and Tour Rights	The right to organise and/or sub-license official travel and tour activities in relation to the Competition, which travel and tour activities shall, for the avoidance of doubt, include the provision of Tickets to a Match and/or Official Function for the Competition.
Venue	The Host City and immediately surrounding area in which an Indoor Stadium is located.

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

- (i) the singular shall include the plural and vice-versa;
- (ii) the masculine gender shall include the feminine and vice-versa;
- (iii) reference to natural persons shall include any legal person or corporation;
- (iv) references to the AFC shall include its successors and permitted assigns and in relation to the availability of the Commercial Rights, its respective Member Associations, and the AFC Committees;
- (v) reference to the AFC Commercial Rights Partner or Official Licensees shall include where advised by the AFC, its successors, and permitted assigns and, in relation to the exercise and exploitation of the Commercial Rights; and
- (vi) all defined terms, unless otherwise stated herein shall bear the same meaning as ascribed in the AFC Statutes, unless the context indicates otherwise.

## SECTION 1: AFC FUTSAL CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP 2020

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### 1. Introduction

- 1.1. The AFC stages the Competition annually for Participating Clubs.
- 1.2. These Regulations set out the rights, duties, and responsibilities of the AFC, Organising Association(s), Member Associations, Participating Clubs, Participating Players and Participating Officials taking part in the Competition.
- 1.3. These Regulations and all directives, decisions, guidelines, and circulars issued by the AFC shall be binding upon all parties participating and involved in the preparation, organisation, and hosting of the Competition.
- 1.4. Any rights and Proprietary Interests associated with the Competition that are not granted by these Regulations and/or specific agreements to any Organising Association, Member Association and/or any Participating Club shall vest in the AFC.
- 1.5. Any reference to the AFC Statutes and to AFC and FIFA regulations refer to those valid at the time of application.

## SECTION 2: RESPONSIBILITIES

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### 2. The Asian Football Confederation

- 2.1. The AFC Futsal and Beach Soccer Committee shall be responsible for organising the Competition in accordance with the AFC Statutes. The AFC General Secretariat shall carry out the necessary administrative work in support of the AFC Futsal and Beach Soccer Committee.
- 2.2. The responsibilities of the AFC shall include, but are not limited to:
  - 2.2.1. supervising general preparations and deciding on the Competition format, the draw, and the entries to the Competition;
  - 2.2.2. determining the Match Schedule (*cf.* Article 8);
  - 2.2.3. selecting Indoor Stadium and Official Training Sites for the Competition after consultation with the Organising Association;
  - 2.2.4. appointing Match Officials for each Match;
  - 2.2.5. choosing the official Futsal ball and stipulated technical material;
  - 2.2.6. approving the choice of the WADA-accredited laboratory that will carry out the doping analyses (*cf.* Section 10);
  - 2.2.7. reporting cases where appropriate to the AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Committee (*cf.* Section 11);
  - 2.2.8. replacing Participating Clubs that have withdrawn from the Competition (*cf.* Articles 6 and 7);
  - 2.2.9. dealing with cases of abandoned Matches or cancelled Matches (*cf.* Articles 16 and 17);
  - 2.2.10. dealing with cases of force majeure (*cf.* Article 72);
  - 2.2.11. providing insurance coverage for the AFC Delegation from the time of their departure from their home Member Association to their departure from the Host Country; and
  - 2.2.12. dealing with any other aspect of the Competition that is not the responsibility of any other body of the AFC pursuant to these Regulations or the AFC Statutes (*cf.* Article 73).
- 2.3. All decisions made by the AFC Futsal and Beach Soccer Committee and/or AFC General Secretariat are final and binding and not appealable.

- 2.4. All decisions made by the AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Committee in relation to the Competition are subject to the operation of the AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Code.

### 3. Organising Association

- 3.1. The principal obligations and responsibilities of any Organising Association are stipulated in the (where relevant) Organising Association Agreement (“OAA”), these Regulations, the AFC Statutes and all other AFC regulations, directives, guidelines and circulars.
- 3.2. The Organising Association shall undertake, at their own cost, to:
- 3.2.1. observe all obligations set out in the (where relevant) OAA, these Regulations, the AFC Statutes and all other AFC regulations, directives, guidelines and circulars and all applicable national and supra-national laws;
  - 3.2.2. perform each of its obligations and exercise each of the rights granted to it as host, in connection with the hosting, staging and organisation of the Competition in accordance with professional standards;
  - 3.2.3. assist and coordinate with Participating Clubs on all arrangements relating to the Competition in agreement with the AFC;
  - 3.2.4. negotiate with and/or lobby the appropriate government bodies and/or local authorities to assist for the successful hosting, staging and organising of the Competition;
  - 3.2.5. obtain all applicable and relevant licenses, permits, grants and authorisations as may be required to fulfil its obligation in relation to the hosting, staging and organising of the Competition;
  - 3.2.6. comply with the AFC’s instructions on the provision of key services, facilities, equipment and infrastructure at each Indoor Stadium;
  - 3.2.7. provide the necessary assistance and support to the AFC, AFC Commercial Rights Partner and Official Licensees in relation to the use and exploitation of the Commercial Rights and all Proprietary Interests of the AFC and the protection and enforcement of rights in relation thereto;
  - 3.2.8. procure all necessary insurance policies which shall provide coverage for all risks relating to the hosting, staging and organizing of the Competition and name the AFC as a co-insured;

- 3.2.9. obtaining all clearances and executing all required documentation to enable the free and unfettered exercise and exploitation of Commercial Rights and clearance of all products, equipment or materials relating to the exploitation of the Commercial Rights of the Competition; and
    - 3.2.10. guarantee safety and security at the Indoor Stadium.
- 3.3. The Organising Association shall indemnify, hold harmless and defend the AFC, the AFC Commercial Rights Partner, its Official Licensees as well as their officers, members, agents, auxiliary persons, representatives, and employees from and against all liabilities, obligations, damages, losses, claims, demands, recoveries, deficiencies, costs or expenses (including without limitation all costs and expenses for finding and contracting with another Organising Association able and willing to stage the Competition and/or all attorney fees and expenses) which such parties may suffer or incur in connection with, resulting from, or arising out of any breach by the Organising Association (including its officers, directors, representatives, auxiliary persons, employees or agents) or any act or omission of the Organising Association (including its officers, directors, representatives, auxiliary persons, employees or agents) in connection with the performance of its obligations under this Agreement.

#### 4. Participating Clubs

- 4.1. The principal obligations and responsibilities of each Participating Club are stipulated in the Participating Club Agreement (PTA), these Regulations, the AFC Statutes, and all other AFC regulations, directives, guidelines, and circulars.
  - 4.1.1. Each Participating Club that has qualified for the Competition must submit a PTA.
  - 4.1.2. The PTA (and such other documents as are requested by the AFC in relation to the PTA) shall be completed and submitted to the AFC via AFCAS in accordance with the deadline provided by the AFC
  - 4.1.3. Failure to submit the PTA to the AFC shall result in the non-participation of the Participating Club.
- 4.2. Each Participating Club shall ensure as a condition of its participation that every member of its Team Official Delegation is aware of and agrees to comply with the PTA.
- 4.3. Each Participating Club shall undertake to:



- 4.3.1. observe all obligations set out in the PTA, these Regulations, the AFC Statutes, and all other AFC regulations, directives, guidelines and circulars, and applicable national and supra-national laws;
- 4.3.2. comply with the Futsal Laws of the Game laid down by FIFA;
- 4.3.3. accept that all the administrative, disciplinary and refereeing matters connected with the Competition shall be settled by the AFC in compliance with these Regulations;
- 4.3.4. field their strongest team throughout the Competition;
- 4.3.5. observe the principles of Fair Play;
- 4.3.6. ensure the good conduct of its Team Official Delegation and of any person carrying out duties on its behalf throughout the Competition, which includes but is not limited to their arrival on the territory of the Organising Association until their departure;
  - 4.3.6.1. failure to ensure the good conduct of its Team Official Delegation may result in the Participating Club being issued with a fine;
  - 4.3.6.2. the AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Committee may issue further sanctions at its discretion
- 4.3.7. observe the Official Countdown and all other Match-related protocol notified by the AFC
- 4.3.8. accept all the arrangements made by the Organising Association in agreement with the AFC;
- 4.3.9. attend and participate in all official activities and events, including without limitation any team arrival meeting, match coordination meeting, press conferences, and other media and marketing activities in accordance with the instructions issued by the AFC;
  - 4.3.9.1. failure to attend and/or fully participate in any official activity or event shall result in the Participating Club being fined at least USD10,000;
  - 4.3.9.2. the AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Committee may issue further sanctions at its discretion;
- 4.3.10. provide to the AFC, free of charge, prior to the Competition, any photographs, audio/visual materials and/or information regarding the Member Association, Participating Club, Participating Player and/or Participating Officials and approved Indoor Stadium including

without limitation statistics, historical information and any further information as requested and in accordance with instructions issued by the AFC;

- 4.3.11. link the official URL for the Competition on its official website; and
  - 4.3.12. not establish any digital, media or social media platform without the involvement and express approval of the AFC.
- 4.4. Each Participating Club shall, at its own expense, be solely responsible throughout the Competition for:
- 4.4.1. the procurement of insurance coverage of its Team Official Delegation which shall include without limitation hospital and surgical insurance, travel insurance, and/or sports equipment insurance for all Matches;
  - 4.4.2. all other necessary insurance policies, which must provide an appropriate guaranteed sum for injury and damage to persons, objects, and property, and correspond with the specific circumstances of the Participating Clubs in the Competition. The AFC must be notified of all insurance policies, and may request copies of any and all policies at its discretion;
  - 4.4.3. payment of incidental expenses and for any costs incurred by its Team Official Delegation (*cf.* Article 38);
  - 4.4.4. payment of any costs of extending the stay of any member of its Team Official Delegation in any Organising Association (*cf.* Article 38);
  - 4.4.5. obtaining visas to enter the territory of any Organising Association no later than thirty (30) days prior to its first Match at that Venue. This includes all costs related to the visa application process; and
  - 4.4.6. payment of all taxes, fees, duties and any other costs related to the importation and/or exportation of equipment, merchandise and/or goods to be used for the Competition.
- 4.5. Each Participating Club shall indemnify, defend, and hold the AFC and all of its officers, directors, employees, representatives, agents, and all other auxiliary persons free and harmless against any and all liabilities, obligations, losses, damages, penalties, claims, actions, fines, and expenses (including reasonable legal expenses) of whatsoever kind or nature resulting from, arising out of, or attributable to, any non-compliance with these Regulations by the Member Association, their Team Official Delegation, their affiliates and any third-parties contracted to the Member Association.

- 4.6. Participating Clubs may qualify directly and shall undertake, if required, to take part in the following competitions:
  - 4.6.1. any intercontinental competition(s) arranged by FIFA and/or the AFC with other confederations.
- 4.7. Participating Clubs are not authorised to represent the AFC or the Competition without the prior written approval of the AFC.
- 4.8. All Participating Players and Participating Officials shall ensure their presence at the AFC Awards Night in the calendar year if they are nominated for an award. A written approval of the AFC is required in the event the nominated Participating Players and Participating Officials are unable to attend.
- 4.9. Each Participating Club shall ensure that any decision made by the AFC relating to its duties and responsibilities is enforced immediately.

## SECTION 3: ENTRY, WITHDRAWAL, MATCH SCHEDULE, COMPETITION SYSTEM

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### 5. Entry

- 5.1. The AFC shall invite eligible Participating Clubs to enter the Competition.
- 5.2. Eligible Participating Clubs shall complete a PTA and submit it to the AFC in accordance with Article 4 to confirm their entry into the Competition.
  - 5.2.1. The name and/or logo of a Participating Club shall not directly refer to the name and/or logo of any third-party entity, whether or not that third-party entity is a commercial partner or sponsor of the Participating Club.
  - 5.2.2. The AFC may grant an exception if one (1) of the following requirements are met:
    - 5.2.2.1. the name of the Participating Club is a pre-existing name with long-term use. The third-party entity must have been directly involved in the creation of the Participating Club itself (by financial or other means); or
    - 5.2.2.2. the Participating Club previously competed in an AFC competition utilising the name.
  - 5.2.3. Participating Clubs are not permitted to change their name after the first Match in the Competition has been played.

### 6. Withdrawal Prior to Commencement of the Competition

- 6.1. Any Participating Club that enters the Competition undertakes that it shall play all of its Matches in the Competition until elimination.
- 6.2. In the case of a Participating Club withdrawing or being excluded from the Competition, the AFC Futsal and Beach Soccer Committee shall be responsible for making any necessary decisions, including without limitation whether to:
  - 6.2.1. replace the Participating Club;
  - 6.2.2. change the competition system (*cf.* Article 9); and/or
  - 6.2.3. change the technical rules (*cf.* Section 4).
- 6.3. Any Participating Club that withdraws from the Competition shall be fined:
  - 6.3.1. up to thirty (30) days before its first Match: at least USD10,000;

- 6.3.2. less than thirty (30) days before its first Match: at least USD20,000.
- 6.4. The AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Committee may impose further sanctions at its discretion.

## 7. Withdrawal After Commencement of the Competition

- 7.1. Any Participating Club that:
  - 7.1.1. withdraws from the Competition after it has commenced; or
  - 7.1.2. does not report for a Match; or
  - 7.1.3. refuses to continue a Match; or
  - 7.1.4. leaves the Indoor Stadium prior to the completion of a Match,shall be considered to have withdrawn from the Competition after its commencement.
- 7.2. A Participating Club that withdraws from the Competition after it has commenced shall:
  - 7.2.1. have all its Matches cancelled and considered null and void. For the avoidance of doubt, all points and goals in those Matches shall not be taken into consideration when determining the final rankings in the Group Stage pursuant to Article 10.5;
  - 7.2.2. be required to pay compensation for any and all damages or losses suffered by, where applicable, the other Participating Clubs, the AFC, the AFC Commercial Rights Partner, Official Licensees, and the Member Associations. The amount of compensation shall be determined by the AFC Executive Committee;
  - 7.2.3. be disqualified from participating in the next edition of the Competition;
  - 7.2.4. be disqualified from participating in any tournaments listed in Article 4.6, if qualification has been attained;
  - 7.2.5. be fined:
    - 7.2.5.1. USD25,000 if it withdraws after the commencement of the Group Stage; or

7.2.5.2. USD50,000 if it withdraws after the commencement of the Knockout Stage.

7.2.6. be referred to the AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Committee which may impose further sanctions at its discretion; and

7.2.7. return to the AFC any subsidy that had been paid in support of their participation in the Competition or if not yet paid, forfeit their right to that subsidy.

7.3. Articles 7.1 and 7.2 are not applicable in cases of Force Majeure recognised by the AFC Futsal and Beach Soccer Committee.

7.4. The AFC Futsal and Beach Soccer Committee shall take whatever action it deems necessary in cases of Force Majeure.

## 8. Match Schedule

8.1. All Matches shall be played in accordance with the AFC Competitions Calendar.

8.2. The Match Schedule shall be determined following the official draw for the Competition.

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

## 9. Competition System

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

9.1.1. the Group Stage; and

9.1.2. the Knockout Stage.

9.2. The AFC Futsal and Beach Soccer Committee shall decide upon the format of the competition system.

## 10. Group Stage

10.1. Sixteen (16) Teams will be participating in this edition of the AFC Futsal Club Competition 2020. The Participating Clubs shall be divided into four (4) groups of four (4) teams each as follows:

Group A	Group B	Group C	Group D
A1	B1	C1	D1
A2	B2	C2	D2
A3	B3	C3	D3
A4	B4	C4	D4

- 10.2. Each Participating Club shall play against the other Participating Clubs within its group once in accordance with the Match Schedule.
- 10.3. The duration of Matches shall be played in accordance with Article 13.
- 10.4. At the conclusion of each Match:
  - 10.4.1. three (3) points shall be awarded to the winner;
  - 10.4.2. one (1) point shall be awarded to each Participating Club for a draw;
  - 10.4.3. zero (0) points shall be awarded to the loser.
- 10.5. The ranking in each group shall be determined in descending order as follows:
  - 10.5.1. higher number of points obtained in group Matches;
  - 10.5.2. if two (2) or more Participating Clubs are equal on points, the following criteria are applied to determine the ranking (in descending order):
    - Head-to-Head criteria
      - 10.5.2.1. higher number of points obtained in the group Matches between the Participating Clubs in question;
      - 10.5.2.2. superior goal-difference from the group Matches between the Participating Clubs in question;
      - 10.5.2.3. higher number of goals scored in the group Matches between the Participating Clubs in question;
    - Tiebreaker
      - 10.5.2.4. if, after having applied the Head-to-Head criteria, two (2) or more Participating Clubs still have an equal ranking, the Head-to-Head criteria shall be reapplied exclusively to the Matches between the Participating Clubs in question to determine their final rankings. If this is unsuccessful, the Group Results criteria shall apply;
    - Group Results criteria
      - 10.5.2.5. superior goal-difference from all group Matches played;
      - 10.5.2.6. higher number of goals scored from all group Matches played;
      - 10.5.2.7. Kicks from the Penalty Mark only if two (2) Participating Clubs are involved and they are both on the Field of Play;

10.5.2.8. the lower score, calculated according to the number of yellow and red cards received in group Matches (Appendix 1); or

10.5.2.9. the drawing of lots.

10.6. At the conclusion of the Group Stage:

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

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

## 11. Knockout Stage

11.1. The Knockout Stage shall consist of the Quarter Finals, Semi Finals, 3/4 Playoff, and Final.

11.2. Each round of the Knockout Stage shall be conducted in accordance with the Match Schedule.

11.3. The duration of Matches, including Extra Time and Kicks from the Penalty Mark (if required), shall be played in accordance with Articles 13 to 15.

11.4. At the conclusion of each Quarter Final:

11.4.1. the winner shall qualify for the Semi Finals; and

11.4.2. the loser shall be eliminated from the Competition.

11.5. At the conclusion of each Semi Final:

11.5.1. the winner shall qualify for the Final; and

11.5.2. the loser shall qualify for the 3/4 Playoff.

11.6. At the conclusion of the 3/4 Playoff:

11.6.1. the winner of the 3/4 Playoff shall be declared Third-Place; and

11.6.2. the loser shall be declared Fourth-Place.

11.7. At the conclusion of the Final:

11.7.1. the winner shall be declared Champion; and

11.7.2. the loser shall be declared Runner-Up.



## SECTION 4: TECHNICAL RULES

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### 12. Matches Played in Accordance with the Futsal Laws of the Game

- 12.1. All Matches shall be played in accordance with the Futsal Laws of the Game.
- 12.2. The nine (9) substitutes listed on a Match Starting List (*cf.* Article 32) may take part in the relevant Match. There is no limit on the number of substitutions.
- 12.3. If a Participating Club at any stage of a Match is only able to field fewer than three (3) players, the Match shall be abandoned and Article 17.5 shall apply.

### 13. Duration of Matches

- 13.1. Each Match shall last forty (40) minutes, comprising of two (2) periods of twenty (20) minutes each (hereinafter, “normal playing time”).
- 13.2. There shall be an interval of fifteen (15) minutes between the periods, commencing from the whistle ending the first period and ending upon the whistle starting the second period.
- 13.3. A Participating Club that causes a delay in the commencement of the first period of the Match and/or the second period of the Match may be sanctioned by the AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Committee.
- 13.4. Each Participating Club may call for one (1) time-out per half, consisting of one (1) minute.
  - 13.4.1. Participating Officials are authorised to request the Third Referee and/or the Timekeeper (if there is no Third Referee) for a one (1) minute time-out using the form and/or document provided by the AFC. The Timekeeper grants the time-out when the Participating Club that has requested it is in possession of the ball and the ball is out of play, using a different whistle or acoustic signal than that used by the Referees.

### 14. Extra Time

- 14.1. If no winner is determined at the end of normal playing time during the Knock-Out Stage, Extra Time shall be played.
  - 14.1.1. There shall be no Extra Time in the 3/4 Playoff. The Winner shall be determined by progressing straight to Kicks from the Penalty Mark.
- 14.2. Extra Time shall consist of two (2) periods of five (5) minutes, with an interval of five (5) minutes at the end of normal playing time, but no interval between

the periods of Extra Time. As a rule, the Participating Players shall remain on the Field of Play during this five (5) minute break at the end of normal playing time at the discretion of the referees.

- 14.3. A Participating Club that causes a delay in the commencement of the first period of Extra Time and/or the second period of Extra Time may be sanctioned by the AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Committee.
- 14.4. There shall be no time-outs provided to the Participating Clubs during Extra Time.

## 15. Determining the Winner by Kicks from the Penalty Mark

- 15.1. If a Match is level after the two (2) periods of Extra Time, Kicks from the Penalty Mark shall be taken to determine the winner, in accordance with the procedures described in the Futsal Laws of the Game.
- 15.2. The Referee shall decide which goal shall be used:
  - 15.2.1. he may choose the goal without tossing a coin for reasons, without limitation, including safety and security, state of the Field of Play, and lighting quality; and
  - 15.2.2. his decision is final and binding and not appealable.
- 15.3. To ensure that this procedure is strictly observed, the Referee shall be assisted by the Second and Third Referees and the Timekeeper, who shall also note down the number of the Participating Players on each Participating Club who take Kicks from the Penalty Mark.
- 15.4. If Kicks from the Penalty Mark cannot be completed because of any Force Majeure reasons, the result shall be decided by the drawing of lots by the Referee in the presence of the AFC Match Commissioner, AFC General Coordinator and the two (2) captains of the Participating Clubs.
- 15.5. If, through the fault of a Participating Club, Kicks from the Penalty Mark cannot be completed, Article 7 of these Regulations shall apply.

## 16. Cancellation of Matches

- 16.1. If a Match cannot commence for any reason, the following procedure shall be followed:
  - 16.1.1. the Match must be delayed for a minimum of thirty (30) minutes. During this delay, the Referee shall decide that the Match can commence prior to the completion of the delay;

- 16.1.2. following the first delay, either:
  - 16.1.2.1. an additional delay of thirty (30) minutes shall occur if in the discretion of the Referee this second delay may allow the Match to commence; or
  - 16.1.2.2. the Match is declared cancelled by the Referee;
- 16.1.3. following two (2) delays of thirty (30) minutes, the Referee must declare whether the Match can commence or the Match shall be cancelled.
- 16.2. For any match which is cancelled as a result of Force Majeure, the AFC Futsal and Beach Soccer Committee shall decide on the matter at its sole discretion and take whatever action is deemed necessary.
- 16.3. Any Match which is cancelled, except in cases of Force Majeure recognised by the AFC Futsal and Beach Soccer Committee, may lead to the imposition of sanctions by the AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Committee against the relevant party that has caused the cancellation in accordance with the AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Code.

## 17. Abandonment of Matches

- 17.1. If a Match is stopped by the Referee for any reasons except for that set out in Article 12.3, the following procedure shall be followed:
  - 17.1.1. the Match is stopped for thirty (30) minutes. During this stoppage, the Referee may decide that the Match can commence prior to the completion of the stoppage;
  - 17.1.2. subsequent to the first stoppage, either:
    - 17.1.2.1. an additional stoppage of thirty (30) minutes shall occur if in the discretion of the Referee this second stoppage may allow the Match to be resumed; or
    - 17.1.2.2. the Match is declared abandoned by the Referee;
  - 17.1.3. following two (2) delays of thirty (30) minutes, the Referee must declare whether the Match can commence or the Match shall be cancelled.
- 17.2. For any Match which is abandoned as a result of Force Majeure, the AFC Futsal and Beach Soccer Committee shall decide on the matter at its sole discretion and take whatever action is deemed necessary.

- 17.3. Any Match which is abandoned, except in cases of Force Majeure recognised by the AFC Futsal and Beach Soccer Committee, may lead to the imposition of sanctions by the AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Committee against the relevant party that has caused the abandonment in accordance with the AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Code.
- 17.4. Should the AFC, pursuant to Article 17.2, determine that an abandoned Match should be rescheduled and completed, the following principles shall apply:
- 17.4.1. the Match shall recommence with the same score at the minute and seconds at which play was interrupted rather than being replayed in full;
  - 17.4.2. the Match shall recommence with the same Participating Players on the Field of Play at the time it was initially abandoned;
  - 17.4.3. no additional substitutes may be added to the Player Selection List or Match Starting List;
  - 17.4.4. any Participating Player sent off during the abandoned Match may not be replaced;
  - 17.4.5. any sanction imposed before the Match was abandoned remains valid for the remainder of the rescheduled Match; and
  - 17.4.6. any other matters not set out above shall be decided by the AFC Futsal and Beach Soccer Committee in its sole discretion.
- 17.5. If a Match is stopped by the Referee before the end of normal playing time or during any Extra Time as a result of a Participating Club being able to only field fewer than three (3) Participating Players, the Match shall be declared abandoned and the Participating Club who is able to field more than three (3) Participating Players shall be declared the Winner by the score 5-0, or the score at the time of abandonment, whichever is higher.

## 18. Indoor Stadium

- 18.1. Indoor Stadium to be utilised shall be nominated by the Organising Association and are subject to inspection and confirmation by the AFC.
- 18.1.1. The AFC reserves the right to refuse the nomination of any Indoor Stadium and require the Organising Association to nominate an alternate Indoor Stadium.
- 18.2. If at any time during the Competition the AFC General Secretariat deems that, for whatever reason, an Indoor Stadium is not fit to stage a Match, it shall

consult with the relevant Organising Association and propose an alternate Indoor Stadium.

18.3. The Organising Association shall ensure that no Matches and/or other activities (whether sporting, commercial or otherwise) are held at any Indoor Stadium approved to host Matches during the period starting ten (10) days prior to the first Match at the relevant Indoor Stadium and ending one (1) day after the last Match at the relevant Indoor Stadium, unless written permission has been obtained from the AFC.

18.3.1. The Organising Association that fails to comply with Article 18.3 shall be fined at least USD5,000.

18.3.2. The AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Committee may issue further sanctions at its discretion.

18.4. Unless otherwise specified or directed by the AFC, each Indoor Stadium approved to host Matches shall be made available to the AFC as of ten (10) days prior to the first Match at the Indoor Stadium until one (1) day after the last Match at the Indoor Stadium.

18.5. The Indoor stadium nominated to host the Matches shall be in accordance with all safety and security standards issued by or contained within relevant AFC guidelines, directives, or circulars.

18.6. Smoking is strictly prohibited within any Indoor stadium, and in particular, in the technical area, the vicinity of the Field of Play, or within competition areas which includes, without limitation, the team dressing room.

## 19. Team Bench and Technical Area

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

19.2. All individuals on the team bench must wear kit that contrasts with the kit of the Participating Players and Match Officials on the Field of Play. This kit must comply with the AFC Equipment Regulations (*cf.* Section 8).

19.3. Team 'A' shall occupy the team bench on the left when facing the Field of Play when viewed from the position of the Timekeeper bench.

19.4. The use of any electronic communication equipment and/or systems between and/or amongst Participating Players and Participating Officials is not permitted.

19.5. Individuals serving a Match suspension, non-selected Participating Players, and Participating Officials part of a Team Official Delegation but not listed in 'Officials on the Team Bench List' are not permitted to enter the Field of Play and/or sit on the team bench. They may sit at the designated area in the stand for Team Official Delegations.

## 20. Warming up

20.1. Each Participating Club shall be entitled to warm-up on the Field of Play before a Match in accordance with the Official Countdown.

20.2. During a Match, a maximum of five (5) Participating Players from each Participating Club may warm-up, but without the ball, at the designated area behind their team bench, or alternatively in a space determined by the AFC General Coordinator and/or the AFC Match Commissioner.

## 21. Official Training Sites

21.1. Official Training Sites shall contain a fully-equipped training field prepared to Match-condition.

21.1.1. The Organising Association that fails to comply with Article 21.1 shall be fined at least USD5,000.

21.1.2. The AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Committee may issue further sanctions at its discretion.

21.2. The Organising Association shall ensure that no Matches and/or other activities are held at any Official Training Site as of seven (7) days prior to the Competition, unless written permission has been obtained from the AFC.

21.3. Participating Clubs must solely utilise Official Training Sites for any official training from two (2) days prior to their first Match until their last match of the Competition.

21.4. Official Training Sites must comply with all relevant AFC regulations, and any other safety and security standards issued by or contained within relevant AFC guidelines, directives, or circulars.

21.5. The AFC may refuse the nomination of an Official Training Site and require the Organising Association to nominate an alternate Official Training Site.

21.6. If at any time during the Competition the AFC General Secretariat deems that, for whatever reason, an Official Training Site is not fit to stage an official training, it shall consult with the Organising Association and propose an alternate Official Training Site.

## 22. Official Training at Indoor stadium

- 22.1. Depending on the condition of the Field of Play, each Participating Club is entitled to an official training of forty-five (45) minutes duration in the Indoor Stadium in which they are due to play either one (1) or two (2) days prior to their first Match at approximately the same time as the Match kick-off.
- 22.2. The Field of Play must be prepared to Match-condition for official training. If the Field of Play is not in Match-condition, the AFC General Coordinator and/or the AFC Match Commissioner may shorten or cancel the official training and direct the Participating Clubs to inspect the Field of Play and have a familiarisation session instead.
- 22.3. If a Participating Club chooses not to train at an Indoor Stadium, they must provide the AFC General Coordinator and/or AFC Match Commissioner with the time and location of their official training at another designated Official Training Site approved by the AFC. This shall be treated as their official training and they shall forfeit the right to train at that particular Indoor Stadium for the duration of the Competition.
- 22.4. The AFC shall determine the official training schedule for the Participating Clubs. If a Participating Club wishes to cancel any Official Training, they shall provide twenty-four (24) hours' notice to the AFC.
- 22.5. Participating Clubs are not permitted to organise any friendly matches subject but not limited to during their official training or any other activity within Indoor stadium or Official Training Sites from three (3) days prior to the first Match of the Competition throughout the duration of the Competition.

## 23. Futsal Balls

- 23.1. The Futsal balls for the Competition shall be selected and supplied by the AFC.
- 23.2. Each Participating Club shall receive ten (10) training balls upon their official arrival date (as determined by the AFC) which they are required to bring to and utilise throughout the Competition.
- 23.3. Participating Clubs are only permitted to use the training balls provided by the AFC for training and warming-up purposes.

## SECTION 5: TEAM OFFICIAL DELEGATION

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### 24. Team Official Delegation

- 24.1. The AFC shall issue each individual registered to participate in the Competition with an Accreditation Card bearing a photograph and personal details.
- 24.2. The Accreditation Card remains the property of the AFC at all times. The AFC may revoke, cancel, and/or confiscate an Accreditation Card at any time for any reason, including without limitation, misuse or abuse. Any such decision is final and binding and not appealable.
- 24.3. The Team Official Delegation shall be granted full access to all official Competition areas, including the Field of Play and other necessary Controlled Accessed Areas, as determined by the AFC
- 24.4. Participating Clubs shall ensure that no unauthorised persons are permitted entry into the team bus, team dressing room, Field of Play, or any other Controlled Access Area without being in possession of the necessary Accreditation Card.
- 24.5. Participating Clubs shall register a Team Official Delegation, subject to the conditions set out below, comprising of fourteen (14) Participating Players and six (6) Participating Officials.
  - 24.5.1. Each Participating Club may nominate an additional four (4) officials who shall receive the same Accreditation Card as the six (6) Participating Officials included in the Team Official Delegation.
  - 24.5.2. All costs related to the additional four (4) officials shall be borne by the relevant Participating Club.
- 24.6. Each Participating Club may nominate maximum six (6) Participating Officials to sit on the team bench. The identity of said Participating Officials must be confirmed on the 'Officials on the Team Bench List' to be submitted prior to the commencement of each Match.
- 24.7. Each Team Manager and Team Media Officer shall be responsible for coordinating all Participating Club and media-related matters with the AFC. They shall participate in all Official Functions related to Matches in the Competition, including without limitation the Match Coordination Meeting and all press conferences.

### 25. Eligibility of Players

- 25.1. Each Participating Club shall ensure that all players:



- 25.1.1. are duly registered with the AFC pursuant to these Regulations; and
  - 25.1.2. are duly registered by the Participating Club with its Member Association pursuant to its transfer rules and those set out in the FIFA Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players.
- 25.2. Individuals who meet the criteria set out in Article 25.1 are Participating Players and eligible to participate in the Competition, subject to the provisions of the AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Code.
- 25.3. The approval of the registration of a Participating Player by the AFC General Secretariat does not automatically provide for the eligibility of the Participating Player. Each Participating Club is responsible for and bears the onus of fielding only eligible Participating Players in a Match. Failure to do so shall lead to the consequences stipulated in the AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Code.
- 25.3.1. The AFC General Secretariat makes all decisions regarding player registration.
  - 25.3.2. Decisions to reject the registration of a player may be appealed directly to the Court of Arbitration for Sport in accordance with Article 64.
- 25.4. A Participating Player shall be deemed ineligible, without limitation, if:
- 25.4.1. there is a violation of Article 25.1; or
  - 25.4.2. he participates in a Match contrary to a decision of the AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Committee, these Regulations, or the operation of the AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Code; or
  - 25.4.3. the AFC determines that any document submitted during registration is false, falsified or forged.

## 26. Registration of Players

- 26.1. There are three (3) stages of player registration:
- 26.1.1. Preliminary Registration (*cf.* Article 29);
  - 26.1.2. Final Registration: (*cf.* Article 30);
  - 26.1.3. Player Selection List: (*cf.* Article 31).

- 26.2. Throughout the Competition, each Participating Player shall wear the same number allocated during the Final Registration. Jersey number 1 shall be reserved for a goalkeeper.
- 26.3. All Participating Players will be issued with Accreditation Cards. Should a card be misplaced, the relevant Participating Club shall be required to pay USD1,000 as a replacement production fee.
- 26.4. Should the AFC not receive the “AFC Official Registration for Players” via AFCAS with all required documents by the stipulated deadline, the Participating Club concerned shall be considered to have withdrawn from the Competition in accordance with Article 6. Proof of submission by facsimile, courier and/or email will not be accepted.

## 27. Documents for Registration of Players

- 27.1. Participating Players must be registered online via the AFCAS online registration with the supporting documents set out below:
  - 27.1.1. a colour copy of a valid passport of the country he wishes to represent, containing the full name, passport number, date of birth, place of birth, date of issue, date of expiry and nationality of the relevant individual. Group passports shall not be accepted;
  - 27.1.2. a colour copy of a national identification card (where applicable);
  - 27.1.3. a colour copy of a birth certificate (where requested by the AFC);
  - 27.1.4. one (1) passport-size colour photo (taken within three (3) months);
  - 27.1.5. (for professional players) a copy of a valid contract, entered into between the Participating Player and Participating Club which contains the contract period and is in accordance with the FIFA Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players;
  - 27.1.6. (for amateur players) a copy of the AFC Memorandum of Understanding for Amateur Players template, which is set out at Appendix 4;
  - 27.1.7. (for players who transferred internationally, *cf.* Article 28) a copy of the FIFA International Transfer Certificate (ITC) or evidence to demonstrate that the ITC has been issued in accordance with the FIFA Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players. An ITC may be submitted after the close of the Preliminary Registration only in accordance with Article 28.3.
- 27.2. The AFC reserves the right to request additional documents than those set out

above.

## 28. Player Status

- 28.1. Each Participating Club may register maximum two (2) foreign Participating Players. If two (2) are registered, one (1) must hold the nationality of an AFC Member Association.
- 28.2. Any Participating Player who has acquired a new nationality (e.g. through naturalisation) and wishes to participate in the Competition utilising that nationality must demonstrate, at least, one of the following:
  - 28.2.1. that the nationality was acquired more than five (5) years before the date of the Participating Player's registration for the Competition; or
  - 28.2.2. that he is eligible to participate for the representative team of an AFC Member Association in accordance with Article 5-8 of the Regulation Governing the Application of the FIFA Statutes.
- 28.3. Notwithstanding the foregoing, a Participating Player who failed to satisfy the requirements of Article 28.2 as at 13 September 2017 but who had previously participated in an AFC Club Competition (including the Competition and the AFC Cup) shall be exempt from Article 28.2 for the term of his contract with his current club, provided that such contract was entered into prior to the 13 September 2017 and was duly submitted to the AFC in accordance with the relevant rules. For the avoidance of doubt, this exception shall not apply if the relevant employment contract has been renewed, extended, has expired, has been terminated, and/or the relevant player has registered with another club, at any time after 13 September 2017.
- 28.4. Any Participating Player who is eligible to represent more than one (1) Football Association on account of his nationality of one (1) country (e.g. a player with Chinese nationality may be eligible to represent three (3) different Member Associations) and wishes to participate in the Competition utilising the nationality of a Member Association must demonstrate one (1) of the following:
  - 28.4.1. that he has participated in an official competition for a representative team of the relevant Member Association; or
  - 28.4.2. That he was eligible to participate for a representative team of the relevant Member Association in accordance with the FIFA Regulations Governing the Application of the Statutes at least one (1) year before the date of the Participating Player's registration for the Competition.

- 28.5. Any Participating Player who does not meet the relevant requirements stipulated above shall not be eligible to take part in the Competition utilising that nationality.
- 28.6. A Participating Player cannot change his nationality of registration for the duration of the Competition.
- 28.7. For the purposes of the contract of a Participating Player, the date of registration to a Participating Club shall be:
- 28.7.1. for Participating Players who transferred internationally to the Participating Club, the official date of the ITC submitted in accordance with Article 27; and
  - 28.7.2. for Participating Players who transferred domestically to the Participating Club or are a 'homegrown' player, the official date of the contract submitted in accordance with Article 27.
- 28.8. An ITC shall only be accepted after the close of Preliminary Registration where:
- 28.8.1. the Participating Club entered into a valid contract with the player prior to the close of the Preliminary Registration and submitted this to the AFC; and
  - 28.8.2. a copy of the ITC or evidence to demonstrate that the ITC has been issued in accordance with the FIFA Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players is submitted via the AFCAS online system no more than seven (7) days prior to their first Match of the Competition.

## 29. Preliminary Registration

- 29.1. Each Participating Club shall submit to the AFC via AFCAS its registration of Participating Players and supporting documents in accordance with Article 27.1 latest thirty (30) days prior to the first Match of the Competition.
- 29.2. Each Participating Club shall register minimum fourteen (14) and maximum twenty-five (25) players in the Preliminary Registration squad.
- 29.3. If a Participating Club fails to register minimum fourteen (14) players, it shall be considered to have withdrawn in accordance with Article 6.
- 29.4. Each Participating Club must register minimum three (3) goalkeepers in their Preliminary Registration squad.
- 29.5. Once the Preliminary Registration has been received by the AFC and after the deadline has passed, under no circumstances shall Participating Clubs be

permitted to submit additional names or replace any registered individual, even if their maximum quota of twenty-five (25) has not been met.

### 30. Final Registration

30.1. Each Participating Club shall submit a Final Registration of fourteen (14) players latest ten (10) days prior to the first Match of the Competition.

30.1.1. the Final Registration may only be comprised from those maximum twenty-five (25) players selected in the Preliminary Registration;

30.1.2. the Participating Players must be assigned jerseys numbered 1-14. Jersey number 1 shall be reserved for a goalkeeper. Each Participating Player shall wear the same number allocated in the Final Registration during all Matches in the Competition;

30.2. Each Participating Club must register minimum of two (2) goalkeepers in their Final Registration.

30.3. Once the Final Registration has been received by the AFC, Participating Clubs may replace any of the registered Participating Players up to six (6) hours prior to their first Match in the Competition, subject to the below conditions:

30.3.1. any replacement Participating player(s) must have been registered in the Preliminary Registration;

30.3.2. replacement Participating Players shall only be allocated vacant shirt numbers;

30.3.3. to replace a Participating Player, a Participating Club must provide his Accreditation Card to the AFC and shall receive the Accreditation Card of the replacement Participating Player in exchange;

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

### 31. Player Selection List

31.1. For all Matches, each Participating Club will receive a 'Player Selection List' on which the numbers and full names (last name, first name) of the Participating Players are listed prior to their arrival at the Indoor Stadium.

31.2. Each Participating Club must mark on the 'Player Selection List' the starting five (5), including the team captain, and up to the maximum number of substitutes specified in these Regulations.

- 31.2.1. Each Participating Player who is marked on the Player Selection List must be available at the 'Player and Equipment Check' undertaken by the AFC Match Commissioner on Match day.
- 31.3. Each Participating Club must hand their 'Player Selection List' signed by the Head Coach or the Team Manager together with the 'Officials on the Substitution Bench' form with the names of the Participating Officials who shall be entitled to sit on the team bench in accordance with these Regulations to the AFC Match Commissioner by latest ninety (90) minutes prior to the commencement of each Match.

## 32. Match Starting List

- 32.1. Upon receipt of the 'Player Selection List', the AFC Match Commissioner will issue, through AFCAS, the 'Match Starting List'.
- 32.2. The 'Match Starting List' shall be signed by the AFC Match Commissioner, whose signature will make it an official document.
- 32.3. The AFC Match Commissioner will ask to see the Accreditation Cards and playing kits of the Participating Players listed on the Match Starting List seventy-five (75) minutes before the Match. Each Participating Player must be in possession of their Accreditation Card. Only those Participating Players possessing an Accreditation Card are entitled to participate in Matches.
- 32.4. Following the production of the Match Starting List but prior to the commencement of the Match:
- 32.4.1. If any of the five (5) Participating Players selected to start the Match are unable to start for any reason, they may be replaced by any of the substitutes listed on the Match Starting List.
- 32.4.2. The Team Manager for the Participating Club shall immediately submit an updated 'Player Selection List' to the AFC Match Commissioner, who shall produce an updated 'Match Starting List'.
- 32.4.3. There is no limit to the number of replacements.
- 32.4.4. The replaced Participating Player(s) shall no longer be eligible to participate in the Match. The Participating Club shall not be entitled to add any further substitutes; the number of substitutes shall be reduced accordingly.
- 32.4.5. The replaced Participating Player(s) may still sit on the team bench during the Match. If so, they may be subject to doping control.

### 33. Registration of Officials

- 33.1. There shall only be one (1) registration period for Participating Officials for the Competition.
- 33.2. Each Participating Club shall submit via AFCAS online registration the supporting documents in accordance with Article 34 latest thirty (30) days prior to the first Match of the Competition.
- 33.3. Each Participating Club shall register minimum three (3) and maximum ten (10) Participating Officials.
- 33.4. Up to six (6) Participating Officials may be registered for each Match. The following three (3) Participating Officials must be registered in the 'Officials on the Substitution Bench' Form:
  - 33.4.1. Head Coach;
  - 33.4.2. Team Manager; and
  - 33.4.3. Team Doctor or Physiotherapist (or equivalent qualification).
- 33.5. Each Participating Club shall register any other three (3) Participating Officials for any other positions, including without limitation:
  - 33.5.1. Team Media Officer;
  - 33.5.2. Assistant Coach;
  - 33.5.3. Fitness Coach;
  - 33.5.4. GK Coach;
  - 33.5.5. Physiotherapist (sports trainer, physical trainer or similar function);
  - 33.5.6. Interpreter (the Team Liaison Officer may be registered as interpreter);
  - 33.5.7. Security Officer;
  - 33.5.8. Technical Officer; or
  - 33.5.9. Kitman.
- 33.6. Office Bearers (e.g. President, Vice President, Treasurer, Members of the Board) of the Participating Club or its Member Association may be registered as Participating Officials.

- 33.7. Should the Participating Club nominate less than six (6) Participating Officials on the “Officials on the Substitution Bench” Form, the number of Participating Officials permitted on the team bench shall reduce proportionately.
- 33.8. Each Participating Club is entitled to register a ‘Video Analyst’ who shall be the only member of a Team Official Delegation entitled to record Matches in the Competition. This recording shall be strictly used only for technical purposes and should not interfere with Match operations or be utilised by any Broadcast Licensees.
- 33.9. All Participating Officials will be issued with official eligibility cards. Should a card be misplaced, the Participating Club shall be required to pay USD1,000 as a replacement production fee.
- 33.10. Should the AFC not receive the “AFC Official Registration for Officials” via AFCAS with all required documents by the stipulated deadline, the Participating Club shall be considered to have withdrawn from the Competition in accordance with Article 6. Proof of submission by facsimile, courier and/or email will not be accepted.
- 33.11. Once the registration of Participating Officials has been received by the AFC, Participating Clubs may replace any of the listed Participating Officials at any stage of the Competition with twenty-four (24) hours’ notice to the AFC, subject to the below conditions:
- 33.11.1. To replace a Participating Official, a Participating Club must provide his Accreditation Card to the AFC and shall receive the Accreditation Card of the replacement Participating Official in exchange.
- 33.11.2. Replacement Participating Officials shall only be eligible to participate in the Competition after receiving their Accreditation Card.

#### 34. Documents for Registration of Officials

- 34.1. Participating Officials must be registered via the AFCAS online registration with the supporting documents set out below (unless already previously submitted and available in AFCAS):
- 34.1.1. a colour copy of a validly-issued passport, containing the full name, passport number, date of birth, place of birth, date of issue, date of expiry and nationality of the relevant individual. Group passports shall not be accepted;
- 34.1.2. a colour copy of a national identification card (where applicable);
- 34.1.3. one (1) passport-size colour photo (taken within three (3) months);



34.1.4. evidence of their qualification based upon his function:

34.1.4.1. Head Coach: AFC Futsal Level Two coaching certificate or equivalent license as decided by the AFC Technical Division;

34.1.4.2. Assistant Coach, Fitness Coach and Goalkeeper Coach: AFC Futsal Level One coaching certificate or equivalent license as decided by the AFC Technical Division;

34.1.4.3. Team Doctor: relevant medical qualification.

34.2. The AFC reserves the right to request additional documents.

### 35. Size of Delegation at Matches

35.1. Each Participating Club shall register a Team Official Delegation comprising of fourteen (14) Participating Players and six (6) Participating Officials.

35.2. The Team Official Delegation shall be granted full access to all official Competition areas, including the Field of Play and other necessary Controlled Accessed Areas, as determined by the AFC.

## SECTION 6: LOGISTICAL ARRANGEMENTS

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### 36. Arrival and Departure

- 36.1. Each Participating Club shall arrive at the official hotel at the Venue in the Competition two (2) days before the commencement of their Group's first Match.
- 36.2. Each Participating Club shall depart the Host Country the day following their final Match in the Competition.

### 37. Airfares

- 37.1. Each Participating Club is responsible for payment of all airfares (international and domestic airfares) for their Team Official Delegation from:
  - 37.1.1. their departure from the territory of the Member Association (or any other location) to the Venue of their first Match; and
  - 37.1.2. their departure from the Venue of their final Match.
- 37.2. Each Participating Club is required to purchase published-fare air tickets which are endorsable and allows change of travel date (with or without penalty) for their Team Official Delegation, travelling to the Venue of their first Match and from the Venue of their final Match in the Competition.
- 37.3. Any costs relating to non-compliance shall be borne by the Participating Club.

### 38. Accommodation, Meals, and Refreshments for Participating Clubs

- 38.1. Only official hotels approved by the AFC shall be used as accommodation by the Team Official Delegations during the Competition.
- 38.2. Each Participating Club, from the arrival of their Team Official Delegation (as approved by the AFC) until one (1) day after their final Match in the Competition, shall be provided:
  - 38.2.1. Accommodation in an international five-star hotel for the Team Official Delegation (or an international four-star hotel if there exists no international five-star hotels in the Venue), not exceeding twenty (20) persons, which shall comprise of seven (7) double rooms and six (6) single rooms. All rooms where possible shall be on the same floor or split to two (2) floors, subject to the hotel layout;
  - 38.2.2. one (1) additional empty room in the hotel for the purposes of medical treatment and storage;

- 38.2.3. one (1) briefing room shall be arranged and it shall be shared by two (2) Participating Clubs for the duration of the relevant stage of the Competition equipped with LCD projector, screen and audio system, whiteboard or flipchart with adequate supply of paper and assorted markers;
  - 38.2.4. three (3) meals per day (suitable international and 'pork-free' buffet style) and one (1) additional packed light snacks on respective Teams' Match Days in a dedicated dining area for the Team Official Delegation (not exceeding twenty (20) persons);
  - 38.2.5. minimum six (6) litres of water per person per day for the Team Official Delegation (not exceeding twenty (20) persons), as well as ice and refreshments;
  - 38.2.6. daily laundry services (but no dry cleaning or pressing) for playing and training outfits (six (6) pieces per day per person) for the Team Official Delegation (not exceeding twenty (20) persons).
- 38.3. Each Participating Club shall pay for incidental expenses incurred by its Team Official Delegation during the course of their stay in the Host Country.
  - 38.4. Each Participating Club shall pay for any costs incurred by additional members of their delegation (exceeding twenty (20) persons).
  - 38.5. Each Participating Club shall pay for any extension of stay in the Host Country for their entire Team Official Delegation, other than where expressly permitted in these Regulations.
  - 38.6. Where there exists genuine unavailability (confirmed by the AFC Travel Office) of flights for a Participating Club to depart the Venue one (1) day after their final Match, the Organising Association shall pay for all expenses of the Participating Club until departure.

#### 39. Team Liaison Officer

- 39.1. Each Participating Club shall be provided with a Team Liaison Officer proficient in English and (if applicable) the local language of the Participating Club.

#### 40. Local Land Transportation

- 40.1. Each Participating Club, from the arrival of their Team Official Delegation (as approved by the AFC) until one (1) day after their final Match in the Competition, shall be provided:

40.1.1. one (1) bus with minimum thirty-five (35) seats; and

40.1.2. one (1) multi-purpose vehicle (MPV).

for transportation of the Team Official Delegation to training, Matches, Official Functions, and airport transfers.

40.2. Each Participating Club shall be provided one (1) additional luggage truck for airport transfers on their arrival and departure from the Competition.

## SECTION 7: MEDIA

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### 41. Media access in Stadia

- 41.1. Representatives of the written press and radio journalists are not permitted on the Field of Play or the area between the boundaries of the Field of Play and the spectators, with the exception of accredited Media who shall carry out their duties in the specific locations assigned to them.
- 41.2. Only photographers, cameramen of the Host Broadcaster and the main visiting Broadcast Licensee and the personnel required to operate the electronic television cameras of the Host Broadcaster are allowed in the area between the boundaries of the Field of Play and the spectators, where they will carry out their work in the specific locations assigned to them.
- 41.3. No Media representatives are permitted to enter any team dressing room at any stage of any Match.
- 41.4. The Organising Association shall ensure that the AFC, the Host Broadcaster, and all Broadcast Licensees have free access to each Indoor Stadium from five (5) days prior to each Match until one (1) day following each Match, to allow for the resolution of any technical issues and for the assembly of the relevant infrastructure required to execute the Media Rights.
- 41.5. The Organising Association is responsible for ensuring that the Media Rights are protected and that no unofficial or unauthorised broadcaster and/or video or ENG camera crews are permitted access to any Indoor Stadium without the prior written permission of the AFC.

### 42. Official Training

- 42.1. All official training is open to the Media.
- 42.2. Should a Participating Club wish to close its official training to the Media, it shall, as a minimum, open the session for the first fifteen (15) minutes.
- 42.3. If an official training occurs at an Indoor Stadium, the areas accessible by the Media shall be the same as available to them during Matches. Access to such areas must be security-controlled by the Organising Association.

### 43. Press Conferences

- 43.1. The Head Coach of each Participating Club is obliged to attend and participate:

- 43.1.1. a pre-Match press conference for each Match in the Competition in which their Participating Club competes, to be held at least one (1) day prior to the commencement of the Competition; and
- 43.1.2. a post-Match press conference for each Match in the Competition in which their Participating Club competes.
- 43.2. Each Team Media Officer must ensure attendance of the Head Coach.
- 43.3. Each Participating Club is responsible (if applicable) for the interpretation of its Head Coach into English. Interpretation into the local language (if applicable) shall be the responsibility of the Organising Association.
- 43.4. Any individual who fails to attend an obligatory press conference shall be fined at least USD10,000. The AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Committee may issue further sanctions at its discretion.
- 43.5. For the avoidance of doubt, the relevant Participating Club shall also be held liable for any breach of Article 43.4 in accordance with Article 4.3.9. The AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Committee may issue further sanctions at its discretion.

#### 44. Mixed Zone

- 44.1. All the players shall pass through the Mixed Zone on their way from their team dressing room to their bus after each Match.
- 44.2. Any individual who fails to pass through the Mixed Zone shall be fined at least USD10,000. The AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Committee may issue further sanctions at its discretion.
- 44.3. For the avoidance of doubt, the relevant Participating Club shall also be held liable for any breach of Article 44.2 in accordance with Article 4.3.9. The AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Committee may issue further sanctions at its discretion.

#### 45. Interviews

- 45.1. If requested by the AFC, each Participating Club shall make their Head Coach and one (1) Participating Player available the day before each Match and/or the day of the Match for an interview of up to fifteen (15) minutes, to be recorded by the Host Broadcaster or other Broadcaster, or by the AFC official website.
- 45.2. All interview locations shall be assigned by an AFC Media Officer and/or the AFC General Coordinator.

- 45.3. Any individual who fails to conduct an interview when requested shall be fined at least USD10,000. The AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Committee may issue further sanctions at its discretion.
- 45.4. For the avoidance of doubt, the relevant Participating Club shall also be held liable for any breach of Article 45.3 in accordance with Article 4.3.9. The AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Committee may issue further sanctions at its discretion.

#### 46. Flash Interviews

- 46.1. Participating Players and Participating Officials are not permitted to give interviews at the Indoor Stadium without the express permission of the AFC.
- 46.2. The AFC Media Officer and/or AFC General Coordinator may designate an area for 'flash interviews' for the Host Broadcaster and the visiting Media Rights-holding Broadcaster (if applicable) following each Match.
- 46.3. If requested by the AFC, any Participating Player and/or Participating Officials shall participate in a 'flash interview' following each Match.
- 46.4. Any individual who fails to conduct a 'flash interview' when requested shall be fined at least USD10,000. The AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Committee may issue further sanctions at its discretion.
- 46.5. For the avoidance of doubt, the relevant Participating Club shall also be held liable for any breach of Article 46.4 in accordance with Article 4.3.9. The AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Committee may issue further sanctions at its discretion.

#### 47. Recording of Matches

- 47.1. Each Participating Club shall be provided with a USB recording of each Match of the Competition by the AFC.

## SECTION 8: EQUIPMENT

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### 48. AFC Equipment Regulations

- 48.1. Each Participating Club must comply with the AFC Equipment Regulations.
- 48.2. The AFC Equipment Regulations are operational from the arrival of each Team Official Delegation at a Controlled Access Area until the departure of each Team Official Delegation from such areas.

### 49. AFC Badges

- 49.1. Each Participating Club shall allow space on its playing jersey to affix:
  - 49.1.1. one (1) Competition sleeve badge on the right arm; and
  - 49.1.2. one (1) AFC campaign sleeve badge on the left arm (if applicable).

### 50. Kit Approval Procedure

- 50.1. Each Participating Club shall submit to the AFC for its approval one (1) sample of all kit, as defined in the AFC Equipment Regulations, latest sixty (60) days prior to the first Match of the Competition.
- 50.2. Each Participating Club shall submit to the AFC for its approval one (1) sample of all other apparel to be worn by their Team Official Delegation within the Controlled Access Areas during the Competition latest sixty (60) days prior to the first Match of the Competition.
- 50.3. Should any equipment submitted to the AFC infringe the AFC Equipment Regulations or these Regulations, the Participating Club shall be required to resubmit corrected equipment to the AFC. In addition, the relevant Participating Club may be required to present additional samples at any time.
- 50.4. The AFC Match Commissioner, the AFC General Coordinator, and/or the AFC Marketing Manager all have the right and duty to inspect the kit of each Team Official Delegation at each Venue and are entitled to seize and send such items to the AFC Headquarters for further inspection following each Match.

### 51. Responsibility

- 51.1. The AFC has the sole authority to approve the equipment (including kit) set out in the AFC Equipment Regulations.
- 51.2. Each Participating Club shall indemnify the AFC and hold the AFC harmless from any and all damages in the event that a conflict arises as a result of any



endorsement deal existing between itself and its sponsor(s) which contravenes the AFC Equipment Regulations

## SECTION 9: TICKETING

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### 52. General Requirements

- 52.1. Tickets shall include printed seat and row numbering and serial numbering, and only include AFC Marks, Competition Marks, and/or marks of Official Licensees approved by the AFC.

### 53. Terms and Conditions

- 53.1. The AFC shall, in collaboration with the Organising Association, issue special Ticketing terms and conditions which are applicable to all Ticket holders.

### 54. Complimentary Tickets

- 54.1. The Organising Association shall provide complimentary Tickets to the AFC for each Match in the Competition as instructed by the AFC.
- 54.2. The Organising Association shall provide the following complimentary Tickets to each Participating Club competing at a Venue which it controls for each Match it participates in:
- 54.2.1. one (1) VVIP Tickets;
  - 54.2.2. two (2) VIP Tickets; and
  - 54.2.3. fifteen (15) Category 1 Tickets.
- 54.3. The AFC shall provide each Participating Club with two (2) Category 1 Tickets for all other Matches of the Competition.

### 55. Purchasable Tickets

- 55.1. The Organising Association must make available at least eight percent (8%) of the net saleable capacity of an Indoor Stadium exclusively to the supporters of each Member Association, in a segregated, safe area to be determined by the AFC and the Organising Association.
- 55.2. This allocation shall be comprised of a mixture of Category 1 and Category 2 Tickets. The number of Tickets to be purchased must be declared by each Member Association in accordance with the Ticketing timeline and guidelines issued by the AFC. Each Member Association is responsible for all Tickets purchased, even if not utilised. The price of the Tickets shall not exceed the price of comparable Tickets that are sold to the general public in the Organising Association.

- 55.3. The Organising Association shall provide the AFC Commercial Rights Partner with the opportunity to buy Tickets at face-value for each Match. The number of Tickets to be purchased must be declared at a time to be mutually agreed between the AFC and the Organising Association.
- 55.4. AFC shall reserve the right to request additional tickets. This ticket request shall be made a month before the commencement of competition.

## SECTION 10: MEDICAL & ANTI-DOPING

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### 56. Medical Facilities and Treatment

56.1. The Organising Association is responsible, for each Participating Club from the arrival of their Team Official Delegation (as approved by the AFC) until one (1) day after their final Match in the Competition, for the costs of the following medical treatments within the Host Country:

56.1.1. outpatient treatment (non-admission to hospital);

56.1.2. minor surgeries (e.g. suturing);

56.1.3. radiological investigations X-ray; and

56.1.4. emergency treatment.

56.2. The Organising Association is responsible for the costs of the medical treatment set out at Article 56.1 for the AFC Delegation from their arrival in the Host Country until their departure from the Host Country.

56.3. Each Participating Club is responsible, for all members of its Team Official Delegation, for the cost of any:

56.3.1. hospitalisation (admission to hospital);

56.3.2. surgical operations not provided for in Article 56.1; and

56.3.3. specialised investigative procedures.

### 57. Pre-Competition Medical Assessment

57.1. Each Participating Club shall ensure that each Participating Player in its Preliminary Registration undergoes a pre-competition medical assessment (PCMA) at least thirty (30) days prior to the first Match of the Competition.

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

57.1.2. The AFC shall provide all Participating Clubs with the PCMA form setting out the necessary matters to be tested, which shall include testing to prevent players from experiencing sudden cardiac death during any Match.

57.1.3. Each Member Association must submit to the AFC latest ten (10) days prior to the first Match of the Competition the following signed documents:

57.1.3.1. “Participating Club Declaration of Agreement to the PCMA”; and

57.1.3.2. for each Participating Player, the “Player and Examining Physician Declaration for PCMA”.

57.1.4. Any player for whom the required documents are not provided is not eligible to be registered in the Final Registration for a Participating Club.

57.2. The AFC Medical Committee may, at its sole discretion, order any further medical evaluation of a Participating Player that it deems necessary. The cost of such further testing shall be borne by the AFC.

## 58. Anti-Doping

58.1. Doping is strictly prohibited. The AFC Anti-Doping Regulations, the AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Code, and all relevant AFC directives in relation to anti-doping are applicable to the Competition.

58.2. The AFC shall inform each Participating Club by means of a circular of the doping control procedure for the Competition.

58.3. The AFC Medical Committee shall be responsible for the approval of the WADA-accredited laboratory which shall carry out the analysis of all doping samples.

## SECTION 11: DISCIPLINARY

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### 59. Disciplinary Measures

- 59.1. All disciplinary measures in relation to the Competition shall be undertaken in accordance with the current AFC Statutes, AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Code and any relevant AFC circular.
- 59.2. The AFC may introduce new disciplinary rules and sanctions for the duration of the Competition. Such rules shall be communicated to the Participating Clubs and their Member Associations one (1) month before the first Match of the Competition at the latest.
- 59.3. All Participating Players agree to:
- 59.3.1. respect the spirit of fair play, non-violence, and the authority of the Match Officials;
  - 59.3.2. behave accordingly; and
  - 59.3.3. refrain from doping (*cf.* Article 58).

### 60. Good Conduct

- 60.1. Each Participating Club is liable for the improper conduct of:
- 60.1.1. any member of its Team Official Delegation; and/or
  - 60.1.2. any person affiliated to it and/or carrying out duties on its behalf throughout the Competition.
- 60.2. For any violation of Article 60.1, the AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Committee may issue any sanction listed in the AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Code.

### 61. Administrative Procedure

- 61.1. Subject to the AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Code, for any offence set out in these Regulations with a listed minimum fine, where it is the first such offence committed by a party:
- 61.1.1. the AFC, after completing its investigation but prior to opening disciplinary proceedings, may write to the party and make an offer to compound the offence and reduce the listed fine by twenty percent (20%) should the party admit to the offence;

- 61.1.2. if the offence is admitted, the AFC shall submit the compounded offence to the Chairperson of the AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Committee for approval;
  - 61.1.2.1. should the party deny the offence, the AFC shall open disciplinary proceedings;
- 61.1.3. upon approval of the Chairperson of the AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Committee, the sanction shall be notified and applied administratively by the AFC;
  - 61.1.3.1. should the Chairperson of the AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Committee not approve the compounded offence, the AFC shall open disciplinary proceedings;
- 61.1.4. by agreeing to compound the offence, the party waives its right to request a motivated decision or appeal the sanction issued;
- 61.1.5. any sanction issued administratively comes into force immediately upon notification in accordance with the AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Code.

## 62. Cautions and Expulsions

- 62.1. All matters relating to cautions and/or expulsions, including the carrying forward of cautions between stages of the Competition, shall be undertaken in accordance with the AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Code and any relevant AFC circular except where expressly set out below.
- 62.2. Any Participating Player who completes the Group Stage having only received one (1) caution shall carry-over that caution to the Quarter Finals.
- 62.3. Any Participating Player who completes the Quarter Finals having only received one (1) caution shall not carry-over that caution to the Semi Finals.

## 63. Protest

- 63.1. A protest is an objection of any kind to any matter that has a direct effect on Matches and any matters related to breach of these Regulations or the AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Code.
- 63.2. Unless otherwise stipulated, to be considered valid, protests shall be:
  - 63.2.1. submitted in writing to the AFC Match Commissioner within two (2) hours of the end of the Match in question;

- 63.2.2. followed up with a full written report, including a copy of the original protest, sent to the AFC General Secretariat within twenty-four (24) hours of the end of the Match; and
- 63.2.3. accompanied by a non-refundable fee of USD500 submitted within twenty-four (24) hours of the end of the Match.
- 63.3. No protest shall be lodged relating to the Referee's decisions regarding facts connected with play. Such decisions are final and binding and not appealable, unless expressly otherwise stipulated in the AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Code.
- 63.4. Should the AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Committee determine that a protest is unfounded or irresponsible, it may impose a fine.
- 63.5. If any of the formal conditions of a protest as set out in these Regulations are not met, such protest shall be disregarded. Following the completion of the final Match of the Competition, all protests shall be disregarded.
- 63.6. The AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Committee shall make decisions on protests. The AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Committee may transfer a protest to the AFC Futsal and Beach Committee for its decision if it is deemed to be purely operational in nature.

## 64. Arbitration

- 64.1. Any dispute in connection with the Competition shall be promptly settled by negotiation.
- 64.2. In compliance with the AFC Statutes, Member Associations, Participating Players, and Participating Officials are prohibited from initiating disputes in an ordinary court of law and must submit to the exclusive jurisdiction of the AFC.
- 64.3. Participating Clubs, Participating Players, and Participating Officials acknowledge and accept that, once all internal channels have been exhausted at the AFC, their sole recourse shall be to the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS). The Code of Sports-related Arbitration shall be applicable. The language of arbitration shall be English. Any hearing, if required, shall take place at the CAS Alternate Hearing Centre in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
- 64.4. The jurisdiction of the CAS to resolve disputes is only available where it has not been expressly excluded or a decision is declared as final and binding and not appealable.



## SECTION 12: ADMINISTRATION

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### 65. Awards

- 65.1. The following awards of the Competition shall be presented:
- 65.1.1. Most Valuable Player;
  - 65.1.2. Top Goalscorer;
  - 65.1.3. AFC Fair Play Award; and
  - 65.1.4. commemorative medals for the Referees of the Final.
- 65.2. The Most Valuable Player of the Competition is awarded to the Participating Player who has a major influence on each of his Matches and the Competition overall.
- 65.3. The Top Goal scorer is awarded to the Participating Player who has scored the highest number of goals in the Competition. In the event of a tie, the number of assists as determined by the AFC Technical Analysis Group will be taken into account to identify the winner. If there is still a tie, the total minutes played will be taken into account with the Participating Player with the lower number of minutes played ranked first.
- 65.4. The AFC Fair Play Award is awarded to the Participating Club who has collected the most Fair Play points in the Competition.
- 65.4.1. The Participating Club may be disqualified if it or any of its Team Official Delegation at any Match is involved in severe misconduct throughout the Competition.
- 65.5. The AFC Futsal and Beach Soccer Committee may decide to introduce further awards.

### 66. Trophy and Medals

- 66.1. The original Competition trophy is presented to the Champion during the prize presentation ceremony and shall remain in the possession of the AFC at all times thereafter. The Champion shall subsequently be awarded a one-third (1/3) size replica by the AFC as its permanent possession.
- 66.2. The Champion Participating Club may produce a copy of the trophy, provided it is clearly marked as a replica and does not exceed 4/5 (four fifths) of the size of the original.
- 66.3. The AFC shall award the following medals:

- 66.3.1. twenty-four (24) medals to the Champion;
  - 66.3.2. twenty-four (24) medals to the Runner-Up;
  - 66.3.3. twenty-four (24) medals to the Third Place.
- 66.4. No additional medals shall be produced by the AFC.

## 67. Prize Presentation Ceremony

- 67.1. A prize presentation ceremony shall be held immediately after the Final to present the awards, trophies, and medals.
- 67.2. The Participating Club and Participating Players that qualify to receive the awards, trophies, and medals shall attend the relevant prize presentation ceremony. Participating Clubs may be represented by the Team Official Delegation for the prize presentation ceremony following the Final.

## 68. Protocol

- 68.1. The AFC Protocol Guidelines shall apply for all Matches.

## 69. Special Instructions

- 69.1. The AFC Futsal and Beach Soccer Committee shall, in conjunction with the Organising Association, issue any instructions necessitated by special circumstances which might arise in the organisation of Matches.
- 69.2. These instructions shall form an integral part of these Regulations.

## 70. Decisions

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

## 71. Amendments

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

## 72. Force Majeure

72.1. The AFC Futsal and Beach Soccer Committee is the only body capable of declaring a Force Majeure event.

## 73. Matters not provided for

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

## 74. Closing Provisions

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

## 75. Enforcement

75.1. These Regulations were ratified by the AFC Executive Committee on 13 March 2020 and came into force immediately.

For the AFC Executive Committee

President:

Shaikh Salman bin Ebrahim Al Khalifa

AFC General Secretary:

Dato' Windsor John

## APPENDIX 1: Determining the Ranking in a Group using Fair Play criteria

1. This Appendix 1 sets out the calculation provided for in Article 10.5 of these Regulations.
2. Each Participating Club shall be awarded points for receiving red and yellow cards as indicated below:
  - 2.1. per yellow card: one (1) point;
  - 2.2. per red card (as a consequence of two yellow cards): three (3) points;
  - 2.3. per red card (direct): three (3) points; and
  - 2.4. per yellow card followed by a red card (direct): four (4) points.
3. The Participating Club receiving the least number of points shall be ranked highest. The remaining Participating Clubs shall be ranked in descending order.

**APPENDIX 2: Registration of Players who have Acquired a New Nationality  
(Documents to be provided to AFC)**

No.	Documents	Attached (please tick)
1.	Official Registration Form for Players with passport photo.	
2	<p>The player must provide <u>one of the following categories of documents</u>:</p> <p>a) 1) Letter from the Member Association of the player's previous nationality or country of birth declaring that the player has never played (either in full or in part) for its representative teams in an official competition of any category of any type of football; and</p> <p>2) Letter from the player declaring that he has never played for any representative teams of any Member Association (either in full or in part) in an official competition of any category of any type of football.</p> <p>b) Decision of the FIFA Players' Status Committee allowing the player to change Association.</p>	
3.	Clear copy of player's passport.	
4.	Clear copy of player's national ID card.	
5.	<p>If the player seeks to rely on 2(a) as opposed to 2(b), they must provide <u>one of the following categories of documents</u>:</p> <p>a) 1) Evidence that their father or mother was born on the territory of the relevant Association; and</p> <p>2) Evidence that such person is their biological parent.</p> <p>b) 1) Evidence that their grandfather or grandmother was born on the territory of the relevant Association; and</p> <p>2) Evidence that such person is their biological grandparent.</p> <p>c) Evidence that the player has lived continuously on the territory of the relevant Association for at least five (5) years after the age of 18.</p> <p>d) Evidence that the player was born on the territory of the relevant Association.</p>	

\* Players relying on category 5 (c) under the age of 23 must provide a decision of the FIFA Players' Status Committee.

APPENDIX 3: Registration of Players who have a Nationality Entitling them to Represent More than One Association (Documents to be provided to AFC)

No.	Documents	Attached (please tick)
1.	Official Registration Form for Players with passport photo.	
2	<p>The player must provide <u>one of the following categories of documents</u>:</p> <p>a) 1) Letter from the Member Association of the player's previous nationality or country of birth declaring that the player has never played (either in full or in part) for its representative teams in an official competition of any category of any type of football; and</p> <p>2) Letter from the player declaring that he has never played for any representative teams of any Member Association (either in full or in part) in an official competition of any category of any type of football.</p>	
b)	Decision of the FIFA Players' Status Committee allowing the player to change Association.	
3.	Clear copy of player's passport	
4.	Clear copy of player's national ID card	
5.	If the player seeks to rely on 2(a) as opposed to 2(b), they must provide <u>one of the following categories of documents</u> :	
a)	<p>1) Evidence that their father or mother was born on the territory of the relevant Association; and</p> <p>2) Evidence that such person is their biological parent.</p>	
b)	<p>1) Evidence that their grandfather or grandmother was born on the territory of the relevant Association; and</p> <p>2) Evidence that such person is their biological grandparent.</p>	
c)	Evidence that the player has lived continuously on the territory of the relevant Association for at least two (2) years.	
d)	Evidence that the player was born on the territory of the relevant Association.	

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING  
(FOR AMATEUR PLAYERS)

Dato' Windsor John  
General Secretary  
Asian Football Confederation

Dear Sir,

IN CONSIDERATION of participating in the AFC Futsal Club Championship 2020, we (Name of Member Association) , (Name of Club) , (Name of Player) HEREBY UNDERTAKE:

1. to comply with all the obligations and requirements imposed on us under the AFC Futsal Club Championship 2020 Regulations and in particular Article 3.2;
2. that the player (Name of Player) had been registered by (Name of Club) and (Name of Member Association) according to its own rules and those of the FIFA Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players;
3. that the player (Name of Player) is registered only with (Name of Club) from the period dated (insert start date of contract) for the duration of (insert period of contract) and expiring on (insert end date of contract) ;
4. that the player (Name of Player) is NOT contracted, registered and / or playing with any other club in the world from (insert start date of contract) until (insert end date of contract) ;
5. that (Name of Club) and (Name of Member Association) shall be responsible for ensuring that all information provided by (Name of Club) shall be accurate; and
6. to guarantee our due compliance with the obligation, liabilities and requirements of the AFC Futsal Club Championship 2020 Regulations upon which participation in the AFC Futsal Club Championship 2020 is granted to us and our liabilities under this undertaking.

Dated this (date) day of (Month) , (Year)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Member Association name) & SEAL  
(General Secretary name), General Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Name of Club) & SEAL  
(General Secretary name), General Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Member Association name) & SEAL  
(General Secretary name), General Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Name of Club) & SEAL  
(General Secretary name), General Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Name of Player)

## APPENDIX 5: Marketing and Media Operation Guidelines

The Marketing and Media Operation Guidelines are provided for in Section 4 and Section 6 of the Competition Operations Manual.

They are applicable for the duration of the Competition.





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