

Lao Football Federation

Statutes

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DEFINITIONS

The terms given below denote the following:

LFF: Lao Football Federation.

FIFA: Fédération Internationale de Football Association.

AFC: Asian Football Confederation.

AFF: ASEAN Football Federation

FIFA member association: a football association recognised as such by FIFA and by the relevant confederation.

League: an organisation that is subordinate to an Association.

Provincial Football Federation: an organisation that is subordinate to LFF.

Confederation: a group of Associations recognised by FIFA that belong to the same continent (or assimilable geographic region).

Club: a member of LFF or a member of a League recognised by LFF that enters at least one team in a competition.

Official: any board member (including the members of the Executive Committee), committee member, referee and assistant referee, coach, trainer and any other person responsible for technical, medical and administrative matters in FIFA, a Confederation, a FIFA member association, an organisation established in a region, a league or a Club as well as any other persons obliged to comply with the FIFA Statutes (except players and intermediaries).

Player: a football player licensed by LFF.

Congress: the supreme and legislative body of LFF.

Executive Committee: the executive, strategic and oversight body of LFF.

Member: a legal person that has been admitted into membership of LFF by the Congress.

Delegate: a natural person validly representing a Member at the Congress of LFF.

Association football: the game controlled by FIFA and organised by FIFA, the Confederations and/or the FIFA member associations in accordance with the Laws of the Game.

Laws of the Game: the laws of Association football issued by the IFAB in accordance with the FIFA Statutes.

The IFAB: The International Football Association Board (IFAB).

Ordinary Courts: state courts which hear public and private legal disputes.

CAS: Court of Arbitration for Sport based in Lausanne (Switzerland).

Statutes and Standing Orders of the Congress: rules and regulations promulgated by the Congress.

NB: Terms referring to natural persons include both genders. Any term in the singular applies to the plural and vice-versa.

Article **1** **Legal form, headquarters and trademarks**

- ¹ LFF is a social organisation for football, a non-profit and non-stock association, established and recognised in compliance with the legislation of Lao People's Democratic Republic (Lao PDR). It is formed for an unlimited period.
- ² The headquarters of LFF are located in Ban Houayhong, Chanthabouly District, Vientiane Capital, PO Box 1800, Laos and may only be transferred to another location following a resolution passed by the Congress.
- ³ LFF is an affiliated member of FIFA, AFC and of AFF.
- ⁴ The logo of LFF is designed with Lao national flag, That Luang Stupa, a Football with yellow background.



- ⁵ The abbreviation of Lao Football Federation is: LFF.
 - ⁶ The logo and abbreviation are legally registered with the Intellectual Property Department at the Ministry of Industry and Commerce.
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Article **2** **Objectives**

The objectives of LFF are:

- a) to improve the game of football constantly and promote, regulate and control it throughout the territory of Lao PDR in the light of fair play and its unifying, educational, cultural and humanitarian values, particularly through youth and development programmes;
- b) to organise competitions in Association football, futsal and beach soccer at national level, by defining precisely, as required, the areas of authority conceded to the various Leagues of which it is composed;
- c) to draw up regulations and provisions and ensure their enforcement;
- d) to protect the interests of its Members;
- e) to respect and prevent any infringement of the Statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of FIFA, of AFC, AFF and of LFF as well as the Laws of the Game, and to ensure that these are also respected by its Members;
- f) to promote integrity, ethics and fair play with a view to preventing all methods or practices, such as corruption, doping or match manipulation, which might jeopardise the integrity of matches, competitions, Players, Officials and Members or give rise to abuse of Association football, futsal or beach soccer;
- g) to promote and strengthen good governance principles and practices at national level and encourage its Members to adopt their own good governance principles;
- h) to promote the development of women's football and the full participation of women at all levels of football governance and technical roles;

- i) to control and supervise all friendly football matches of all forms played throughout the territory of Lao PDR;
- j) to control and supervise Association football, futsal and beach soccer at national level and to control and supervise all forms of international football matches played throughout the territory of Lao PDR, in accordance with the relevant Statutes and regulations of FIFA and of the Confederations;
- k) to manage international sporting relations connected with Association football, futsal and beach soccer;
- l) to host competitions at international and other levels;
- m) to raise funds to finance the activities of LFF;
- n) to purchase, hold or otherwise acquire any real property or any interest in the same which shall be for the benefit of LFF or calculated to promote or assist in the promotion of any of the objects of LFF;
- o) to utilise LFF's funds in economic activities in order to fulfil the objectives of LFF as stipulated hereinabove in this article.

Article **3** **Human rights**

LFF is committed to respecting all internationally recognised human rights and shall strive to promote the protection of these rights.

Article **4** **Non-discrimination, equality and stand against racism**

Discrimination of any kind against a country, private person or group of people on account of race, skin colour, ethnic, national or social origin, gender, disability, language, religion, political opinion or any other opinion, wealth, birth or any other status, sexual orientation or any other reason is strictly prohibited and punishable by suspension or expulsion and/or disciplinary measures.

Article **5** **Neutrality and institutional independence**

- ¹ LFF is neutral in matters of politics and religion.
 - ² The Members of LFF shall also be neutral in matters of politics and religion and shall ensure that their own members remain neutral.
 - ³ LFF shall remain independent and shall avoid any form of undue political interference. LFF shall manage its affairs independently and shall ensure that its own affairs are not influenced by any third parties.
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Article **6** **Promoting friendly relations**

- ¹ LFF shall promote friendly relations between its Members, Clubs, Officials and Players and in society for humanitarian objectives.

² LFF shall provide the necessary institutional means to resolve any internal dispute that may arise between the Members, Clubs, Officials and Players of LFF.

Article **7** **Players**

¹ The status of Players and the provisions for their transfer shall be regulated by the Executive Committee of LFF in accordance with the FIFA Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players.

² Players shall be registered in accordance with the regulations of LFF.

Article **8** **Laws of the Game**

¹ LFF and each of its Members shall play Association football in compliance with the Laws of the Game issued by The IFAB. Only The IFAB may lay down and alter the Laws of the Game.

² LFF and each of its Members shall play futsal in accordance with the Futsal Laws of the Game issued by FIFA. Only FIFA may lay down and alter the Futsal Laws of the Game.

³ LFF and each of its Members shall play beach soccer in accordance with the Beach Soccer Laws of the Game issued by FIFA. Only FIFA may lay down and alter the Beach Soccer Laws of the Game.

Article **9** **Conduct of bodies and Officials**

¹ All bodies and Officials of LFF must observe the Statutes, regulations, directives, decisions and the Code of Ethics of FIFA, of AFC and AFF and of LFF in their activities.

² Every person and organisation involved in the game of Association football, futsal and beach soccer in the territory of Lao PDR is obliged to observe the relevant Statutes, regulations as well as the principles of fair-play, loyalty, integrity and sportsmanship.

Article **10** **Official languages**

¹ The official languages of LFF shall be in Lao and English. Official documents and texts shall be written in either of these languages. In the event of any divergence between the interpretations of texts in different languages, the text written in Lao shall prevail.

² The official language at the Congress shall be Lao.

Article **11** **Members**

The Members of LFF are:

- a) the clubs of the Lao League 1;
 - b) the Provincial Football Federations.
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Article **12** **Admission, suspension and expulsion**

- ¹ The Congress shall decide whether to admit, suspend or expel a Member.
 - ² Admission may be granted if the applicant fulfils the requirements of LFF in accordance with the Statutes of LFF.
 - ³ Membership is terminated by resignation or expulsion. Loss of membership does not relieve the Member from its financial obligations towards LFF or other Members of LFF, but leads to the loss of all rights in relation to LFF.
 - ⁴ LFF shall ensure that all relevant stakeholders are represented within its Congress. The interests of women's football shall also be adequately represented in the Congress.
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Article **13** **Admission**

- ¹ Any legal person wishing to become a Member of LFF shall apply in writing to the general secretariat of LFF.
- ² The application must be accompanied by the following mandatory items:
 - a) a copy of its legally valid statutes and, if applicable, regulations;
 - b) a declaration that it will always comply with the Statutes, regulations and decisions of LFF, FIFA, AFF and AFC and ensure that these are also respected by its own members, Clubs, Officials and Players;
 - c) a declaration that it will comply with the Laws of the Game in force as well as the Beach Soccer Laws of the Game and the Futsal Laws of the Game as laid down by FIFA;
 - d) a declaration that it will refer in the last instance (i.e. after exhaustion of all internal channels within LFF) any dispute of national dimension arising from or related to the Statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of LFF only to CAS, which shall definitely settle the dispute to the exclusion of any ordinary court, unless expressly prohibited by the legislation in force in Lao PDR;
 - e) a declaration that any dispute of international dimension arising from or related to the Statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of FIFA or of AFC may only be submitted in the last instance to CAS, as specified in the Statutes of FIFA and of AFC;
 - f) a declaration that it recognises the CAS, as specified in these Statutes, and its decisions;
 - g) a declaration that it is located and registered in the territory of Lao PDR;
 - h) a declaration that it will play all official home matches in the territory of Lao PDR;

- i) a declaration to the effect that the legal composition of the applicant guarantees that it can make decisions independently of any external entity;
- j) a declaration to the effect that the members of its own bodies were elected or appointed as a result of a procedure that guarantees the complete independence of the election or appointment;
- k) a list of officials, specifying those who are authorised signatories with the right to enter into legally binding agreements with third parties;
- l) a declaration that it undertakes to organise or participate in friendly matches only with the prior consent of LFF;
- m) a copy of the minutes of its last congress or constitutional meeting;
- n) a list of players engaged by the clubs, if applicable;
- o) a declaration that the clubs will release its players for the National Teams when requested by LFF;
- p) a confirmation that the applicant has duly paid the relevant registration fees at the time of the submission of the application.

Article **14** Request and procedure for application

¹ The Executive Committee shall request the Congress either to admit or not to admit an applicant. The applicant may state the reasons for its application to the Congress.

² The new Member shall acquire membership rights and duties as soon as it has been admitted. Its delegates are eligible to vote and be elected with immediate effect.

Article **15** Members' rights

¹ The Members of LFF shall have the following rights:

- a) to take part in the Congress of LFF, to receive its agenda in advance, to be called to the Congress within the prescribed time and to exercise their rights to participate in the debates and discussions and to exercise their voting rights;
- b) to draw up proposals for inclusion in the agenda of the Congress;
- c) to nominate candidates for elections to all bodies of LFF;
- d) to be informed of the affairs of LFF through the official bodies of LFF;
- e) to take part in competitions (if applicable) and/or other sporting activities organised by LFF;
- f) to exercise all other rights arising from the Statutes and regulations of LFF.

² The exercise of these rights is subject to other provisions in these Statutes and the applicable regulations.

Article **16** Members' obligations

¹ The Members of LFF shall have the following obligations:

- a) to comply fully with the Statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of FIFA, AFC and LFF at all times and to ensure that these are also respected by its members;

- b) to ensure the election of its decision-making bodies;
- c) to take part in competitions and other sporting activities organised by LFF;
- d) to pay their membership subscriptions;
- e) to ensure that their own members comply with the Statutes, regulations, directives and decision of LFF;
- f) to respect the Laws of the Game as laid down by The IFAB and the Beach Soccer Laws of the Game and the Futsal Laws of the Game as laid down by FIFA, and to ensure that these are also respected by its members through a statutory provision;
- g) to adopt a statutory clause specifying that any dispute of national dimension arising from or related to the Statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of LFF may only be referred in the last instance (i.e. after exhaustion of all internal channels within LFF) to CAS, which shall definitely settle the dispute to the exclusion of any ordinary court, unless expressly prohibited by the legislation in force in Lao PDR;
- h) to adopt a statutory clause specifying that any dispute of international dimension arising from or related to the Statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of FIFA or of AFC may only be submitted in the last instance to CAS, as specified in the Statutes of FIFA and of AFC;
- i) to manage their affairs independently and ensure that their own affairs are not influenced by any third parties in accordance with art. 20 of these Statutes;
- j) to ensure that their bodies are either elected or appointed according to a procedure that guarantees the complete independence of the election or appointment;
- k) to communicate to LFF any amendment of its statutes and regulations as well as the list of its Officials or persons who are authorised signatories with the right to enter into legally binding agreements with third parties;
- l) not to maintain any relations of a sporting nature with entities that are not recognised or with Members that have been suspended or expelled;
- m) to observe the principles of loyalty, integrity and good sporting behaviour as an expression of fair play through a statutory provision;
- n) to observe the mandatory items specified under art. 13 par. 2 for the duration of their affiliation;
- o) to administer a register of members which shall regularly be updated;
- p) to ratify statutes that are in accordance with the requirements of the Statutes of LFF;
- q) to comply fully with all other duties arising from the Statutes and other regulations of FIFA, AFC, AFF and LFF.

² Violation of the above-mentioned obligations by any Member may lead to sanctions provided for in these Statutes.

³ Violation of par. 1 (i) above may also lead to sanctions, even if the third-party influence was not the fault of the Member concerned. Each Member of LFF is responsible towards LFF for any and all acts of the members of their bodies caused by the gross negligence or wilful misconduct of such members.

Article **17** Suspension

¹ The Congress is responsible for suspending a Member. The Executive Committee may, however, temporarily suspend a Member that seriously and/or repeatedly violates its obligations as a Member with immediate effect. The suspension approved by the Executive Committee shall last until the next Congress, unless the Executive Committee has lifted it in the meantime.

² The presence of a two-third (2/3) majority of the Members eligible to vote is necessary for a suspension to be valid and the motion for suspension must be adopted by a three-quarter majority (3/4) of the valid votes cast. A suspension of a Member by the Congress or the Executive Committee shall be confirmed at the next Congress. If it is not confirmed, the suspension shall be automatically lifted.

³ A suspended Member shall lose its membership rights. Other Members may not entertain sporting contact with a suspended Member. The Disciplinary Committee may impose further sanctions.

⁴ Members that do not participate in the competition of LFF for two consecutive years shall be suspended from voting at the Congress and their representatives shall not be elected or appointed until they have fulfilled their obligations in this respect.

Article **18** **Expulsion**

¹ The Congress may expel a Member if it seriously and repeatedly violates the Statutes, regulations, directives or decisions of FIFA, AFC and LFF.

² The presence of a two-third (2/3) majority of the Members eligible to vote at the Congress is necessary for an expulsion to be valid, and the motion for expulsion must be adopted by a three-quarter majority (3/4) of the valid votes cast.

Article **19** **Resignation**

¹ A Member may resign from LFF with effect from the end of a calendar year. Notice of resignation must reach the general secretariat no later than three (3) months before the end of the calendar year.

² The resignation is not valid until the Member wishing to resign has fulfilled its financial obligations towards LFF and the other Members of LFF.

Article **20** **Independence of Members and their bodies**

¹ Each Member shall manage its affairs independently and with no influence from third parties.

² The Members' bodies shall be either elected or appointed. The Members' statutes shall provide for a democratic procedure that guarantees the complete independence of the election or appointment.

³ Any Members' bodies that have not been elected or appointed in compliance with the provisions of par. 2 above, even on an interim basis, shall not be recognised by LFF.

⁴ Decisions passed by bodies that have not been elected or appointed in compliance with par. 2 above shall not be recognised by LFF.

Article **21** **Status of Clubs, Provincial Football Federations and other groups of Clubs**

¹ Clubs, Provincial Football Federations or any other groups of Clubs affiliated to LFF shall be subordinate to and recognised by LFF. There shall only be one top-tier national league on the territory of LFF.

² These Statutes define the scope of authority and the rights and duties of the entities mentioned in par. 1 above. Their statutes and regulations must comply with general principles of good governance and be in line with the LFF Statutes and regulations. LFF shall have the primary responsibility to regulate matters relating to

refereeing, the fight against doping, the registration of players, club licensing, the imposition of disciplinary measures, including for ethical misconduct, and measures required to protect the integrity of competitions.

³ The entities mentioned in par. 1 above shall take all decisions on any matters regarding their membership independently of any external body. This obligation applies regardless of their corporate structure.

⁴ In any case, no natural or legal person (including holding companies and subsidiaries) shall exercise control over more than one Club or group of Clubs whenever the integrity of any match or competition could be jeopardised.

Article **22** **Honorary president and honorary member**

- ¹ The Congress may bestow the title of honorary president or honorary member upon any person for meritorious service to football.
- ² The Executive Committee shall nominate the eligible candidates for this title.
- ³ LFF honorary president or LFF honorary member are the most prestigious and honoured titles that can be bestowed by the Executive Committee to individuals who have rendered meritorious services to the development and promotion of football at club, league, provisional or national level.
- ⁴ The selection criteria for the honorary president or honorary member shall be based on the following:
 - a) outstanding achievements in football, leadership ability and community involvement;
 - b) the candidate must not have been sanctioned or suspended by LFF, AFF, AFC or FIFA at any time before being proposed for the title.
- ⁵ The honorary president and honorary member may take part in the Congress. They may join the debates but are not entitled to vote.

Article **23** **Bodies of LFF**

- ¹ The Congress is the supreme and legislative body.
- ² The Executive Committee is the strategic and oversight body.
- ³ The general secretariat is the executive, operational and administrative body.
- ⁴ Standing and ad-hoc committees shall advise and assist the Executive Committee and the general secretariat in fulfilling their duties.
- ⁵ The Club licensing bodies are in charge of the club licensing system within LFF.
- ⁶ The independent committees fulfil their functions in accordance with these Statutes and applicable regulations. The independent committees shall consist of the Audit and Compliance Unit, the electoral committees and the judicial bodies.
- ⁷ The judicial bodies shall consist of the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee and the Appeal Committee.
- ⁸ The bodies of LFF shall be either elected or appointed by LFF itself without any undue external influence and in accordance with the procedures described in these Statutes. The members of the bodies shall not have previously been found guilty of any criminal offence incompatible with the position.
- ⁹ Any member of the bodies of LFF must withdraw from the debate and from taking a decision if there is any risk or possibility of a conflict of interest. In particular, members of the bodies of LFF shall always be aware of, and comply with, the relevant provisions of the FIFA Code of Ethics on conflicts of interest and adjust their conduct as necessary (e.g. abstain from performing their duties, notify the chairperson in cases of potential conflicts of interest).

Article **24** **Dismissal of a member of a body**

- ¹ The Congress may dismiss a member of a body of LFF. The Executive Committee may also dismiss a member of a body provisionally, with the exception of the members of the independent committees. The provisional dismissal approved by the Executive Committee shall be confirmed by the next Congress, unless the Executive Committee has lifted it in the meantime. If the next Congress is of an elective nature, a dismissed member shall be allowed to be an elective candidate (provided that he fulfils the relevant eligibility criteria) on a conditional basis depending on the final decision of the Congress on his dismissal which shall be taken before the election.
- ² The motion for dismissal must be justified. It will be sent to the members of the Executive Committee and/or to the Members of LFF along with the respective agenda.
- ³ The member of the body in question has the right to defend himself in writing. The Executive Committee may also decide to allow the member of the body in question to defend himself in front of the Executive Committee and/or the Congress.
- ⁴ The motion for dismissal shall be decided by means of secret ballot. For the motion to be passed, a majority of two-thirds (2/3) of the valid votes cast is required.
- ⁵ The member dismissed (provisionally or not) is relieved of his functions with immediate effect.

A. CONGRESS

Article **25** Definition and composition of the Congress

- ¹ The Congress is the meeting at which all of the Members of LFF regularly convene. It represents the supreme and legislative authority of LFF. Only a Congress that is duly convened has the authority to make decisions.
 - ² The Congress of LFF shall be constituted in accordance with the principles of representative democracy and shall take into account the important of gender equality in football.
 - ³ A Congress may be an Ordinary or Extraordinary Congress.
 - ⁴ The President shall conduct the Congress business in compliance with the Standing Orders of the Congress.
 - ⁵ The Congress or Executive Committee may appoint observers who take part in the Congress without the right to debate or to vote.
 - ⁶ The Congress may take place via available telecommunication technologies which shall allow delegates to see and hear each other simultaneously. Electronic signatures shall be accepted during Congresses held virtually. However, elective Congresses shall only be held physically.
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Article **26** Delegates and votes

- ¹ The Congress is composed of twenty-six (26) voting delegates, allocated as follows:
 - a) for each of the eight (8) Clubs of the Lao League 1: One voting delegate;
 - b) for each of the eighteen (18) Provincial Football Federations: One voting delegate.
 - ² The total number of Clubs of the Lao League 1 and consequently their respective voting delegates which shall have the right to compose the Congress, may vary from season to season as defined in the regulations of LFF. The Clubs entitled to participate in the Lao League 1 at the start of the season during which the LFF Congress takes place shall define the total number of Clubs and their respective voting delegates.
 - ³ Delegates must belong to the Member that they represent and be appointed or elected by the appropriate body of that Member in accordance with art. 20 of these Statutes. They must also be able to produce evidence of this upon request.
 - ⁴ Each member may be represented by up to two (2) delegates, one of these delegates is the voting delegate and must be registered prior to the Congress. Each voting delegate has one vote only. Only the voting delegates present are entitled to vote. Voting by proxy or by letter is not permitted.
 - ⁵ The LFF Executive Committee and the General Secretary shall take part in the Congress without voting rights. During their terms of office, members of the Executive Committee may not be appointed as delegates to the Congress.
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Article **27** Areas of authority

The Congress has the following areas of authority:

- a) adopting or amending the Statutes and the Standing Orders of the Congress;

- b) appointing three (3) Members to check the minutes, and approving the minutes of the last meeting;
- c) electing the President, the vice-presidents and members of the Executive Committee;
- d) electing the Audit and Compliance Officer, upon the proposal of the Executive Committee;
- e) electing the chairpersons, the deputy chairpersons and the members of the electoral committees, upon the proposal of the Executive Committee;
- f) electing the chairpersons, deputy chairpersons and members of the judicial bodies, upon proposal of the Executive Committee;
- g) appointing three (3) scrutineers to count the votes and to assist the Electoral Committee in distributing and counting voting papers issued for the elections;
- h) approving the annual audited financial statements, including the consolidated financial statements and the annual report;
- i) approving the budget;
- j) approving the activity report (containing the activities of LFF since the last Congress);
- k) appointing the independent and external auditors upon the proposal of the Executive Committee;
- l) fixing the membership subscriptions on the recommendation of the Executive Committee;
- m) deciding, upon the nomination of the Executive Committee, whether to bestow the title of honorary president and honorary member;
- n) admitting, suspending or expelling a Member;
- o) dismissing a members of a body of LFF;
- p) dissolving LFF;
- k) passing decisions at the request of a Member in accordance with these Statutes or passing any decision entrusted to the Congress in accordance with these Statutes.

Article **28** **Quorum of the Congress**

¹ Decisions passed by the Congress shall only be valid if simple majority (more than 50%) of the Members eligible to vote are present.

² If a quorum is not achieved, a second Congress shall take place within twenty-four (24) hours with the same agenda.

³ A quorum, as established in par. 1 above, is not required for the second meeting of the Congress unless any item on the agenda proposes the amendment of the Statutes of LFF, the election of the President, vice-presidents and members of the Executive Committee, the election of the chairpersons, deputy chairpersons and members of the independent committees (i.e. Audit and Compliance Unit, electoral committees and judicial bodies), the dismissal of one or a number of members of a body of LFF, the suspension or expulsion of a Member of LFF or the dissolution of LFF.

⁴ Any quorum achieved at the start of a meeting shall not be influenced by departing delegates.

Article **29** Decisions of the Congress

¹ A decision that requires a vote shall be reached by a show of hands, lifting of cards (green for yes and red for no) or by means of an electronic count. If a show of hands or lifting of cards does not result in a clear majority in favour of a motion, the vote shall be taken by calling the roll in alphabetical order.

² Unless otherwise stipulated in the Statutes, a majority (more than 50%) of the valid votes cast is sufficient for a decision to be valid. Blank ballot papers, invalid votes or electronic votes manipulated in any other way as well as abstentions shall be disregarded when calculating the majority.

Article **30** Elections

¹ Elections shall be conducted by secret ballot.

² Elections within LFF shall be conducted in accordance with the Electoral Code of LFF and shall be supervised by the Electoral Committee of LFF.

³ Where a candidate has no opponent for the seat, they may be elected by show of hands, lifting of cards, or by acclamation.

⁴ No voting by letter or proxy is permitted.

⁵ The election for the positions of the Executive Committee shall take place by position. Every candidate in the election for the positions of the Executive Committee shall be proposed by at least three (3) Members. Each Member shall support one candidate for each given position only. If a Member supports more than one candidate for each position, none of its expressions of support shall be considered valid.

⁶ For the election of the President and vice-president(s) of LFF, if there are two or fewer candidates, a majority (more than 50%) of the valid votes cast is necessary. If there are more than two candidates for the office of President or any of the offices of vice-presidents, a majority of two-thirds (2/3) of the valid votes cast is necessary for the first ballot. Should no candidate receive two-thirds (2/3) of the votes on the first ballot, all candidates move to the second ballot. As from the second ballot, whoever obtains the lowest number of votes is eliminated after each ballot. This process shall continue (if required) until only two candidates are left, and a majority (more than 50%) is achieved.

⁷ For the election of the other members of the Executive Committee, the candidates who receive the most votes in respect of the free seats shall be elected. In the event that no woman is elected as either president or vice-president, and no woman obtains enough votes to be elected in one of the six positions of ordinary members, the woman who gets most votes out of all female candidates shall automatically be elected and shall replace the last of the six candidates elected.

⁸ For the election of the chairpersons, deputy chairpersons and members of the independent bodies of LFF [i.e. Audit and Compliance Unit, electoral committees and judicial bodies], the candidate(s) who receive(s) the most votes in respect of the free seat(s) shall be elected. These elections may be conducted en bloc. However, at the request of at least three quarter (3/4) of the Members, a separate vote for a specific candidate shall take place.

⁹ In case of a tied vote in any elections of any body of LFF, two new ballots shall be conducted in accordance with the procedure set forth by the present provision. If the tied vote remains, the relevant position shall remain vacant until a new elective Congress convenes to proceed with new elections according to these Statutes with the same candidates.

¹⁰ Blank ballot papers, invalid votes or electronic votes manipulated in any other way as well as abstentions shall be disregarded when calculating the majority.

¹¹ The Members of LFF shall be notified of the relevant elective Congress at least sixty (60) days before it is held. Candidatures for any of the positions of the Executive Committee shall be sent to the general secretariat of LFF at least forty-five (45) days before the relevant elective Congress. The official list of candidates must be passed to the Members of LFF at least fifteen (15) days before the Congress at which the Executive Committee will be elected. The provisions of this paragraph shall also apply when elections take place during an Extraordinary Congress.

¹² Candidatures for any of the positions of the independent bodies of LFF [i.e. Audit and Compliance Unit, electoral committees and judicial bodies] must be passed to the Members of LFF at least fifteen (15) days before the Congress at which the members in question will be appointed.

Article **31** Ordinary Congress

¹ The Ordinary Congress shall be held every year.

² The Executive Committee shall fix the place and date. The Members shall be notified in writing at least sixty (60) days in advance.

³ Any proposal that a Member wishes to submit to the Congress shall be sent to the general secretariat in writing, with a brief explanation, at least forty-five (45) days before the date of the Congress.

⁴ The formal convocation shall be made in writing at least fifteen (15) days before the date of the Congress. This convocation shall contain the agenda, the activity report, the financial statements and the report of the independent and external auditors as well any other relevant documents.

Article **32** Ordinary Congress agenda

¹ The General Secretary shall draw up the agenda based on proposals from the Executive Committee and the Members.

² The Congress agenda shall include the following mandatory items (in chronological order):

- a) a declaration that the Congress has been convened and composed in compliance with the Statutes of LFF;
- b) approval of the agenda;
- c) an address by the President;
- d) appointment of Members to check the minutes;
- e) appointment of scrutineers;
- f) suspension or expulsion of Members (if applicable);
- g) approval of the minutes of the preceding Congress;
- h) activity report (containing the activities since the last Congress);
- i) presentation of the consolidated and revised balance sheet and the profit and loss statement, as well as the report of the independent and external auditors;
- j) approval of the audited financial statements of the previous financial period;
- k) approval of the budget;
- l) votes on proposals for amendments to the Statutes and the Standing Orders of the Congress (if applicable);

- m) discussion of proposals submitted by the Members and the Executive Committee in accordance with the procedure stipulated under art. 31 par. 3 of these Statutes;
 - n) appointment of independent and external auditors (if applicable) upon the proposal of the Executive Committee;
 - o) dismissal of a member of a body (if applicable);
 - p) election of the President, vice-presidents and members of the Executive Committee (if applicable);
 - q) election of the members of the independent committees [i.e. Audit and Compliance Unit, electoral committees and judicial bodies] (if applicable);
 - r) admission for membership (if applicable).
- ³ The Congress shall not take a decision on any point not included in the agenda.
- ⁴ The agenda of an Ordinary Congress may be altered, provided three quarter of the Members present at the Congress and eligible to vote agree to such a motion.

Article **33** **Extraordinary Congress**

- ¹ The Executive Committee may convene an Extraordinary Congress at any time.
- ² The Executive Committee shall convene an Extraordinary Congress if a majority (more than 50%) of the Members of LFF make such a request in writing. The request shall specify the items to be included on the agenda. An Extraordinary Congress shall be held within thirty (30) days of receipt of the request. If an Extraordinary Congress is not convened, the Members who requested it may convene the Congress themselves. In doing so, they shall inform all the Members of LFF and the Executive Committee the date and location of the Extraordinary Congress, along with the items to be included in the agenda on accordance with par. 3 below.
- ³ The Members shall be notified of the place, date and agenda at least 15 days before the date of an Extraordinary Congress.
- ⁴ When an Extraordinary Congress is convened on the initiative of the Executive Committee, it must draw up the agenda. When an Extraordinary Congress is convened upon the request of Members, the agenda must contain the points raised by those Members.
- ⁵ The agenda of an Extraordinary Congress shall not be altered.

Article **34** **Amendments to the Statutes and the Standing Orders of the Congress**

- ¹ The Congress is responsible for amending the Statutes and the Standing Orders of the Congress.
- ² Any proposals for an amendment to the Statutes and the Standing Orders of the Congress must be submitted in writing with a brief explanation to the general secretariat by a Member or by the Executive Committee. A proposal submitted by a Member is valid, provided it has been supported in writing by at least five (5) other Members.
- ³ For a vote on an amendment to the Statutes and to the Standing Orders of the Congress to be valid, two third (2/3) of the Members eligible to vote must be present.
- ⁴ A proposal for an amendment to the Statutes and to the Standing Orders of the Congress shall be adopted only if three quarter (3/4) of the Members present and eligible to vote agree to it.

Article **35** Minutes

The General Secretary shall be responsible for recording the minutes at the Congress. The minutes shall be checked by those Members designated, and finally approved at the next Congress.

Article **36** Effective dates of decisions

Decisions passed by the Congress shall come into effect for the Members fifteen (15) days after the closing of the Congress, unless otherwise stipulated in the present Statutes or unless the Congress fixes another date for a decision to take effect.

B. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Article **37** Composition

- ¹ The Executive Committee consists of eleven (11) members, at least one of which shall be a woman as follows:

 - One (1) President
 - Four (4) vice-presidents
 - Six (6) members
- ² The President, the vice-presidents and all other members of the Executive Committee shall be elected by the Congress in accordance with art. 30 of these Statutes. They shall undergo an integrity check, to be conducted by the Audit and Compliance Unit, prior to their election or re-election.
- ³ The mandate of the President, vice-presidents and all other members of the Executive Committee is for four (4) years. Their mandates shall immediately begin after the end of the Congress which has elected them. Any partial term shall count as full term. A member of Executive Committee may serve for no more than three (3) terms of the office (whether it's consecutive or not).
- ⁴ The members of the Executive Committee shall have already been active in football for at least four (4) years and shall fulfil the prerequisites stipulated in art. 23 par. 8 of these Statutes.
- ⁵ A member of the Executive Committee may not at the same time be a member of an independent committee of LFF and may not be appointed/elected as delegate representing a Member at the Congress of LFF.
- ⁶ If a position or up to 50% of the positions of the Executive Committee become vacant, the Executive Committee shall fill the position(s) in question until the next Congress, when a replacement will be elected for the remaining period of office.
- ⁷ If more than 50% of the positions of the Executive Committee become vacant, the General Secretary shall convene an Extraordinary Congress within the prescribed period of time.
- ⁸ A position will be considered vacant in case of death, resignation or if a member of the Executive Committee is permanently prevented from performing his official function.

Article **38** Meetings

- ¹ The Executive Committee shall meet at least four (4) times a year.
- ² The President shall convene the Executive Committee meetings. If a simple majority (more than 50%) of the Executive Committee members request a meeting, the President shall convene it within fourteen (14) days if the President does not convene the requested meeting by the aforementioned deadline, the other members of the Executive Committee shall convene it themselves.
- ³ If the circumstances so require, the President may convene the Executive Committee meeting via videoconference. In such a case, the Executive Committee may deliberate and make any decision, and it shall be as valid and effectual as if it had been passed at the Executive Committee meeting duly convened and held in person.
- ⁴ The President, assisted by the general secretariat, shall compile the agenda. Each member of the Executive Committee is entitled to propose items for inclusion in the agenda. The members of the Executive Committee must submit the items they wish to be included in the agenda for the meeting to the general secretariat at least

seven (7) days before the meeting. The agenda must be sent out to the members of the Executive Committee at least three days before the meeting.

⁵ The General Secretary shall take part in the meetings of the Executive Committee in a consultative role and without voting rights. If the General Secretary is unable to attend a meeting, he may nominate a representative to attend the meeting on his behalf, subject to the approval of the Executive Committee.

⁶ The meetings of the Executive Committee shall not be held in public. The Executive Committee may, however, invite third parties to attend. Those third parties shall not have voting rights, and may only express an opinion with the permission of the Executive Committee.

⁷ The President may also convene the Executive Committee on an urgent basis to deal with any matter requiring immediate attention between two meetings of the Executive Committee. In such cases, the deadlines defined in par. 4 above may be reduced as needed. Such urgent meetings may be held via teleconference, videoconference or through other modern means of communication (e.g. WhatsApp).

Article **39** Powers of the Executive Committee

The Executive Committee:

- a) shall pass decisions on all cases that do not come within the sphere of responsibility of the Congress or are not reserved for other bodies by law or under these Statutes;
- b) shall prepare, with the assistance of the general secretariat, and convene the Ordinary and Extraordinary Congress of LFF;
- c) shall appoint the chairperson, deputy chairperson and members of the standing committees;
- d) may decide to set up ad-hoc committees if necessary at any time;
- e) shall approve and issue the regulations for the organisation of standing committees and ad-hoc committees;
- f) shall appoint the General Secretary upon proposal of the President. The General Secretary may be dismissed by the Executive Committee without prior proposal of the President;
- g) shall propose the independent auditors to the Congress;
- h) shall appoint replacements for vacancies in the independent committees until the next Congress;
- i) shall approve and issue regulations governing the conditions of participation in and the staging of competitions organised by LFF;
- j) shall appoint the coaches for the representative teams and other technical staff;
- k) shall approve and issue the internal regulations of LFF;
- l) shall ensure that the Statutes are applied and adopt the executive arrangements required for their application;
- m) may dismiss a member of a body of LFF or suspend a Member of LFF provisionally until the next Congress;
- n) may delegate tasks arising out of its area of authority to other bodies of LFF;
- o) may appoint observers who may take part in the Congress without the right to debate or to vote;
- p) shall appoint the members of the Club Licensing bodies.

Article **40** Decisions

- ¹ The Executive Committee shall not engage in valid debate unless a majority (more than 50%) of its members are present.
- ² The Executive Committee shall reach decisions by a majority (more than 50%) of the valid votes cast. In the event of a tied vote, the President shall have the casting vote. Voting by proxy or by letter is not permitted.
- ³ Any member of the Executive Committee must withdraw from the debate and from taking a decision if there is any risk or possibility of a conflict of interests.
- ⁴ The decisions taken shall be recorded in the minutes.
- ⁵ The decisions taken by the Executive Committee shall come into effect immediately, unless the Executive Committee decides otherwise.

C. PRESIDENT

Article **41** President

- ¹ The President represents LFF generally.
- ² The President is primarily responsible for:
 - a) implementing the decisions passed by the Congress and the Executive Committee through the general secretariat;
 - b) ensuring the effective functioning of the bodies of LFF in order that they achieve the objectives described in these Statutes;
 - c) supervising the work of the general secretariat;
 - d) the relations between LFF and its Members, FIFA, AFC, AFF, political bodies and other organisations.
- ³ Only the President may propose to the Executive Committee the appointment of the General Secretary. The President may however also propose to the Executive Committee the dismissal of the General Secretary.
- ⁴ The President shall preside over the Congress, the Executive Committee meetings and those committees of which he has been appointed chairperson.
- ⁵ The President shall have an ordinary vote on the Executive Committee and, whenever votes are equal, shall have a casting vote.
- ⁶ If the President is absent or unavailable, the longest-serving vice-president available shall deputise.
- ⁷ If the position of the President becomes vacant in the sense of art. 37 par. 8 of these Statutes, the longest-serving vice-president shall deputise until the next Congress. This Congress shall elect a new President for the remaining period of office.
- ⁸ Any additional powers of the President shall be contained in the internal regulations of LFF.

Article **42** Representation and signature

The President represents LFF legally and is entitled to sign for LFF. The Executive Committee may adopt special provisions in the internal regulations of LFF regarding the joint signature of office-holders, in particular, in case of the President's absence and concerning all important business of LFF.

D. GENERAL SECRETARIAT

Article **43** General secretariat

The general secretariat shall carry out all the administrative work of LFF under the direction of the General Secretary. The members of the general secretariat are bound by the internal regulations of LFF and shall fulfil the given tasks in good faith.

Article **44** General Secretary

- ¹ The General Secretary is the chief executive officer of LFF.
- ² The General Secretary shall be appointed on the basis of an agreement governed by private law and shall have the necessary professional qualifications.
- ³ The General Secretary shall be responsible for:
 - a) implementing decisions passed by the Congress and Executive Committee in compliance with the President's directives;
 - b) attending the Congress and meetings of the Executive Committee and the standing and ad-hoc committees;
 - c) organising the Congress and meetings of the Executive Committee and other bodies of LFF;
 - d) compiling the minutes for the meetings of the Congress, Executive Committee and standing and ad-hoc committees;
 - e) managing and keeping the accounts of LFF;
 - f) the correspondence of LFF;
 - g) the relations with the Members, committees, FIFA, AFC and AFF;
 - h) organising the general secretariat;
 - i) the appointment and dismissal of staff working in the general secretariat;
 - j) proposing managerial staff to the President;
 - k) providing the electoral committees with logistic and operative support for the elections;
 - l) Any additional responsibilities and duties assigned to the General Secretary shall be stipulated in the internal regulations of LFF.
- ⁴ The General Secretary shall not be a Congress delegate or a member of any other body of LFF.

E. STANDING COMMITTEES

Article **45** Standing Committees

¹ The standing committees of LFF are:

- a) Finance Committee;
- b) Organising Committee for LFF Competitions;
- c) Technical and Development Committee;
- d) Women's Football Committee;
- e) Referees Committee;
- f) Legal and Players' Status Committee;
- g) Media Committee;
- h) Marketing Committee;
- i) Medical Committee.

² Chairpersons, deputy chairpersons and members of the standing committees may be members of the Executive Committee with the exception of those of the Referees Committee, who may not belong to the Executive Committee. The members of each standing committee shall be appointed by the Executive Committee on the proposal of the Members of LFF or the President of LFF. The Executive Committee shall ensure appropriate female representation on standing committees. The chairpersons, deputy chairpersons and the members of the standing committees shall be designated for a term of office of four (4) years.

³ Each chairperson shall represent his standing committee and conduct business in compliance with the relevant provisions of the internal regulations approved by the Executive Committee.

⁴ Each chairperson shall fix the dates of meetings in collaboration with the General Secretary, ensure that all tasks are carried out and report back to the Executive Committee.

⁵ The Executive Committee and each standing committee, the latter with the approval of the Executive Committee, may, if necessary, set up a bureau and/or sub-committee to settle urgent matters. Any discussions and decisions of the bureau and/or sub-committee shall be reported to the relevant standing committee as soon as it is practicable to do so.

⁶ Each standing committee may propose to the Executive Committee amendments to the relevant provisions of the internal regulations that concern its committee.

Article **46** Finance Committee

The Finance Committee shall monitor the financial management and advise the Executive Committee on financial matters and asset management. It shall analyse the budget of LFF and the financial statements prepared by the General Secretary and submit them to the Executive Committee for approval. It shall consist of a chairperson, a deputy chairperson and three (3) members.

Article **47** **Organising Committee for LFF Competitions**

The Organising Committee for LFF Competitions shall organise the competitions of LFF of Association football, futsal and beach soccer at any level within LFF in compliance with the provisions of these Statutes and the regulations applicable to LFF's competitions. It shall consist of a chairperson, a deputy chairperson and five (5) members.

Article **48** **Technical and Development Committee**

The Technical and Development Committee shall primarily analyse the basic aspects of football training and technical development in football. It shall also be in charge of LFF's development programmes, devising and proposing appropriate strategies, checking these strategies and analysing the support and development programmes provided to the Members of LFF and providing advice to the Executive Committee on development matters in general. It shall consist of a chairperson, a deputy chairperson and five (5) members.

Article **49** **Women's Football Committee**

The Committee for Women's Football shall organise the women's football competitions of LFF and deal with all matters relating to women's football. It shall consist of a chairperson, a deputy chairperson and three (3) members.

Article **50** **Referees Committee**

The Referees Committee shall implement the Laws of the Game. It shall appoint the referees for matches in competitions organised by LFF, organise refereeing matters within LFF in collaboration with the administration of LFF and monitor the education and training of referees. It shall consist of a chairperson, a deputy chairperson and five (5) members. At least four (4) members of the Referees Committee shall be ex-referees.

Article **51** **Legal and Players' Statue Committee**

- ¹ The Legal and Players' Statue Committee Shall:
- a) as requested by the Executive Committee, the President, the General Secretary or on the Legal and Players' Statue Committee's own initiative, consider and advise on the management of legal issues that relate to and might reasonably affect the interests of the LFF, in respect of the game of Football, and the Statutes, Rules and Regulations of the LFF or its Member;
 - b) set up and monitor compliance with transfer regulations in accordance with the FIFA Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players and determine the status of players for the various competitions of LFF. The Executive Committee may approve special regulations governing the Legal and Players' Status Committee's powers of jurisdiction.
 - c) report to the Executive Committee on any legal issue identified by the Committee as a matter requiring the attention of the Executive Committee, the Congress or other LFF bodies which has not been dealt with by such competent bodies; and

d) assist the Executive Committee, the President or the General Secretary, when so required, to obtain legal advice or other legal services from the LFF's legal advisers and assist in the review of any legal advice provided to the LFF

² The Executive Committee may approve special regulations governing the Legal and Players' Status Committee's power of jurisdiction. Disputes relating to the status and transfer of players and involving LFF, its Members, Clubs, players, officials, intermediaries and licensed match agents shall be settled in the last instance by CAS in accordance with these Statutes, subject to any applicable mandatory national law.

³ The Legal and Players' Status Committee shall consist of a Chairperson, a Deputy Chairperson and three (3) members. All the members of the Committee shall have legal qualifications.

Article **52** **Media Committee**

The Media Committee shall:

- a) Shall advise the Executive Committee with regard to dealing with the working conditions for the media at LFF events and maintain relations with media organisations;
- b) Shall be responsible for promoting LFF through various media channels;
- c) The committee shall consist of a Chairperson, a Deputy Chairperson and three (3) members.
- d) Each member of the committee shall have relevant qualifications and expertise.

Article **53** **Marketing Committee**

The Marketing Committee shall:

- a) Shall advise the Executive Committee with regard to dealing with sponsors and stakeholders;
- b) Shall be responsible for marketing matters of LFF;
- c) The committee shall consist of a Chairperson, a Deputy Chairperson and three (3) members.
- d) Each member of the committee shall have relevant qualifications and expertise.

Article **54** **Medical Committee**

The Medical Committee shall:

- a) Shall advise the Executive Committee with regard to medical matters in football.
- b) Shall be responsible for promoting medical knowledge to LFF members and stakeholders,
- c) Shall consist of a Chairperson, a Deputy Chairperson and three (3) members.
- d) Each member of the committee shall have relevant qualifications and expertise.

F. CLUB LICENSING BODIES

Article **55** Club licensing bodies

- ¹ The Club licensing bodies are in charge of the club licensing system within LFF in accordance with the Club licensing regulations of LFF and the regulations on club licensing of AFC.
- ² The club licensing bodies shall consist of a first instance body and an appeal body. Each club licensing body shall consist of a Chairperson, a Deputy Chairperson and up to three (3) members who shall be appointed by the Executive Committee. They may not belong to any other body of LFF, League Organisation and Clubs, nor are they allowed to have any activities within those bodies and entities.
- ³ The Club Licensing Bodies shall be appointed for a period of two (2) years. Their mandate may be renewed.
- ⁴ Decisions passed by the club licensing appeal body may only be appealed before CAS in accordance with the provisions in these Statutes.
- ⁵ The Executive committee of LFF shall issue club licensing regulations governing the club licensing system, which shall stipulate, inter alia, to which clubs the system applies. As a minimum, the club licensing system must be implemented in respect of top-division clubs which qualify for AFC club competitions on sporting merit.

Article **56** Institutional independence

- ¹ The independent committees are:

 - a) The Audit and Compliance Unit;
 - b) The Electoral Committee;
 - c) The Judicial Bodies.
- ² The independent committees as well as their individual members shall conduct their activities and perform their duties entirely independently but always in the interests of LFF and in accordance with the Statutes and regulations of LFF.
- ³ The chairpersons, deputy chairpersons and members of the independent committees shall be elected by the Congress upon proposal of the Executive Committee and may only be relieved of their duties by the Congress. They shall not be members of any other body of LFF.
- ⁴ The Audit and Compliance Officer, the chairpersons, vice-chairpersons and members of the electoral committees as well as the chairpersons and vice-chairpersons of the judicial bodies shall comply with the independence criteria as defined in par. 5 below.
- ⁵ The persons mentioned in par. 4 above as well as any of their immediate family members may not exercise or have exercised during the four years preceding their initial terms any executive function at LFF, one of LFF's Members, a league or a club (including any of their affiliated companies/organisations), nor have or have had in the four years preceding their initial term any material business relationship with LFF, one of LFF's Members, a league or a club (including any of their affiliated companies/organisations). "Immediate family member" shall mean, with respect to a person, such person's spouse or domestic partner, siblings, parents, grandparents, uncles, aunts, children (including any stepchild or adopted child), grandchildren, son-, daughter-, father- or mother-in-law, and including anyone else, whether by blood or otherwise, with whom the individual has a relationship akin to a family relationship for which such person provides financial support.

Article **57** Audit and Compliance Unit

- ¹ The Audit and Compliance Officer shall be in charge of the Audit and Compliance Unit. The Audit and Compliance Officer shall be knowledgeable and experienced in financial and/or regulatory and legal matters and may not be involved in any decision affecting the operations of LFF.
- ² The Audit and Compliance Unit shall advise, assist and oversee the Executive Committee in monitoring LFF's financial and compliance matters, and issue and monitor compliance with the relevant regulations of LFF. It shall also supervise the general secretariat in financial and compliance issues. The Audit and Compliance Unit shall ensure the completeness and reliability of the financial accounting and review the consolidated financial statements and the independent and external auditor's report. The Unit shall furthermore monitor LFF's financial and compliance matters and suggest to the appropriate LFF bodies any action that it deems necessary as a result of such monitoring. The Audit and Compliance Unit shall, with the assistance of the general secretariat, implement a compliance programme within LFF.
- ³ Details on the Audit and Compliance Unit's responsibilities, its internal cooperation and other procedural matters are stipulated in the internal regulations of LFF.
- ⁴ The Audit and Compliance Officer shall be elected by the Congress for a period of four (4) years.

⁵ If the Audit and Compliance Officer permanently ceases to perform his official function during his term of office, the Executive Committee shall appoint a replacement to serve until the next Congress.

Article **58** Electoral committees

- ¹ The electoral committees are the bodies in charge of organising and supervising the election process in accordance with the Electoral Code of LFF. The electoral committees consist of the Electoral Committee (the first instance body) and the Election Appeal Committee (the second instance body).
 - ² The composition and function of the electoral committees shall be governed by the Electoral Code of LFF.
 - ³ The term of office of all members of the electoral committee shall be four (4) years. The members may be re-elected once.
-

Article **59** Judicial bodies

- ¹ The judicial bodies of LFF are:
 - a) the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee;
 - b) the Appeal Committee.
 - ² The judicial bodies shall consist of a chairperson, a deputy chairperson and a specific number of other members defined in the Disciplinary and Ethics Code of LFF.
 - ³ The judicial bodies are to be composed in such a way that the members, together, have the knowledge, abilities and specialist experience that is necessary for the due completion of their tasks. The chairpersons of the judicial bodies shall be qualified to practise law.
 - ⁴ The term of office of all members shall be four (4) years. The members may be re-elected.
 - ⁵ If the chairperson, the deputy chairperson or a member of a judicial body permanently ceases to perform his official function during his term of office, the Executive Committee shall appoint a replacement to serve until the next Congress, in which the Congress shall appoint a new member of the respective judicial body for the remaining period.
 - ⁶ The responsibilities and function of the judicial bodies shall be stipulated in the Disciplinary and Ethics Code of LFF.
-

Article **60** Disciplinary and Ethics Committee

- ¹ The function of the Disciplinary Committee shall be governed by the Disciplinary and Ethics Code of LFF. The Disciplinary Committee shall pass decisions only when at least three members are present. In certain cases, as specified in the Disciplinary and Ethics Code, the chairperson may rule alone.
- ² The Disciplinary Committee may pronounce the sanctions described in these Statutes and the Disciplinary Code of LFF on Members, Officials, Players, Clubs, licensed match agents and intermediaries.

³ These provisions do not affect the powers of the Congress and the Executive Committee with regard to the suspension and expulsion of Members.

⁴ The Executive Committee shall issue the Disciplinary Code of LFF, which shall be in accordance with the principles laid down in the FIFA Disciplinary Code and FIFA Code of Ethics.

Article **61** **Appeal Committee**

¹ The function of the Appeal Committee shall be governed by the Disciplinary Code of LFF and the Code of Ethics of LFF. The Appeal Committee shall pass decisions only when at least three of the members are present. In certain cases, as specified in the relevant regulations, the chairperson may rule alone.

² The Appeal Committee is responsible for hearing appeals against decisions from the Disciplinary Committee and the Ethics Committee that are not declared final by the relevant regulations of LFF.

³ Decisions pronounced by the Appeal Committee may only be appealed to CAS in accordance with the provisions in these Statutes.

Article **62** Disciplinary measures

The disciplinary measures are primarily:

- ¹ for natural and legal persons:
 - a) a warning;
 - b) a reprimand;
 - c) a fine;
 - d) the return of awards.

- ² for natural persons:
 - a) a caution;
 - b) an expulsion;
 - c) a match suspension;
 - d) a ban from the dressing rooms and/or the substitutes' bench;
 - e) a ban from entering a stadium;
 - f) a ban on taking part in any football-related activity;
 - g) social work;
 - h) compliance training.

- ³ for legal persons:
 - a) a transfer ban;
 - b) playing a match without spectators;
 - c) playing a match on neutral territory;
 - d) a ban on playing in a particular stadium;
 - e) annulment of the result of the match;
 - f) expulsion from a competition;
 - g) a forfeit;
 - h) deduction of points;
 - i) relegation to a lower division;
 - j) replaying a match.

Article **63** Arbitration

- ¹ Disputes within LFF or disputes affecting Members of LFF, Leagues, members of Leagues, Clubs, members of Clubs, Players and Officials may only be referred in the last instance (i.e. after exhaustion of all internal channels within LFF) to CAS, which shall settle the dispute definitively by the exclusion of any ordinary court, unless expressly prohibited by the legislation in Lao PDR.
 - ² Disputes of international dimension arising from or related to the Statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of FIFA or AFC may only be submitted in the last instance to CAS as specified in the Statutes of FIFA and of the AFC.
-

Article **64** Jurisdiction

- ¹ LFF shall have jurisdiction on internal national disputes, i.e. disputes between parties belonging or affiliated to LFF.
- ² FIFA and AFC shall have jurisdiction on international disputes, i.e. disputes between parties belonging to different Associations and/or Confederations, in accordance with the relevant regulations.
- ³ LFF shall ensure its full compliance and that of all those subject to its jurisdiction with any final decision passed by a FIFA body, an AFC body or CAS.

Article **65** **Financial period**

- ¹ The financial period of LFF shall be one year and shall begin on 1st January and end on 31st December.
 - ² The revenue and expenses of LFF shall be managed so that they balance out over the financial period. LFF's major duties in the future shall be guaranteed through the creation of reserves.
 - ³ The General Secretary is responsible for drawing up the annual consolidated accounts of LFF with its subsidiaries as at 31 December.
-

Article **66** **Revenue**

The revenue of LFF arises specifically from:

- a) Members' annual subscriptions;
 - b) receipts generated by the marketing of rights to which LFF is entitled;
 - c) fines imposed by the authorised bodies;
 - d) other subscriptions and receipts in keeping with the objectives pursued by LFF;
 - e) funding from FIFA and AFC.
-

Article **67** **Expenses**

LFF bears:

- a) the expenses stipulated in the budget;
 - b) other expenses approved by the Congress and expenses that the Executive Committee is entitled to incur within the scope of its authority;
 - c) all other expenses in keeping with the objectives pursued by LFF.
-

Article **68** **Independent and external auditors**

The independent and external auditors appointed by the Congress shall audit on a yearly basis the accounts approved by the Finance Committee in accordance with the appropriate principles of accounting and present a report to the Congress. The independent and external auditors shall be appointed for a period of two years. Their mandate may be renewed.

Article **69** **Membership subscriptions**

- ¹ Membership subscriptions are due by 31st January. The annual subscription for new Members for the year in question shall be paid within 30 days of the close of the Congress at which they are admitted.

² The Congress shall fix the amount of the annual subscription every two years on the recommendation of the Executive Committee. It shall be the same for every Member and amounted 2,000,000 Lao Kip only.

³ No Member shall be allowed to participate in tournament or competition organised by LFF or its Members if the stipulated membership fee for the year has not been paid.

Article **70** **Settlement**

LFF may debit any Member's assets and accounts to settle claims.

Article **71** **Levies**

LFF may demand that a levy be paid by its Members for matches.

Article **72** **Publication of financial data**

LFF shall publish on its official website the financial documents referred to under art. 32 par. 2 i), j) and k) of these Statutes once the relevant items have been approved by the Congress.

Article **73** **Competitions**

- ¹ LFF organises and coordinates the following official competitions held within its territory:
 - a) Lao League 1;
 - b) LFF Cup;
 - c) LFF U18 Youth League;
 - d) LFF U15 Youth League;
 - e) LFF Women's Football Championship;
 - f) LFF U18 Women's Championship;
 - g) LFF U15 Girls' Championship
 - h) LFF Futsal Championship.
 - i) Other competitions organized by LFF
 - ² The Executive Committee may delegate to LFF's subordinate Leagues the authority to organise competitions (e.g. by means of a proper and comprehensive agreement for elite football). The competitions organised by the leagues shall not interfere with those competitions organised by LFF. Competitions organised by LFF shall take priority.
 - ³ The Executive Committee may issue special regulations to this end.
-

Article **74** **Club licensing**

The Executive Committee of LFF shall issue regulations regarding a club licensing system governing the participation of Clubs in the competitions of LFF, in compliance with the minimum requirements of the club licensing system as set up by AFC in conformity with the FIFA Club Licensing Regulations.

Article **75** **Rights**

- ¹ LFF and its Members are the original owners of all of the rights emanating from competitions and other events coming under their respective jurisdiction, without any restrictions as to content, time and place. These rights include, among others, every kind of financial rights, audio-visual and radio recording, reproduction and broadcasting rights, multimedia rights, marketing and promotional rights and incorporeal rights such as emblems and rights arising under copyright law.
 - ² The Executive Committee shall decide how and to what extent these rights are utilised and draw up special regulations to this end. LFF shall ensure that the sale of such rights is carried out in a transparent manner and in compliance with the Statutes and regulations of LFF as well as mandatory national laws.
-

Article **76** **Authorisation to distribute**

- ¹ LFF and its Members are exclusively responsible for authorising the distribution of image and sound and other data carriers of football matches and events coming under their respective jurisdiction, and without any restrictions.
- ² LFF Executive Committee may issue special regulations to this end.

Article **77** **International matches and competitions**

¹ The authority for organising international matches and competitions between representative teams and between Leagues, Club teams and/or scratch teams lies solely with FIFA, the Confederation(s) and/or the FIFA Member Association(s) concerned. No such match or competition shall take place without the prior permission of FIFA, the Confederation(s) and/or the FIFA Member Association(s) concerned in accordance with the FIFA Regulations Governing International Matches.

² LFF is bound to comply with the international match calendar compiled by FIFA.

Article **78** **Contacts**

LFF, its Members, Players, Officials, licensed match agents and intermediaries shall not play matches or make sporting contact with Associations that are not members of FIFA or with provisional members of a Confederation without the approval of FIFA.

Article **79** **Approval**

¹ Clubs, Leagues or any other group of Clubs that are affiliated to LFF may only join another FIFA Member Association with the authorisation of LFF, the other FIFA Member Association, the respective Confederation(s) and FIFA.

² Clubs, Leagues or any other group of Clubs that are affiliated to LFF cannot participate in competitions on the territory of another FIFA Member Association without the authorisation of LFF, the other FIFA Member Association(s), FIFA and the respective Confederation(s) according to the FIFA Regulations Governing International Matches.

Article **80** **Unforeseen contingencies and force majeure**

The Executive Committee shall have the power to decide on all cases of force majeure and on all matters not provided for in these Statutes, such decisions to be made according to right and justice, taking into account the relevant regulations of FIFA and AFC.

Article **81** **Publication of corporate documents**

LFF shall make available on its official website the following documents and information:

- a) Statutes and Standing Orders of the Congress;
 - b) Electoral Code;
 - c) Disciplinary and Ethics Code;
 - d) Internal regulations;
 - e) most important / key decisions;
 - f) LFF's Strategic plan;
 - g) Agendas of Executive Committee and Congress;
 - h) Circular letters.
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Article **82** **Dissolution**

¹ Any decision relating to the dissolution of LFF requires a majority of two-thirds of all of the Members of LFF, which must be obtained at a Congress specially convened for the purpose.

² If LFF is disbanded, its assets shall be transferred to the Ministry of Education and Sports in which its headquarters are situated. It shall hold these assets as a trustee in accordance with the relevant professional duties until LFF is re-established. The final Congress may, however, choose another recipient for the assets on the basis of a two-thirds (2/3) majority.

Article **83** **Enforcement**

These Statutes were adopted at the LFF Virtual Ordinary Congress 2021 on 26 February 2022 and will come into force on 13 March 2022. The former Statutes of LFF are hereby repealed.

Article **84** **Transitional provisions**

¹ The Members as defined under art. 12 of these Statutes, shall be granted a period of 12 months, as from the adoption of these Statutes, to comply with the mandatory requirements stipulated in art. 13 par. 2, as well as art. 16 par. 1 g), h), k), m) and p) of these Statutes. Any Member which does not comply with all of these requirements within the aforementioned timeframe, shall automatically lose its right to vote at the Congress and the delegate(s) of the Member in question shall not be taken into account when establishing the quorum. The

Member in question shall only regain its right to vote at the Congress once it has fully complied with its obligations as mentioned in this paragraph.

² The composition of the Executive Committee as defined in art. 37 par. 1 of these Statutes shall only be applicable to the Executive Committee whose membership shall be elected by the Congress after the adoption of these Statutes.

³ The requirement to undergo an integrity check as mentioned in art. 37 par. 2 of these Statutes of these Statutes shall not apply to the members of the Executive Committee that are in place at the time of adoption of these Statutes but shall be complied with by any candidate running for any of the position on the Executive Committee following the adoption of these Statutes.

⁴ The term limits as defined in art. 37 par. 3 of these Statutes shall only apply as from the elections of the members of the Executive Committee which shall take place following the adoption of these Statutes.

⁵ The requirement to have already been active in football as provided for in art. 37 par. 4 of these Statutes shall not apply to the female candidates running for a position of members of the Executive Committee on the occasion of the first elections of the Executive Committee that shall take place following the adoption of these Statutes.


⁶ Upon adoption of these Statutes, the Executive Committee shall appoint the members of the Standing Committees as defined under art. 45 to 54 of these Statutes.

⁷ Within 12 months upon the adoption of these Statutes, the Congress shall elect the relevant members of the independent committees as defined under art. 55 to 61 of the Statutes that are not already in office. Within this same period, the Congress shall also dismiss the relevant members of the independent committees that do not comply with the independence criteria mentioned under art. 55 par. 5 of these Statutes and elect the relevant number of members to fill the positions.

Vientiane, 26 February 2022



Vipheth SIHACHAKR
President



Kanya KEOMANY
General Secretary

Part 1: General provisions

- ¹ The integrity checks with regard to candidates for, and holders of, official positions within LFF that are subject to such checks ("candidates or holders") shall be conducted by the relevant body in accordance with the provisions of these Statutes and this annexe.
- ² Candidates or holders are obliged to comply with the screening and self-disclosure process as outlined in parts 2 and 3 below. Prior to the screening process, every candidate or holder shall give his written consent to said process through a form provided by the relevant body conducting the integrity check. If such written consent is not provided, the candidate or holder shall be deemed not to have passed the integrity check.
- ³ Candidates or holders shall act in good faith at all times and shall fully collaborate to establish the relevant facts upon reasonable notice. If the candidate or holder concerned does not cooperate with the body competent to conduct the integrity check, the candidate or holder shall be deemed not to have passed the integrity check.
- ⁴ The candidate or holder shall be deemed not to have passed the integrity check, if he:
- a) has been subject to criminal convictions or disciplinary sanctions by a state court, in particular if the offence in question was a substantive issue and not a minor infraction or procedural misconduct;
 - b) has been found guilty and/or sentenced by the FIFA Ethics Committee or any other sporting body with a sanction that would seriously put into question the discharge of the office concerned.
- ⁵ Subject to the relevant provisions regarding disclosure and forwarding of the information and related data obtained in the context of integrity checks in accordance with this annexe, all such information and related data must be treated as strictly confidential by the body conducting the integrity check concerned.
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Part 2: Screening process

- ¹ At the beginning of the screening process, every candidate or holder shall undergo an identification check ("ID check"). In this context, the candidate or holder shall submit a valid copy of his passport to the body in charge of performing the integrity check. The ID check shall include verification/identification of the following elements:
- a) name(s) and surname(s);
 - b) address of residence;
 - c) date and place of birth;
 - d) nationality/nationalities.
- ² Every candidate or holder shall complete the questionnaire contained in part 3 below.
- ³ The body in charge of performing the integrity check may conduct independent research and/or investigations in order to obtain further relevant information on a particular candidate or holder, which may include information on intermediaries and related parties, mandates, potential conflicts of interest and significant participations as well as civil and criminal proceedings/investigations.

Part 3: Questionnaire

First name(s):	
Surname(s):	
Address of residence:	
Date and place of birth:	
Nationality/nationalities:	
Profession:	
Experience in football (must be at least four (4) years):	

¹ Have you previously been convicted by a final decision of any intentional indictable offence or of any offence corresponding to a violation of the rules of conduct set out in part II section 5 of the FIFA Code of Ethics?

No Yes

If yes, please specify:

² Has a sports governing body ever imposed any disciplinary or similar sanction or measure on you in the past for actions which amount to a violation of the rules of conduct set out in part II section 5 of the FIFA Code of Ethics?

No Yes

If yes, please specify:

³ Are you the subject of any pending civil, criminal or disciplinary proceedings or investigations?

No Yes

If yes, please specify:

⁴ I am fully aware that I am subject to the provisions of the Disciplinary and Ethics Code of LFF and to the provisions of the Statutes and other regulations of LFF that may address integrity issues, and I fully comply with such provisions.

⁵ I currently hold the following positions in football:

⁶ The following facts and circumstances may give rise to potential conflicts of interest regarding me (cf. in particular art. 23 par. 9 of these Statutes):

⁷ Remarks and observations which may be of potential relevance in the context of the integrity check:

⁸ I am fully aware and agree that this questionnaire is made available to the members of the appropriate body of LFF.

⁹ I am fully aware and confirm that I must notify the body conducting the integrity check of any relevant facts and circumstances arising after the integrity check has been completed.

¹⁰ I am fully aware and confirm that I am obliged to collaborate fully to establish the relevant facts with regard to the integrity check to which I am subject. In particular, I will comply with requests for any documents, information or any other material of any nature held by me. In addition, I will comply with the procurement and provision of documents, information or any other material of any nature not held by me but which I am entitled to obtain.

¹¹ I am fully aware and confirm that the body conducting the integrity check may also request information on possible sanctions (questions 1 and 2 above) directly from FIFA or the relevant confederation as well as from other institutions such as the Court of Arbitration for Sport in Lausanne, Switzerland, or the International Olympic Committee. In this regard, I hereby release the relevant institutions from any obligation of confidentiality relating to the information concerned.

¹² I am fully aware and confirm that the body conducting the integrity check may collect further information on me in accordance with part 2 par. 3 of this annexe.

(Place and date)

(Signature)