

# Disciplinary and Ethics Regulations

Saudi Arabian Football Federation

2023

**Disclaimer**: the official and binding language of the [Disciplinary and Ethics Regulations] is Arabic. This English-language translation is provided as a guide and is for informational purposes only. In the event of any discrepancy between this version and the binding Arabic version, the latter shall prevail.

#### **Part I: Definitions & Preliminary Provisions**

**Chapter I: Definitions Article (1): Definitions:** 

The following terms and expressions shall wherever used herein have the meanings set out opposite thereto. A reference to the singular includes the plural and vice versa words importing the masculine shall include the feminine and vice versa unless the context requires otherwise.

Kingdom	Kingdom of Saudi Arabia	
SAFF	Saudi Arabian Football Federation	
SAFF Chairman	Chairman of SAFF Board of Directors	
Board	SAFF Board of Directors	
Statutes & Regulations	Statutes, regulations, circulars and other directives issued by SAFF and Sports Associations along with the Laws of the Game	
Laws of the Game	Laws issued by the International Football Association Board (IFAB)	
Code	SAFF Disciplinary and Ethics Code	
Committee	The Disciplinary and Ethics Committee having jurisdiction to apply the sanctions provided for herein.	
<b>Appeal Committee</b>	The Committee having jurisdiction to consider appeals against non-final decisions passed by the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee.	
SSAC	Saudi Sports Arbitration Center	
Organizing Body	SAFF Secretariat General and competent committees or representative branches thereof in various regions, that organize, issue and follow up implementation of match schedules or any authority, association or body authorized by SAFF.	
Association	An organization or authority having a financially, administratively and organizationally independent juristic personality, and operating under the auspices of SAFF.	
Secretariat General	SAFF Administrative Authority.	
Club	A sports establishment or company having an independent legal personality, and officially licensed by the General Sports Authority and approved by SAFF.	
Game	Football	
Tournaments and Competitions	Official and friendly matches organized by SAFF, any Organizing Body, association or authority authorized by SAFF.	



Referee	All persons acting as referees to manage football matches and their assistants and officially approved by SAFF and recorded in the records thereof.	
Match Commissioner	The person appointed by SAFF to handle match administrative issues such as registering players in the match statement, and reviewing the cards of players to verify their identities during, before and after the match.	
Referee Assessor	The person appointed by SAFF Main Referee Committee to technically assess the performance of referees during official and friendly matches according to the Laws of the Game.	
Technical Staff Member	Every person recorded in the match official statements as a member of the technical or medical staff.	
General Coordinator	The person appointed by the Association to take over the organizational and coordinating matters and assist the Match Officials and Match Commissioners in their tasks.	
Media Coordinator	The person appointed by the Association to assume the media matters of the Match and to organize and supervise the procedures for press conferences, the mixed zone and TV interviews.	
Player	A professional or amateur football player recorded in the statements of the SAFF affiliated club.	
Offenses	Deeds and acts penalized under this Code.	
Sanctions	The sanctions prescribed against whomever commits any of the offenses provided for herein.	
Attempt	When a person proceeds with an offending act but could not conclude it.	
Foul Play	The use of excessive force or brutality against an opponent when challenging for the ball when it is in play.	
Offensive Conduct	The use of excessive force or brutality against an opponent when there is no challenge for the ball. This offense	
Infield	The area including the football playground and surrounding seats for technical and administrative staffs and players, track and dressing room corridors.	



Outfield	The area starting from stands and extending to outer fences of the stadium.	
Pre-Match	The time between the arrival of administrative and technical staff and players to the confines of the stadium and the kick-off whistle.	
<b>During the Match</b>	The time from the match kick-off till final whistle.	
Post-Match	The time from the final whistle till the players and officials have departed from the confines of the stadium.	
International Match	A match held between two teams from two different federations.	
Official Match	A match held under the auspices of SAFF or the Organizing Body of all teams and clubs controlled thereby. The said match's result affects the right to participate in other competitions unless the relevant regulations provide otherwise.	
Friendly Match	A match organized by SAFF, a club, Organizing Body, or another person between teams selected for such occasion that may be affiliated to different federations and the result affects said match only or the competition in question.	
Officers	Any person other than players performing a football-related activity at SAFF, any authority, club or association irrespective of the term or type of their office (administrative, sports, media or otherwise) including administrative, technical and medical staff, assistant staff, advisors, intermediaries, board members, club honorary members, SAFF employees such as members of the Board and committees, contracting and cooperating members, SAFF Secretariat General in addition to the authorities and associations affiliated to SAFF; etc.	
Match Official	The referee, linesmen, fourth official, match commissioner, referee assessor, match coordinator, persons in charge of protection and any other persons appointed by SAFF or the Organizing Body to assume any match-related responsibility.	
Match Official List	The list includes names of the starting and substitute players and officials who are participating in the match and are authorized to sit on the bench and be present inside the stadium.	



Sports Season	The period during which competitions, tournaments and official and friendly matches organized and determined by SAFF and sports associations are held.	
Fine	An amount paid in Saudi Riyal to SAFF account.	
Person	A natural or juristic person such as players, officials, clubs or else bound by the provisions of this Code.	

#### **Chapter II: Preliminary Provisions**

**Article (2): Objectives** 

This Code aims to:

- 1- Define breaches of SAFF statutes, regulations, circulars and resolutions;
- 2- Determine the applicable sanctions; and regulate the organization and functions of the committees in charge of decision-making as well as the actions to be taken by said committees;
- 3- Enhance principles of sports spirit, good competition, fair play and good manners confirming the importance of respect and application of football regulatory and legal bases and rules and compliance of football practitioners and affiliates with utmost degrees of integrity, honesty, honor and goodness; and
- 4- Maintain the good image of Saudi sports in general and football in particular by ensuring effective and proper deterrence of any improper act.

#### Article (3): Scope of Application of the Code

This Code applies to:

- 1- Every official match organized by SAFF or the Organizing Body;
- 2- Every friendly match organized after obtaining the consent of SAFF or the Organizing Body;
- 3- Any competition or tournament organized by SAFF or the Organizing Body;
- 4- Any breach of the objectives of this Code and the rules thereof;
- 5- Any physical or other injury suffered by a match official;
- 6- Any other football-related act not directly linked to a specific match;
- 7- Any act made by a person bound by this Code that is irrelevant to football and contrary to sports behavior and ethics; and
- 8- Any breach of SAFF statutes, objectives or resolutions or those of the Organizing Body or the Association that does not fall within the jurisdiction of any other committee.

## Article (4): Scope of Application of this Code in terms of (Natural/Juristic) Persons

- 1- The provisions of this Code shall apply to:
- 1-1 Clubs;
- 1-2 Officials;
- 1-3 Players;



- 1-4 Match referees, assessors, match commissioners and coordinators (Match Officials);
- 1-5 Match spectators at the stadium;
- 1-6 Authorized match agents and intermediaries;
- 1-7 Any person legally authorized by SAFF for a specific or unspecific duty especially in relation to any match, competition or any other event;
- 1-8 Any person who engages in a football-related sports activity and whose registration procedures have not been completed/fulfilled, or who was not registered when he committed the offense; and
- 1-9 Any other categories relevant to football that the Committee sees that they are bound by the provisions of this Code.
- 2- In the event that an individual bound by this Code ceases to serve in his function for any reason prior to or during proceedings, the Committee shall remain competent to render a decision according to the Code. The Committee may further suspend or proceed with proceedings according to the case heard before it.

#### **Article (5): Scope of Application of the Code in terms of Place:**

This Code shall apply to all competitions, tournaments and official and friendly matches held under the supervision of SAFF or the Organizing Body within or outside the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

#### **Article (6): Scope of Application of the Code in terms of Time:**

- 1- This Code applies to persons provided for under Article (4) thereof whether the offense occurred before, during or after the match.
- 2- This Code applies to every offense that occurred after this Code has come into force.
- 3- This Code applies to offenses committed before this Code comes into force and are still pending provided that the new sanction is lighter than the sanction provided for on the date of the offense.

**Part II: Sanctions** 

**Chapter I: Sanctioned Cases** 

**Article (7): Culpability** 

1- The offense shall be punishable regardless of whether it is committed intentionally, recklessly and/or negligently unless the regulations indicate otherwise.

2-In exceptional circumstances and for security and safety considerations, a Club, without having committed any offence, may be ordered to play a match without spectators or away from home or prevented from playing in a specific stadium.



#### **Article (8): Acts Amounting to Attempt**

Acts deemed as attempts shall also be punishable with the same sanction of full acts provided for under this Code. The Committee may mitigate the financial fine imposed on the person who so attempted.

#### **Article (9): Involvement**

- 1- Anyone who intentionally takes part in committing an offense, either as instigator or accomplice, shall also be sanctioned. The Committee may mitigate the sanction on the accomplice.
- 2- The Committee shall take into account the degree of guilt of the party involved and may mitigate the sanction envisaged for the original perpetrator accordingly. However, the mitigation shall not fall below the general low limit provided for under Article (14-2) of this Code.

#### **Chapter II: Types of Sanctions**

#### **Article (10): Sanctions on Natural Persons**

- 1- Natural persons shall be subject to the following sanctions:
- 1-1 Warning;
- 1-2 Reprimand;
- 1-3 Fine;
- 1-4 Withdrawal of awards;
- 1-5 Caution;
- 1-6 Ejection or exclusion;
- 1-7 Suspension for one or more matches;
- 1-8 Ban from entering dressing rooms and/or substitutes' bench;
- 1-9 Ban from entering the stadium;
- 1-10 Ban from taking part in any football-related activity; and
- 1-11 Any other sanctions provided for under the Federation or Association Regulations.
- 2- Any of these sanctions may be combined.

#### **Article (11) Sanctions on Legal Persons**

- 1- Legal persons shall be subject to the following sanctions:
- 1-1 Warning;
- 1-2 Reprimand;
- 1-3 Fine;
- 1-4 Withdrawal of awards;
- 1-5 Ban on registration of players;
- 1-6 Playing a match without spectators/full or partial closure of the stadium;
- 1-7 Playing a match off-ground on a neutral territory;
- 1-8 Ban from playing in a particular stadium;
- 1-9 Annulment of the result of a match;
- 1-10 Disqualification from a specific competition or tournament;
- 1-11 Defeat by forfeit;
- 1-12 Deduction of points;



- 1-13 Relegation to a lower division;
- 1-14 Order that the match be replayed;
- 1-15 Terminating the license to participate in the tournaments organized by SAFF or the Organizing Body;
- 1-16 Any other sanctions provided for under the Federation or Association Regulations.
- 2- Any of these sanctions may be combined.

#### Article (12): Warning

The warning is an official notice served to the perpetrator to remind him of the main contents of the infringed statutes or regulations and expresses disapproval of and dissatisfaction with the committed act.

#### Article (13): Reprimand

The Reprimand is an official notice of commission of an offense that reminds the party in breach of the contents of the regulations and threatens with a harsher sanction in the event that the offense is repeated.

#### Article (14): Fine

- 1- The fine shall be paid in Saudi Riyals.
- 2- The fine imposed under the provisions of this Code shall not be less than ten thousand (SAR 10,000) and it shall not exceed (SAR 1,000,000).
- 3- The sanctions under this Code shall be applied according to the following rates:
- 3-1 (100%) for offenses committed in the premier league competitions and tournaments;
- 3-2 (75%) for offenses committed in the competitions and tournaments of the first team (First Division).
- 3-3 (50%) for violations in championships and competitions of the Second and Third Divisions and U-19 teams.
- 3-4 (25%) for violations in championships and competitions of the U-16 and U-13 Divisions and all divisions of the Women's Football League.
- 4- As an exclusion from the above Clause; fines imposed according to Articles (56, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 81, 82, 83,84,85,86,87 & 140) of this Code shall be paid in full as prescribed by each Article.
- 5- The Committee shall set out the conditions of the fine payment and time limit.
- 6- Clubs shall be held jointly liable for the fines imposed on players and officials on teams representing them. The termination of the relation between the sanctioned person and the club he is affiliated to shall not for any ground whatsoever relieve the club from joint liability to settle the fine.
- 7- Where a person has failed to settle the fine; SAFF may deduct such fine from the financial entitlements of said person with SAFF or the Association.



8- The Committee may be satisfied with the penalty of suspension and may not impose a fine in relation to offenses of all levels of age groups, in particular, and divisions that do not apply professionalism, in general.

#### **Article (15): Withdrawal of Awards**

Every person against whom a decision was issued to withdraw the award shall also return the benefits he has received due to said award and he shall in particular return financial sums and symbolic items (medals, shields, etc...)

#### Article (16): Caution

- 1- A caution (yellow card) is a warning from the referee to any person during a match to sanction a serious unsporting behavior according to the Laws of the Game.
- 2- Where a player receives two cautions in one match; this results in ejection (indirect red card) and he shall be automatically suspended from playing the next match (See Article (17-3). Both cautions subject of the ejection shall as such be rescinded.
- 3- If a player receives two cautions in two (2) separate matches of the same SAFF competition organized on the group format or knockout format; the player shall be automatically suspended from the next match of the same competition.
- 4- If the player receives three (3) cautions in different matches of the same competition organized by SAFF or the Organizing Body on the (two-legged) league format; the player shall be automatically suspended for the next match of the same competition. Based upon a recommendation made by SAFF Competition Committee or the Organizing Body, the Committee may suspend or amend Clauses (3 & 4) of this Article prior to commencement of a specific competition and the Committee's relevant decision shall be final and incontestable.
- 5- If a match is replayed, any caution issued during that match shall be annulled. If a match is not to be replayed, the cautions received by the team responsible for abandonment of the match shall be upheld. In the event of joint liability, all cautions shall be counted.
- 6- Cautions issued in a match the result of which has been annulled shall be counted and not annulled.
- 7- Where a player commits an offense leading to an ejection and has received a direct red card; any other caution received thereby in the same match shall be counted.

#### **Article (17): Expulsion or Exclusion**

1- An ejection or exclusion is the order given by the referee to someone to leave the field of play and its surroundings, including the substitutes' bench, during a match. The person who has been sent off may be allowed into the stands unless he is serving a Stadium ban.



- 2- Ejection takes the form of a red card for players. The red card is regarded as direct if it sanctions a sending-off offence as set forth in the Laws of the Game and Article (46) hereof. It is regarded as indirect if it is the result of an accumulation of two (2) cautions.
- 3- An ejection or exclusion of any person automatically incurs suspension from the subsequent match of the same competition, even if imposed in a match that is later abandoned and/or cancelled.
- 4- An official who has been ejected or sent off shall:
- 4-1 Be entitled to give directives to his successor from the stands provided that he shall not cause any inconvenience to spectators or affect the continuity of the match;
- 4-2 Not enter his team dressing room between the two halves; and
- 4-3 Not be entitled to attend any post-match press conference officially held according to the regulations of the competition or tournament.

#### **Article (18): Suspension from Matches**

- 1- A suspension from a match is a ban on taking part in a future match (matches) or competition and on remaining in the field of play.
- 2- Suspension shall be for a limited number of matches, days or months according to the provisions of this Code.
- 3- If suspension is for a limited number of matches; only matches actually played in the division to which the player belongs unless the Committee's decision stipulates otherwise. Furthermore, any abandoned or forfeited match or a match the result of which has been cancelled shall not be counted to complete the number of suspension matches unless the team to which the suspended player belongs is not responsible for the incidents that led to abandonment, forfeit or non-computation of the result of the match.
- 4- Suspension shall only apply to official matches unless the Committee's decisions provides otherwise.
- 5- Where suspension is accompanied with a fine; the Committee may extend suspension up until the fine has been paid in full.
- 6- The player or the official shall be suspended from all official matches he is entitled to participate therein.
- 7- Suspension issued against players or officials due to offenses shall apply to all competitions and tournaments held all over the Kingdom, regions and governances unless the Committee's decision provides otherwise save for the provisions of Articles (16 & 17) of this Code.
- 8- The activity cessation period between seasons shall not be counted in the suspension sanction period.
- 9- The player or the official may be temporarily suspended up until a final decision is issued in his connection.
- 10- The effect of the suspension resulting from the several cautions or ejections decided against the player shall expire, if the result of the match is cancelled due to his ineligibility to participate, in accordance with Article 59 of the Regulations. If the suspension is decided by the Committee for more



than one match, the effect of the suspension shall not expire unless the suspension period is completed.

11- Unlike the players, the Officer shall be suspended for all official matches in which he is entitled to participate within the same division in which the offense is committed.

#### Article (19): Ban from dressing rooms and/or substitutes' bench;

- 1- This deprives an individual from access to a team dressing room(s) and the area immediately surrounding the field of play.
- 2- This also deprives an individual from sitting on the team bench before, during, and after a match.

#### Article (20): Stadium Ban

- 1- A Stadium ban prohibits an individual from entering a specific stadium.
- 2- An individual may be concurrently banned from more than one (1) stadium.

#### Article (21): Ban on taking part in any football-related activity

- 1- A ban on taking part in any kind of football-related activity prohibits an individual from any involvement in any administrative, sports, media or similar activities.
- 2- This ban includes without limitation:
- 2-1 Attending a match in any competition or tournament organized by SAFF or the Organizing Body;
- 2-2 Taking part in a match in any competition or tournament organized by SAFF or the Organizing Body;
- 2-3 Attending or participating in any training activities connected with any club;
- 2-4 Performing any administrative duties connected with football or any activity on behalf of any club; and
- 2-5 Attending any football-related function or course organized by SAFF or the Organizing Body.

#### Article (22): Ban on Registration of Players

Ban on registration of players means banning any club from registration of any new, additional or substitute player during the registration periods prescribed under SAFF rules for registration of players.

## Article (23): Playing a match without spectators/full or partial closure of the stadium

- 1- A club is ordered to play a future match with a full closure of the stadium or a part thereof shall be without spectators.
- 2- The Committee may decide to close a specific part of the stands.
- 3- Where part of the stands is closed; this shall not affect the tickets allocated to the visiting team or the stands thereof.



#### Article (24): Playing a match away on a neutral territory

The club may be ordered to play a specific match away on a neutral territory.

#### Article (25): Ban on Playing in a particular stadium

The Committee may ban the club's team from playing in a particular stadium.

#### Article (26): Annulment of the result of a match

The match result declared by the referee shall not be counted. (See Article 30)

#### Article (27): Disqualification from a competition or tournament

The club may be disqualified from taking part in a competition or tournament in progress or a future competition or tournament.

#### Article (28): Relegation to a lower division;

It may be decided that the club shall be relegated to a lower division.

#### **Article (29): Deduction of Points**

- 1- The club may have its points deducted in a competition or tournament in progress.
- 2- The club may have its points deducted in any future competition or tournament.

#### Article (30): Forfeit

- 1- A team sanctioned with a forfeit is considered to have lost the relevant match 3-0.
- 2- If the goal difference at the end of the relevant match is over (3-0), the declared result shall be upheld.

#### Article (31): Order that a Match be replayed

A match may be replayed if it could not take place, or, when a match is not played in full, may be completed from the point when it was stopped, if this is not due to the force majeure but to the behavior of a team or any reason the club is liable therefor.

# Article (32): Withdrawal of license to a competition organized by SAFF or the Organizing Body

An order that a license to participate in competitions or tournaments organized by SAFF or the Organizing Body shall be withdrawn upon a decision made by the authority issuing the license to the club to participate in future competitions or tournaments.

#### **Chapter III: Common Rules Governing Sanctions**

**Article (33): Combined sanctions** 

The sanctions provided for in this Code may be combined.



#### Article (34): Suspension of implementation of sanctions

- 1. The Committee may whilst pronouncing a sanction suspend enforcement thereof wholly or partially.
- 2. As regards suspension, the sanction may not be suspended where the sanction terms is less than six matches or six months.
- 3. Where the enforcement of the sanction is wholly or partially suspended, the sanctioned person shall be subject to a minimum probationary period of at least six months but not in excess of two years.
- 4. If the party benefiting from a suspended sanction commits another offense during the probationary period; the suspension shall be automatically revoked and the sanction shall be enforced in addition to the sanction prescribed for the new offense.
- 5. This Article does not apply to doping, corruption, falsification, forgery, betting, or unlawfully influencing match results.

#### **Article (35): Suspension Term**

The rest periods during or between seasons shall not be held a suspension period. In the event of any suspension; the sanction shall be completed in the following season.

#### Article (36): Effectiveness of Sanctions and Register of Sanctions

- 1. Sanctions and interim actions shall apply upon having been notified.
- 2. Cautions, ejection, exclusion and automatic suspension shall automatically apply to the next match according to Articles (16-4) and (17-3) of this Code without the need for a notice. Clubs shall be held liable for receiving a copy of the report of the match officials after the end of the match and said receipt shall be held an official notice of the above sanctions.
- 3. The club shall calculate the sanctions imposed on its affiliates.
- 4. To ensure that the records are complete; sanctions declared during competitions organized by continental and civil federations and that may apply to the competitions organized by SAFF or future competitions organized by continental federations shall be added.

# **Chapter IV: Carrying Over Cautions and Suspension from Matches Article (37): Persistent Cautions**

- 1- Cautions imposed on a player during a competition or tournament shall not be carried over to another competition or tournament.
- 2- Cautions shall be carried over from one round to another in the same competition or tournament.
- 3- Based upon a reasoned application and an obvious error committed by the match official; the Committee may in exceptional cases cancel cautions that have not resulted in ejection and the decision of the Committee shall be held final, binding and incontestable.



#### **Article (38): Carrying Over Match Suspensions**

- 1- As a general rule, every match suspension (against players, match officials or else) shall be carried over from one stage to the next in the same competition.
- 2- Suspensions resulting from sending-off a player but not served during the competition or tournament for which they have been intended or during the last match thereof shall remain with the player even outside the competition and he shall be suspended at the first official match he is entitled to participate therein subject to the provisions of Article (18) of this Code.
- 3- Suspensions resulting from sending-off a player but not served during age category competition or tournament for which they have been intended or during the last match thereof shall remain with the player even outside the competition and he shall be suspended at the first official match he is entitled to participate therein of the same age category. Where the player has exceeded such category, he shall be suspended in the first official match he is entitled to participate therein in the higher age category.
- 4- Where the player receives several cautions in different matches of one competition and he has been accordingly suspended; such suspension shall not be carried over to another competition or tournament.
- 5- Clause (2) of this Article shall likewise apply to any suspension pronounced against individuals other than players.
- 6- Any other suspensions pronounced against a player or official and not served during the sports season for which they have been intended shall be carried over to the next sports season.

#### **Chapter V: Sanction Determination**

#### Article (39): General Rule

- 1- The judicial committee shall determine the extent, term and consequences of sanctions.
- 2- The sanction term shall always be determined.
- 3- Whilst considering any offense; the Committee shall take into account all relevant elements thereof, the respective individual and the consequences that the offense has caused or may cause.
- 4- The relevant committee shall have the power to mitigate or aggravate sanctions on the basis of the respective surrounding circumstances.
- 5- The Committee may issue aggravating sanctions on offenses committed during final matches.
- 6- In addition to sanctions provided for in the Articles of this Code on every offense; the Committee may impose additional sanctions from amongst sanctions provided for under Articles (10 & 11) of this Code according to the circumstances surrounding the incident.

#### **Article (40): Repeated Offense**

1- The Committee may in the event of repeated offense during the same sports season aggravate the pronounced sanction up to (50%) of the previous offense. Failing which, a financial fine shall be imposed unless provided otherwise.



The Committee may impose additional sanctions from amongst sanctions provided for under Articles (10 & 11) of this Code.

- 2- A person shall not be held a repeat offender unless he has committed an offense of the same type in the same competition during the same sports season.
- 3- Notwithstanding the date of the previous offense; whoever commits corruption, manipulation of match or competition results, betting, forgery, falsification or any violation of anti-doping regulations shall be held a repeat offender.

#### **Article (41): Concurrent Offenses**

- 1- If a person commits one act giving rise to several offenses, the Committee may impose the harshest sanction on the committed offenses. It may further according to the circumstances, aggravate the sanction up to fifty per cent (50%) of the maximum sanction prescribed for such offence.
- 2- Where a person commits several closely connected offenses with the same objective; the Committee may either apply the sanctions provided for hereunder or impose the harshest sanction on the committed offense together with imposition of additional sanctions according to Articles (10 & 11) of this Code.
- 3- Where a person commits more than one offense each of which entails a sanction of the same type (two sanctions of suspension from play or ban on access to stadiums); the Committee may in addition to the sanctions provided for hereunder aggravate the sanction or impose additional sanctions according to Articles (10 & 11) of this Code.

#### **Chapter VI: Time Limitation**

#### **Article (42): Determination of Litigation Time Limits**

- 1- Offenses committed during a match shall prescribe after the lapse after thirty (30) days from the date on which it is committed.
- 2- Media abuse violations shall be time-lapsed after (90) ninety days from the date of publication thereof.
- 3- Other violations shall be time-lapsed after ninety (90) days from the date on which they are committed, unless the provisions hereof stipulate otherwise.
- 4- Violations of doping or corruption of whatsoever form, embezzlement, betting, falsification or unlawfully affecting scores of matches or results of competitions shall expire by prescription after (10) ten years from date on which they are committed.

#### **Article (43): Commencement of the Litigation Time Limit**

The litigation time limit shall commence on the day in which:

- 1- The person has committed such offense;
- 2- The most recent offense has been committed for linked offenses according to the provision of Article (41-2) of this Code.



3- The offense has prescribed for persistent offenses.

#### **Article (44): Interruption of the Offense Time Limit**

- 1- The offense limitation period shall be held interrupted if the Committee has commenced proceedings prior to expiry of the limitation period.
- 2- The limitation period shall be held interrupted where criminal complaints have been filed against the person who has violated the provisions hereof up until the conclusion of proceedings. Opening criminal proceedings does not preclude the Committee from considering the case.

#### **Article (45): Sanction Enforcement Limitation Period**

- 1- The limitation period for enforcement of sanctions shall be five (5) years.
- 2- The limitation period for enforcement of sanctions shall commence on the day on which the decision comes into force.
- 3- The limitation period for enforcement of sanctions shall not apply to offenses involving corruption, misappropriation of funds, betting and unlawfully influencing the results of matches and competitions.

# Part III: Disciplinary Offenses and Sanctions Chapter I: Offenses relating to the Laws of the Game Article (46): Minor Offenses resulting in Cautions

- 1- Any person shall be cautioned if he commits any of the following offences:
- 1-1 Unsporting behavior;
- 1-2 Dissent by word or action;
- 1-3 Persistent violation of the Laws of the Game;
- 1-4 Delaying the restart of play;
- 1-5 Failure to retreat the required distance when play is restarted with a corner kick, free kick or throw-in;
- 1-6 Entering or re-entering the field of play without the referee's permission; and
- 1-7 Deliberately leaving the field of play without the referee's permission.

#### Article (47): Serious Offenses Entailing Ejection or Exclusion:

Any person shall be sent off if he commits any of the following offences:

- 1-1 Serious foul play;
- 1-2 Offensive conduct;
- 1-3 Spitting at an opponent or any other person;
- 1-4 Denying the opposing team a goal or a certain goal-scoring opportunity by deliberately handling the ball (this does not apply to a goalkeeper within his own penalty area);
- 1-5 Denying a certain goal-scoring opportunity to an opponent moving towards the player's goal by an offence sanctioned by a free kick or a penalty kick;
- 1-6 Using offensive or insulting language and/or gestures;
- 1-7 Receiving a second caution in the same match.



2- In addition to the above offenses, Officers shall be sent off/ejected by the referee where they have acted disorderly or failed to control themselves.

# **Chapter II: Offenses committed by persons and Sanctions Article (48): Offenses against players or persons other than Match Officials:**

- 1- Any player who receives a direct red card due to a serious offense against players or other persons other than match officials shall be sanctioned as follows:
- 1-1 One-match suspension and a fine of ten thousand (10,000) Saudi Riyals for violent play with the use of excessive force.
- 1-2 Two-match suspension and a fine of twenty thousand (20,000) Saudi Riyals for offensive misconduct or use of offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures towards the opponent or any other person other than match officials.
- 1-3 Six-match suspension and a fine of sixty thousand (60,000) Saudi Riyals for spitting at the opponent or any other person other than match officials.
- 2- Any person who commits an offense towards players or other persons other than match officials shall be sanctioned as follows:
- 1-2 One-match suspension and a fine of ten thousand (10,000) Saudi Riyals for offending any person, breach of the principles of fair play or commission of any unsporting conduct in any form whatsoever.
- 2-2 Two-match suspension and a fine of twenty thousand (20,000) Saudi Riyals for attempting to attack an opponent team player or any other person.
- 2-3 Four-match suspension and a fine of forty thousand (40,000) Saudi Riyals for attacking an opponent team player or any other person.
- 2-4 Six-match suspension and a fine of sixty thousand (60,000) Saudi Riyals for spitting on anyone other than the Match Officials.
- 3- The Committee may sanction the offenses that are mentioned in this Article and are not observed by Match Officials according to Article (98-3) of this Code.
- 4- The automatic suspension match resulted according to Article (17-3) shall be taken into account upon calculation of the suspension period to be decided by the Committee.

#### **Article (49): Offenses against Match Officials:**

- 1- Any player who receives a direct red card due to a serious offense against match officials shall be sanctioned as follows:
- 1-1 Four-match suspension and a fine of forty thousand (40,000) Saudi Riyals for use of offensive, insulting or abusive acts, language and/or gestures towards any match official.
- 1-2 Six-match suspension and a fine of sixty thousand (60,000) Saudi Riyals for attempting to attack any Match Official.
- 1-3 Six-month suspension and a fine of eighty thousand (80,000) Saudi Riyals for attacking any Match Official.



- 1-4 Six-month suspension and a fine of one hundred thousand (100,000) Saudi Riyals for spitting at any match official.
- 2- Any person who commits an offense towards Match Officials shall be sanctioned as follows:
- 2-1 Two-match suspension and a fine of twenty thousand (20,000) Saudi Riyals for offending any match official, breach of the principles of fair play or commission of any unsporting conduct in any form whatsoever.
- 2-2 Four-match suspension and a fine of forty thousand (40,000) Saudi Riyals for attempting to attack a Match Official in any form whatsoever.
- 2-3 Six-match suspension and fine of sixty thousand (60,000) Saudi Riyals for attempted attacking a Match Official in any form whatsoever.
- 2-4 Six-month suspension and a fine of eighty thousand (80,000) Saudi Riyals for attacking a Match Official in any form whatsoever.
- 2-5 Six-month suspension and a fine of one hundred thousand (100,000) Saudi Riyals for spitting at any Match Official.
- 3. The Committee may sanction the offenses that are mentioned in this Article and are not observed by Match Officials according to Article (93-3) of this Code.
- 4. The automatic suspension match resulted according to Article (17-3) shall be taken into account upon calculation of the suspension period to be decided by the Committee.

#### Article (50): Media Abuse

Any person who commits any media abuse using mass media such as newspapers, radio, television, online newspapers, club official website, forums, social media sites, media statements and announcements shall be sanctioned as follows:

- 1- A fine up to forty thousand (40,000) Saudi Riyals if the abuse is against players or other persons other than match officials;
- 2- A fine up to fifty thousand (50,000) Saudi Riyals if the abuse is against match officials;
- 3- A fine up to eighty thousand (80,000) Saudi Riyals if the abuse is against SAFF or its judicial or other committees, the Association or board members, employees or workers thereof;
- 4- A fine up to one hundred thousand (100,000) Saudi Riyals if the announcement made has provoked the public opinion or involves immoral and unsporting terms or gestures.
- 5- As regards serious offenses (such as offense, insult and accusation); the offender shall be sanctioned as follows:
- 5-1. Players or training or medical staff members shall be suspended from matches for a year and shall pay a fine of three hundred thousand (300,000) Saudi Riyals.



- 5-2 Persons other than those set forth in the preceding paragraph shall be banned from taking part in any football-related activity for a year and shall pay a fine of three hundred thousand (300,000) Saudi Riyals.
- 6- In addition to above sanctions; the Committee may impose additional sanctions against the offender according to Articles (10 & 11) of this Code.
- 7- In the event provided for in Clause (1) of this Article, disciplinary actions shall not commence unless the afflicted person has filed a complaint to the Committee according to Article (142) of this Code with the exclusion of the offenses set forth in Clause (4) of this Article.

#### **Article (51): Spectator Improper Conduct**

- 1- The (home/visiting) club shall be held liable for improper conduct among its spectators regardless of liability for or oversight of the same.
- 2- Where spectators of any club use violence towards persons or objects; remove equipment; tamper club's properties such as stands and else; throw fireworks, any types of explosives, smoke bombs or combustible or incendiary devices into the course of the field of play in a manner that poses danger to spectators in stands; throw tools such as water bottles or shoes; use insulting terms or offending the dignity of any person or a group of persons by making sounds or using laser pointers or similar harmful electronic devices; or invade the field of play; the club shall be subject to one or more sanctions as follows:
- 2-1 A fine of not less than ten thousand (10,000) Saudi Riyals but not exceeding one hundred thousand (100,000) Saudi Riyals according to the table below:

Type of Offense	Fine
Removing equipment; and tampering club's properties such as stands and else	One hundred thousand (100,000) Saudi Riyals
Throwing fireworks, any types of explosives, smoke bombs or combustible or incendiary devices into the course of the field of play in a manner that poses danger to spectators in stands	Thirty thousand (30,000) Saudi Riyals
Throwing tools such as water bottles, shoes or else.	Ten thousand (10,000) Saudi Riyals: From one to four tools Thirty thousand (30,000) Saudi Riyals: From five to nine tools Sixty thousand (60,000) Saudi Riyals: From ten to nineteen tools One hundred thousand (100,000) Saudi Riyals: From twenty tools and above



Type of Offense	Fine
Using insulting terms or offending the dignity of any person or a group of persons by making sounds	Fifty thousand (50,000) Saudi Riyals
Using laser pointers or similar harmful electronic devices	Ten thousand (10,000) Saudi Riyals: From one to four devices Thirty thousand (30,000) Saudi Riyals: From five to nine devices Sixty thousand (60,000) Saudi Riyals: From ten to nineteen devices One hundred thousand (100,000) Saudi Riyals: From twenty devices and above
Invading the field of play or an aggressive act of a spectator against any person.	One hundred thousand (100,000) Saudi Riyals
Where any person is injured notwithstanding the determined number of the type of offense; the club shall be subject to the highest limit of the fine.	One hundred thousand (100,000) Saudi Riyals

- 2-2 The club shall play one or more matches without spectators.
- 2-3 The club shall play one or more matches away or be banned from play at home for a specific number of matches.
- 2-4 The Committee may impose additional sanctions according to Articles (10 & 11) of this Code; aggravate the sanction; or increase the financial fine in the event of serious disorders subject to severity of the offense without any consideration to sanctions hierarchy.
- 3- Where the club spectators commit any of the offenses set forth in this Article after the first time; this shall be held a repeated offense irrespective of the type of both offenses.
- 4- Where the referee has terminated the match earlier due to spectators' misconduct; the club whose spectators have caused match termination shall be held to have lost the match according to the provisions of Article (30) of this Code.
- 5- The Committee may not impose or reduce the sanction if the offense stems from an individual act, and the club submits evidence that the offender has been handed over to the competent stadium security officers.



#### Article (52): Brawl

- 1- Every person who has actually been involved in a brawl before, during or after the match shall be sanctioned with suspension for six (6) matches and a fine of sixty thousand (60,000) Saudi Riyals. The Committee may aggravate the sanction against the party that has sparked the brawl.
- 2- Every person who tries to prevent a brawl; protects others or disperse those involved in the brawl shall not be sanctioned.

#### **Article (53): Unidentified Aggressors**

In case of violence by unidentified persons; the club to which the aggressors belong shall be sanctioned with a fine at the sum of eighty thousand (80,000) Saudi Riyals in addition to proper sports sanctions according to Article (11) of this Code.

#### **Article (54): Team Misconduct**

- 1- Where the referee sanctions six players or more of a club during one match (by caution or ejection); a fine of ten thousand (10,000) Saudi Riyals may be imposed.
- 2- Where a team member has threatened or caused inconvenience to match officials or any other persons; a fine up to thirty thousand (30,000) Saudi Riyals may be imposed.

#### **Article (55): Damage to Stadium Facilities and Properties**

- 1- Whoever causes damage to the stadium facilities and properties, i.e. dressing room, substitutes' bench or the like, shall be sanctioned with a fine of ten thousand (10,000) Saudi Riyals. The Committee may impose a harsher sanction in the event of substantial damage.
- 2- Where it is not possible to identify the person who has caused the damage, the offense shall be legally held caused by a person belonging to the club to which the stadium facilities and properties, i.e. the dressing room, the substitutes' bench or the like, has been allocated. The club shall be held liable to the offense and sanctioned according to the preceding clause.

#### **Article (56): Inciting Hatred and Violence**

- 1- Any person who publicly incites others during or on occasion of a match to hatred or violence shall be sanctioned as follows:
- 1-1 If the offender is a player, a training or medical staff member or a team official such as a board member or else; he shall be suspended from matches for a year and sanctioned with a fine of three hundred thousand (300,000) Saudi Riyals.
- 1-2 Any other offender shall be banned from participating in any football-related activity for one year and sanctioned with a fine of three hundred thousand (300,000) Saudi Riyals.



#### **Article (57): Violations against Spectators**

- 1- Anyone who provokes spectators with an action, statement or gesture during a match shall be suspended for one matches and sanctioned with a fine of ten thousand (10,000) Saudi Riyals.
- 2- Any person, who offends spectators by actions, words, or signals during any match, shall be suspended for two matches and shall pay a fine of (20,000) twenty thousand Riyals.
- 3- The Committee may impose penalties additional to those stipulated in Article (10) of these Regulations.

#### Article (58): Ineligibility

- 1- An ineligible person is the one who is fielded in a match and has committed one of the following offenses:
- 1-1 A player holds two documents with two different dates of birth;
- 1-2 A player is not registered with the club;
- 1-3 A player or an official has been registered in the match record despite being suspended;
- 1-4 A player has participated in the name of another player or based upon the card of another player or used a forged card;
- 1-5 A player or an official has participated though he is not registered in the match record;
- 1-6 A player has signed the statement of two different clubs;
- 1-7 A player has participated following consummation of substitution;
- 1-8 A player has participated in a lower division though the competition or tournament format does not so permit;
- 1-9 A player does not hold a player's card;
- 1-10 A player holds a non-renewed card;
- 1-11 A player has signed for more than one game in the club;
- 1-12 A retired player has participated in the match as a player; and
- 1-13 A working and practicing referee has participated in the match as a player.
- 1-14 Any violation of any of regulation of SAFF or the Organizing Body, causing the player's participation in the match.
- 2- Where a player who is ineligible has participated in an official match; the team shall be held to have lost the match and is sanctioned with a fine of fifty thousand (50,000) Saudi Riyals. The official involved or engaged in the offense shall be suspended for two months. Where more than one ineligible player has participated in the same official match; the financial fine shall be imposed against the club for every ineligible player that has participated.
- 3- The results of previous matches in which the player has participated prior to discovery of said offense shall be held valid.
- 4- Where an official who is ineligible has participated in an official match; he shall be suspended for two months and sanctioned with a fine of sixty thousand (60,000) Saudi Riyals.



- 5- Where the ineligibility of a player or an official participating in match is connected with forgery of any documents subject of the offenses set forth in Clause (1) of this Article; he shall be sanctioned according to Article (75) of this Code.
- 6- If the offence is discovered after the completion of a competition or tournament, the Committee may additionally order that the team be excluded from a future competition or the deduction of points from a future tournament or competition.
- 7- Where the offense is discovered at the final round of a tournament or competition; the awards received by the ineligible team shall be withdrawn.

#### Article (59): Abandonment of an official match

- 1. If a team unjustifiably refrains from playing or continuing a match, in league-type championships or competitions, it shall be subject to the following penalty:
- 1/1. A fine of (500,000) five hundred thousand Riyals.
- 1/2. Consider that the team has lost the match.
- 1/3. Deduct (3) of the team's points in the same competition
- 2. If a team unjustifiably refrains from completing the matches of the competition or championship, it shall be subject to the following penalty
- 2/1. A fine of (1,000,000) one million Riyals.
- 2/2 Consider the team in the last place.
- 2/3 Relegate the team to the lower division if the competition type includes promotion and relegation
- 2/4 Deprive the team of the subsidy allocated to the game division
- 3. If a team unjustifiably refrains from playing a match, in knockout competitions, it shall be subject to the following penalty
- 3/1. A fine of (500,000) five hundred thousand Riyals.
- 3/2. Consider that the team has lost the match, and prevent it from completing the rest of matches in the current competition.
- 3/3. Prohibit the team from participating in knockout competition in the next season.
- 3/4. Deprive the team of any amount of money allocated to the game division.
- 4. The Committee may refer the violation to the organizing entity

#### **Article (60): Withdrawal from an Official Match:**

- 1. If the team withdraws from completing the match without a legitimate reason in the championships or competitions that are held in league-type competitions, the following penalties shall be imposed:
- 1/1 The withdrawn team shall be considered to have lost the match.
- 1/2 A fine of (500,000) five hundred thousand riyals.
- 1/3 Deduction of three (3) points.



- 2. If the team withdraws from completing the match without a legitimate reason in the championships or competitions that are held in knockout competitions, the following penalties shall be imposed:
- 1/2 The withdrawn team shall be considered to have lost the match and shall be prohibited from completing the rest of the current competition or championship matches.
- 2/2 A fine of (500,000) five hundred thousand riyals.
- 3. The Committee may refer the violation to the organizing entity

#### Article (61): Team's Delay for the Match

Where any team is late for twenty minutes following the time of the match start and said delay is not for acceptable reasons; the Committee may sanction the team as set forth in Article (59) of this Code.

# Article (62): Delay in Entering the Field of Play or Delay in Delivering the List of Players Names:

- 1. Where any team fails to enter the field of play on the time fixed for the start of the first or second half or additional halves; a team refuses to change jerseys at the request of the referee and this has caused delay in the start of the match, the team shall be sanctioned with a fine of ten thousand (10,000) Saudi Riyals.
- 2. Should the team administrative official fails to timely hand over the statement of the players participating in the match, the team shall be sanctioned with a fine of ten thousand (10,000) Saudi Riyals.

#### Article (63): Being Late for or Absent From Press Conferences

Subject to the provisions of Article (17-4-3) of this Code; the following sanctions shall apply where coaches or players are late for press meetings or conferences held after the match:

- 1- Delay: Warning
- 2- Absence: A fine of twenty thousand (20,000) Saudi Riyals against the player and thirty thousand (30,000) against the coach.

#### **Article (64): Not Carrying out referee decisions**

Whoever refuses to carry out a decision by the referee and this disrupts the match shall be suspended four (4) matches and sanctioned with a fine of forty thousand (40,000) Saudi Riyals.

#### Article (65): Entering the Field of Play to influence the Progress of the Match

Whoever enters the field of play with a view to influence the progress of the match shall be suspended for four (4) matches and sanctioned with a fine of forty thousand (40,000) Saudi Riyals, and the Committee may impose additional sanctions under Articles (10) and (11) hereof.



#### Article (66): Entering the Field of Play or the Dressing Room

Whoever enters the field of play or the dressing room before, during or after the match, despite not being registered in the official statement of the match, shall be sanctioned with a fine of twenty thousand (20,000) Saudi Riyals. The Committee may apply additional sanctions according to Articles (10 &11) of the Code.

#### Article (67): Inciting Withdrawal of the Team and Delay of the Match

Whoever incites the team to withdraw from the field of play to disrupt or not complete the match shall be suspended for six (6) matches and sanctioned with a fine of sixty thousand (60,000) Saudi Riyals.

#### Article (68): Smoking at the stadium

Whoever smokes at the field of play shall be sanctioned with a fine of twenty thousand (20,000) Saudi Riyals.

#### **Article (69): Refusal to receive awards:**

Whoever refuses to receive awards without an acceptable excuse shall be deprived from the allocated (financial or in-kind) awards and sanctioned with a fine of twenty thousand (20,000) Saudi Riyals.

#### **Article (70): Refusal to Change Players' Jerseys**

Where the club refuses to cause players to change clothes after having been granted a time limit of fifteen (15) minutes by the referee; the club shall be held as having lost the match and sanctioned with a fine of one hundred thousand (100,000) Saudi Riyals.

#### **Article (71): Compliance with holding the Identification Card**

- 1. Whoever fails to put on the ID card issued by SAFF, the Association or the Organizing Body within the stadium during competitions or tournaments shall be sanctioned with a fine of twenty thousand (20,000) Saudi Riyals.
- 2. Whoever uses the ID card of another person to enter places in which access is unauthorized for him shall be sanctioned with a fine of twenty thousand (20,000) Saudi Riyals
- 3. The Committee may impose additional sanctions from amongst those sanctions provided for under Article (10) of this Code.

#### **Article (72): Discrimination**

1- Any person bound by this Code must not offend the dignity of a person or group of persons or a country through contemptuous, discriminatory or denigrating words, gestures or actions concerning gender, skin color, race, nationality or social origin, disability, language, religion, ideology, political opinion, wealth, birth or or any other reason. Subject to Article (56) hereof; the offender shall be sanctioned as follows:



- 1-1 Where the offender is a player; he shall then be suspended for not less than six (6) matches but not be in excess of two years and sanctioned with a fine of one hundred thousand (100,000) Saudi Riyals.
- 1-2 Where the offender is an Officer or intermediary; he shall be banned from participating in any football-related activity for a maximum of two years and sanctioned with a fine of two hundred thousand (200,000) Saudi Riyals.
- 1-3 Where several persons (officials and/or players) from the same club simultaneously are involved in the offense provided for under Clause (1) of this Article or there are other aggravating circumstances; the respective team shall be sanctioned as follows:
- 2-1 Deduction of three (3) points for the first offence; and
- 2-2 Deduction of six (6) points for the second offence.
- 2-3 The Committee may decide relegation of the team to a lower division in the event of the third offense.
- 2-4 In the event of knockout matches; the team may be disqualified from the competition and sanctioned with a fine of at least one hundred thousand (100,000) Saudi Riyals.
- 3- Where spectators of a team breach Clause (1) of this Article during a match; the concerned club shall be sanctioned as follows:
- 3-1 A fine of two hundred thousand (200,000) Saudi Riyals.
- 3-2 In the event of repeated offense; the club supporters shall be banned from having access to the stadium for one to six matches.
- 4- In serious cases; spectators' offenses shall receive additional sanctions i.e. the team shall play a match without spectators; lose the match result; have points deducted; or be banned from participating in the competition or tournament.

#### Article (73): Threat

- 1- Any person who intimidates a Match Official with serious threats shall be suspended for six (6) matches and sanctioned with a fine of one hundred thousand (100,000) Saudi Riyals.
- 2- The Committee may in serious offenses impose more sanctions according to Article (10) of this Code.

#### Article (74): Coercion

- 1- Any person who uses violence or threat to pressure a match official into taking a certain action or to hinder him in any other way from acting shall be suspended for six (6) months and sanctioned with a fine of one hundred thousand (100,000) Saudi Riyals.
- 2- The Committee may in serious offenses impose more sanctions according to Article (10) of this Code.



#### Article (75): Forgery

- 1- Any person who, in football-related activities: forges a document; whether an authentic or other document; or uses a forged document in a football-related activity shall be sanctioned as follows:
- 1-1 A fine of two hundred thousand (200,000) Saudi Riyals.
- 1-2 If the perpetrator is a player; he shall be suspended for no less than six months and no more than one year.
- 1-3 If the perpetrator is an official; he shall be banned from taking part in any football-related activity for at least two years.
- 2- The club shall be held jointly liable for breach of Clause (1) of this Article if the offense is committed by one of its officials and/or players. The club may also be disqualified from the competition or tournament with the imposition of a proper fine.
- 3- If a club forges the registration document or players' ID cards (for example changing photo, data or stamps of SAFF, the Association or any SAFF committee); the club shall be disqualified from the competition and/or banned from registration of players in addition to imposition of a fine of one hundred thousand (100,000) Saudi Riyals.

#### Article (76): Unlawfully influencing match and competition results

- 1- No person bound by this Code may be connected with the manipulating of football matches or competitions. Any direct or indirect influence, by an act or omission, on the course or result of a football match and/or competition with a view to secure a material advantage, sporting gain or any other end shall be held manipulation. Any person bound by this Code shall be particularly prevented from giving, offering, receiving, requesting or soliciting any financial or other benefits for his own gain or third parties within the scope of influencing the result of a football match or competition.
- 2- The offender shall be sanctioned as follows:
- 2-1 A fine of at least three hundred thousand (300,000) Saudi Riyals.
- 2-2 Suspension for a least two years and no more than five years or ban from participating in any football-related activity.
- 2-3 The offender shall in serious offenses be banned from taking part in any football-related activity for life.
- 3- Where any person has unlawfully influenced the result of a match in accordance with Clause (1) of this Article and it has been established to the Committee that the club to which said person is aware of the same or is involved in any way to influence the result of the match or has not reported said offense; the club shall be sanctioned as follows:
- 3-1 A financial fine against the club to which said person belongs at the sum of five hundred thousand (500,000) Saudi Riyals.



- 3-2 Serious violations may lead to the imposition of expulsion from the competition or championship, relegation to a lower division, deduction of points, and/or withdrawal of prizes, together with aggravating the fine.
- 4- The club that has manipulated the results of any match to influence the rank of another club or other clubs shall be fined and sanctioned with deduction of points, ejection from a competition, relegation to a lower division, and/or withdrawal of awards.
- 5- Any person bound by this Code shall promptly and voluntarily notify SAFF Secretary General and SAFF competent judicial committee of any act of manipulating or unlawful influence on any match, competition or tournament or results thereof.

#### **Article (77): Corruption**

- 1- Anyone bound by this Code must not accept, offer, promise, grant, receive, solicit or stipulate any an unjustified personal or financial advantage to himself or another person closely related to him to secure a service or advantage from a person belonging or not belonging to FIFA, AFC, SAFF or affiliated associations and this may violate the regulations of FIFA, AFC, SAFF, the Association or the State laws. This ban shall apply to the person whether the act is direct or indirect or in accomplice with third parties. Every person bound by this Code must be particularly prevented from accepting, offering, promising, granting, receiving, soliciting or stipulating any an unjustified personal or financial advantage with a view to make an act or omission that is related to his official duties but contradicts with the duties falling within his discretionary power.

  2- Every person bound by this Code shall not act or conduct in a manner that may suggest or raise suspicion of violating the provisions of Clause (1) of this
- Article.
  3- The person who violates Clauses (1 & 2) of this Article shall be sanctioned with a fine of at least five hundred thousand (500,000) Saudi Riyals and banned from taking part in any football-related activity for at least five years and no
- Suspension from having access to any stadium;
- Deduction of points in a current or future competition or tournament;

more than ten years and may be further sanctioned as follows:

- Ban on registration; and
- Relegation to a lower division.
- 4- Where it has become established to the Committee that a player, a club or else has been aware of the offense set forth in Clause (1) of this Article or got involved therein in any manner whatsoever but fails to report said offense; they shall receive one or more sanctions provided for under this Clause.
- 5- Whoever attempts to gain, promise or accept any an unjustified advantage shall, whether or not said advantage has been actually secured, receive one or more of the following sanctions:



- 5-1 A financial fine of five hundred thousand (500,000) Saudi Riyals;
- 5-2 Suspension from taking party in any football-related activity for two years.
- 6- The Committee shall under all circumstances order confiscation of all gained funds, if possible, and said assets shall be returned to SAFF.

#### Article (78): Betting

- 1- Any person bound by this Code shall be banned from participating directly or indirectly in betting or similar activities related to football matches or competitions or requesting the support of those in charge of betting including provision of information not available to the public and related to betting with a view to influence a match or competition to achieve a personal gain or a gain for third parties.
- 2- Any person bound by this Code shall not have a direct or indirect interest (through or in conjunction with third parties) in companies, organizations or entities that promote, broker, arrange or conduct betting, gambling and other events or transactions connected with football matches and competitions. This concept shall include any benefit or gain received by the persons bound by this Code or any persons related thereto due to the foregoing.
- 3- The offender shall be sanctioned as follows:
- 3-1 Where the offender is a player; he shall be sanctioned with a fine of at least five hundred thousand (500,000) Saudi Riyals and suspended for a period not less than six (6) months but not exceeding three (3) years.
- 3-2 Where the offender is an official or intermediary; he shall be sanctioned with a fine of at least five hundred thousand (500,000) Saudi Riyals and banned from any football-related activity for a period not less than six (6) months but not exceeding three (3) years.
- 3-3 Where the offender is a club; it shall be sanctioned with a fine of at least one million (1,000,000) Saudi Riyals. Furthermore, additional sanctions such as deduction of points, ban on registration or relegation to a lower division may be imposed.
- 3-4 Where the offender is a person affiliated to SAFF or its associations or the Organizing Body (board members, committee members, employees, referees, commissioners...); he shall be banned for life from any football-related activity.
- 4- The Committee shall under all circumstances confiscate the funds and all other benefits related to the committed offense in favor of SAFF fund.

#### Article (79): Offenses during friendly matches

- 1- Where a team plays a friendly match without the prior consent of SAFF or the Organizing Body in the regions; it shall be sanctioned with a fine of twenty thousand (20,000) Saudi Riyals.
- 2- Where a friendly match is held between a Saudi team and a non-Saudi team without the prior consent of SAFF or the Organizing Body in the regions;



the team shall be sanctioned with a fine of forty thousand (40,000) Saudi Riyals.

- 3- Where a team withdraws from a friendly domestic match; the Committee shall consider the grounds of said withdrawal and decide the proper sanction according to Article (11) of this Code.
- 4- Where a team wishes not to play an agreed-upon friendly match; it shall submit a written apology to the other team and serve SAFF or the Organizing Body with a copy thereof twenty-four (24) hours prior to the match where the teams are from one area and three (3) days where a team is from outside the region. The team that delays submission of such apology shall be sanctioned as follows:
- 4-1 Where both teams are from one region; the violating team shall be sanctioned with a fine of twenty thousand (20,000) Saudi Riyals together with an indemnity of twenty thousand (20,000) Saudi Riyals to the other team. 4-2 Where a team is from outside the region; the violating team shall be sanctioned with a fine of twenty-five thousand (25,000) Saudi Riyals together with an indemnity of twenty-five thousand (25,000) Saudi Riyals to the other team.

#### Article (80): Doping and Control thereon

- 1- Doping is prohibited according to Anti-Doping Laws under FIFA Regulations and Anti-Doping Regulations.
- 2- The relevant person shall be sanctioned according to the laws, regulations and restrictions of the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) and Saudi Anti-Doping Rules in Sport.

#### Article (81) Duty of Loyalty:

- 1. Any person, who is subject to the provisions of these Regulations, shall demonstrate full unconditional loyalty to FIFA, AFC, SAFF, and the leagues and approved clubs thereof.
- 2- No person may make any public statements that would prejudice FIFA, AFC, or SAFF or would offend any person within the context of FIFA, AFC, or SAFF competitions.
- 3- The Committee shall impose on the violator a fine of no less than (50,000) fifty thousand Riyals. Further, the Committee may impose additional penalties according to the provisions of Articles (10) and (11) of these Regulations.

#### **Article (82) Duty of Confidentiality:**

1. Any person, who is subject to the provisions of these Regulations, shall not disclose any confidential information, data, or document that he/she has accessed during or because of carrying out any task or activity in the Federation or its leagues or the clubs.

The duty of confidentiality shall survive the termination of the relationship between such person and the Federation, the league, or the club.



- 2. In particular, every person shall maintain, in absolute confidentiality and under any circumstances, all information or data related to a file considered by one of the Judicial Committees.
- 3. The Committee shall impose on the violator a fine of no less than (50,000) fifty thousand Riyals. Further, the Committee may impose additional penalties according to the provisions of Articles (10) and (11) of these Regulations.

#### Article (83) Integrity:

- 1. Any person, who is subject to the provisions of these Regulations, shall act in line with the highest levels of integrity, objectivity, and independence, especially concerning financial matters.
- 2. Any person, who is subject to the provisions of these Regulations, shall recognize the potential effects of his/her behavior on the standing and image of FIFA and SAFF. He/she shall also act with honor, ethics, credibility, and integrity at all times and under any circumstances. In particular, he/she shall not use his/her job for making personal benefits.
- 3. Any person, who is subject to the provisions of these Regulations, shall not perform any activity or behavior that would harm the reputation of football, and sports in general, in KSA.
- 4. Any person, who is subject to the provisions of these Regulations, shall avoid any activity or behavior that would invoke a belief of the existence, or suspected existence, of an unethical act.
- 5. The Committee shall impose on the violator a fine of no less than (50,000) fifty thousand Riyals. Further, the Committee may impose additional penalties according to the provisions of Articles (10) and (11) of these Regulations.

#### **Article (84) Conflict of Interests:**

- 1. Any person, who is subject to the provisions of these Regulations, shall avoid any conflict of interest.
- 2. A conflict of interest means that he/she has direct interests that could affect his/her ability to carry out his/her duties with integrity and independence.
- 3. Any person, who is subject to the provisions of these Regulations, shall not carry out any task, activity, or work when he/she is in a conflict-of-interest position that would affect the way he/she carries out his/her task or activity.
- 4. If a person notices the existence of a direct conflict of interest, he/she shall disclose the same by notifying the Federation or any entity to which, or in the name of which, he/she carries out the job related to the conflict of interest.
- 5. The Committee shall impose on the violator a fine of no more than (50,000) fifty thousand Riyals. Further, the Committee may impose additional penalties according to the provisions of Articles (10) and (11) of these Regulations.

#### **Article (85) Breach of Physical and Moral Sanctity of People:**

1. Any person, who is subject to the provisions of these Regulations, shall respect others and preserve the personal rights and dignity of people and shall avoid acting in any conflicting manner with the principles and objectives



established by these Regulations.

- 2. Any person, who is subject to the provisions of these Regulations, shall not use any hurting gestures or words for the purpose of insulting or undervaluing others in a manner that incites hatred or violence.
- 3. In particular, threats, coercion, as well as gift promises, shall be prohibited.
- 4. All forms of harassment shall be absolutely prohibited. Harassment means any systematic, adverse, and repeated behavior to intentionally isolate, target or offend the dignity of someone. Sexual harassment, in particular, shall be prohibited.
- 5. The Committee shall impose on the violator a fine of no less than (50,000) fifty thousand Riyals together with prohibiting the violator from participating in any football-related activity for no more than two years. In serious or repetitious cases, the Committee may decide to prevent him/her from participating in any football-related activity for no more than (5) five years.

#### **Article (86) Abuse of Power and Embezzlement:**

- 1. Any person, who is subject to the provisions of these Regulations, shall not abuse power in any manner to obtain any benefit including, without limitation, fulfilling private purposes or making financial profits for himself/herself directly or indirectly. The violator shall pay an appropriate fine of no less than (50,000) fifty thousand Riyals and shall be prohibited from participating in any football-related activity for no more than (2) two years.
- 2. Any person, who is subject to the provisions of these Regulations, shall not embezzle any money owned by FIFA, AFC, SAFF, leagues, or clubs, whether directly or indirectly, in person or through other persons. The violator shall pay an appropriate fine of no less than (500,000) five hundred thousand Riyals and shall be prohibited from participating in any football-related activity for no more than (5) five years.
- 3. The amount of realized benefits or embezzled money shall be counted in the fine amount. The penalty shall be aggravated if the violator is an incumbent of a high football position, and it shall also be aggravated according to the significance of the realized benefit or embezzled amount.

#### Article (87): Duty to report any offense

- 1- Persons bound by this Code shall, without undue delay or excuses, report any violation of this Code to the competent judicial committee.
- 2- The failure to comply with the duty to report any conduct incompatible with this Code is a sanctioned offence.
- 3- The Committee shall sanction whoever breaches this Article with a fine of at least fifty thousand (50,000) Saudi Riyals and may further in serious cases impose additional sanctions according to Articles (10 & 11) of this Code.



# Chapter III: Obligations of the Organizing Body, the Association and Clubs

#### **Article (88): Organization of Matches**

The Organizing Body, the Association and Clubs shall:

- 1- Assess the degree of risks posed by matches and notify SAFF of serious and highly potential risks;
- 2- Comply with and implement existing safety regulations and take every safety measures demanded by circumstances before, during and after the match if incidents occur according to FIFA and AFC regulations, national laws, and international agreements;
- 3- Ensure the safety of match officials, players and officials of teams during their stay in the field of play;
- 4- Keep competent authorities informed and collaborate with them actively and effectively;
- 5- Apply applicable regulations and circulars; comply with the directives of match officials; maintain order in the stadium and immediate surroundings; and ensure that matches are organized properly; and
- 6- Where the match is held on the stadium of a club; it shall comply with Clauses (1 & 2) of this Article and any offending club shall be subject to Article (84) of this Code.

#### Article (89): Failure to comply:

- 1- Any Organizing Body, Member Association or Club that fails to fulfil any of its obligations under Article (83) shall be sanctioned with a fine of fifty thousand (50,000) Saudi Riyals.
- 2- Where the offence is aggravated; the Committee may impose any further sanctions according to Article (11) of this Code.
- 3- The Committee may impose specific sanctions for security grounds.

# **Chapter IV: Failure to Carry out Decisions Article (90): Failure to comply with Non-international Decisions**

- 1- Anyone who fails to:
- 1-1 Pay a sum of money in full or part, to another person (such as a player, coach, club, any judicial body or else) upon a decision passed by the Board of Directors of SAFF, a SAFF Committee, Sports Judicial Committees, Dispute Resolution Chamber, Saudi Sports Arbitration Center (SSAC) or any sports judicial authority fully or partially recognized by SAFF; and
- 1-2 Comply with any other decision (non-financial decision) passed by the Board of Directors of SAFF, a SAFF Committee, any Sports Judicial Committee, Sports Judicial Committees; Sports Dispute Resolution Chamber, Saudi Sports Arbitration Center (SSAC) or any sports judicial authority recognized by SAFF.
- 2- In case of noncompliance, the Committee shall notify the offender in writing and give him a ten-day grace period to execute the decision.



- 3- If the decision is not executed after such notice, the Committee shall issue a decision including the following sanctions:
- 3-1 Impose a fine commensurate with the amount of the overdue sum, and such fine shall not exceed twenty thousand (20,000) Saudi Riyals for natural person and fifty thousand (50,000) Saudi Riyals for legal person; and 3-2 Grant him a deadline and 30-day grace period to pay the due amount or carry out the (non-financial decision). If he fails to comply with the deadline; the sanctions stated in Paragraph 4 of this Article will apply to clubs or natural persons, in accordance with the sanctions and deadlines set forth in the decision.
- 4- In case of non-compliance with the Committee's decision, in accordance with Paragraphs (2) and (3) of this Article, the sanctions mentioned in the decision will be automatically executed without the need for a decision from the Committee, subject to the following:
- 4-1 If the execution debtor is a natural person, he shall be banned from taking part in any sports activity for one year until the decision is enforced. The penalty shall be lifted in the event of his enforcement of the decision without the need to issue a decision from the committee.
- 4-2 If the execution debtor is a legal person, the sports sanctions shall be executed directly in accordance with the Committee's decision, as follows:
- 4-2-1 Ban on registration of players. until enforcement of the decision.
- 4-2-2 Deduction of points.
- 4-2-3 Relegating the club to a lower division.
- 4/3 If the juridical person enforces the decision, the registration ban penalty shall be lifted without the need for issuance of a decision by the committee. Further, the other penalties shall be applied against him in case they are applicable thereto, according to the provisions stipulated in the committee's decision
- 5- Decisions passed according to this Article shall be final, binding and unappealable.

# Article (91): Compliance with the decisions of FIFA, AFC and the Court of Arbitration for Sports (CAS)

FIFA and AFC may request SAFF enforce sanctions issued thereby against any person who fails to perform any financial or non-financial decision in favor of any other person such as a player, coach, club, FIFA, AFC or any judicial committee affiliated thereto or the Court of Arbitration for Sports (CAS).



#### Part IV: Organization Chapter I: Jurisdiction Article (92): General Rule

- 1- SAFF and the Organizing Body shall be liable to enforce sanctions issued in connection with the offenses committed within the area of their jurisdictions during matches and competitions respectively organized thereby.
- 2- SAFF shall notify judicial committees in FIFA or AFC of any serious violations of FIFA main principles and objectives according to Article (155) of this Code.
- 3- SAFF shall be liable to enforce sanctions imposed by FIFA or AFC on committed offenses subject to the SAFF scope of jurisdiction.

#### Article (93): Referee

- 1- The referee shall pass disciplinary decisions during matches.
- 2- These decisions shall be held final according to Article (98) of this Code.

#### **Article (94): Judicial Committees**

SAFF judicial committees are:

- 1- Disciplinary and Ethics Committee
- 2- Appeal Committee

#### **Article (95): Saudi Sports Arbitration Center (SSAC):**

Some decisions passed by the Appeal Committee may be appealed before Saudi Sports Arbitration Center (SSAC) provided that said decisions are appealable according to SAFF Statutes and the provisions hereof.

#### **Article (96): Saudi Arabian Anti-Doping Committee (SAADC)**

According to FIFA Anti-doping Regulations; SAADC or other authorities reporting thereto shall test doping, analyze samples and examine medical certificates.

# **Chapter II: Disciplinary and Ethics Committee Article (97): General Jurisdiction**

The Disciplinary and Ethics Committee is authorized to sanction any breach of SAFF Statutes and regulations as well as circulars, decisions and directives issued by SAFF or the Organizing Body which does not come under the jurisdiction of the other authorities or committees to ensure attainment of the ends and objectives of this Code and compliance with contents of SAFF Statutes such as principles, values and ethics to establish respect and discipline in football domain.

#### **Article (98): Special Jurisdiction**

The Disciplinary and Ethics Committee is responsible for:

1- Sanctioning serious offenses which have escaped the Match Officials' attention;



- 2- Rectifying obvious errors in the Referee's disciplinary decisions;
- 3- Extending the duration of a match suspension incurred automatically by a sending off; and
- 4- Pronouncing additional sanctions, such as a fine.

#### Article (99): Jurisdiction of the chairman ruling alone

The chairman of the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee or a member designated by the chairperson, may make the following decisions alone:

- 1- Suspend a person for up to three (3) matches or for up to two (2) full months;
- 2- Pronounce a fine of up to twenty thousand (20,000) Saudi Riyals;
- 3- Settle disputes arising out of objections to a Committee member;
- 4- Pronounce, alter and annul provisional measures;
- 5- Rule on any protest received pursuant to Article (59) of this Code;
- 6- Rule on any offense according to Article (85) of this Code; and
- 7- Take any disciplinary decision falling within his jurisdiction according to this Code or other SAFF Regulations.

# **Chapter III: Appeal Committee** Article (100): Jurisdictions

The Appeal Committee is responsible for deciding on all appeals against any decision of the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee that this Code or other SAFF Regulation does not declare as final or referable to another committee. All that has been excluded under articles hereof shall not fall within the jurisdiction of this Committee.

#### Article (101): Jurisdiction of the chairman ruling alone

The chairman of the Appeal Committee or a member designated by the chairman may severally make the following decisions:

- 1- Decide on appeals against decisions passed by the chairman or member of the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee according to Article (99) of this Code;
- 2- Decide on appeals against provisional measures passed by the chairman or member of the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee according to Article (158) of this Code;
- 3- Resolve disputes arising out of objections to a member of the Appeal Committee; and Consider, alter and annul provisional measures according to Article (155) of this Code.

# **Chapter IV: General Provisions of Judicial Committees Article (102): Formation of Judicial Committees**

- 1- SAFF Board of Directors shall appoint five members for the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee and five members for Appeal Committee for a renewable four-year term.
- 2- SAFF shall appoint a chairman and a deputy chairman for each committee from amongst its members for the same four-year term.



- 3- The Committee chairman and his deputy shall hold legal academic qualifications.
- 4- SAFF Board of Directors may terminate the membership of any member who has been absent for four (4) consecutive meetings or six (6) remittent meetings in one sports season without an acceptable excuse or the public interest so requires.

#### **Article (103): Judicial Committees Meetings**

- 1- The judicial committees' meetings are deemed to be valid if attended by at least three (3) members.
- 2- The Legal Secretary of the Judicial Committee shall call its members to convene at the order of the meeting chairman.

#### Article (104): Chairman

- 1- The Chairman shall preside over meetings and take decisions according to the powers vested therein according to his Code.
- 2- Where the chairman is unable to attend the meetings; the deputy chairman shall act on his behalf. Where the deputy chairman is absent; the longest-serving Committee member shall act on his behalf. In the event of same seniority; the oldest member shall act on his behalf.

#### **Article (105) Judicial Committees General and Legal Secretariat**

- 1- SAFF Secretariat General provides the Legal Secretary staff required to perform the works of the Judicial Committees.
- 2- SAFF Secretary General appoints a Secretariat General for Judicial Committees and a Legal Secretary for each Committee. The Secretary General of the Judicial Committees and the Legal Secretary of each Committee shall hold a legal qualification.
- 3- The Secretariat General of the Judicial Committee controls the Legal Secretary of each Judicial Committee. The Secretary General of the Judicial Committee may exercise the powers of the Legal Secretary of each Committee at any time.
- 4- The Legal Secretary of the Committee shall prepare and study the cases and offenses to properly present the same to the Committee.
- 5- The Legal Secretary shall take, document, and register meeting minutes and resolutions taken thereat and archive their files in an appropriate manner. Said meeting resolutions and files shall be maintained.
- 6- The Legal Secretary shall assume the administrative works of the Judicial Committees and any other works assigned thereto by the Chairman within his powers.

# Article (106): Independence

1- The Judicial Committees shall pass their decisions entirely independently. They shall, in particular, not receive instructions from any other body.



2- No person may stay in the meeting room during the Judicial Committees' deliberations unless they have been explicitly summoned to attend the meeting.

#### Article (107): Assuming no other position

Judicial Committees' members shall not be SAFF board members or standing committees' members.

#### **Article (108): No Participation**

- 1- SAFF Judicial Committees' members may not participate in meetings that may raise strong questions on their neutrality where the member:
- 1-1 Has a direct interest in the outcome of the meeting subject;
- 1-2 Is associated in some way with any party; and
- 1-3 Has already dealt such case in different circumstances and opined thereon before having been submitted to the Judicial Committee.
- 2- Members who decline to participate in a meeting on the grounds set forth in the preceding paragraph shall immediately notify the chairman of the Committee.
- 3- Parties may raise an objection to any member they believe to be biased.
- 4- The chairman shall decide on any claim of bias no later than forty-eight (48) hours following submission of the claim. Such decision shall be final and incontestable.
- 5- Proceedings involving someone whom the chairman has ordered not to participate will be considered null and void.

# **Article (109): Confidentiality**

- 1- The members, the Legal Secretary or the Secretary General of the Judicial Committees may not disclose any information they may come across during the course of their duties in the Committee. They shall further keep confidential any information disclosed during their duties such as the information of the subject of the case, the contents of any deliberations and all decisions taken.
- 2- Only the contents of those decisions already notified to the addressees may be made public.
- 3- The Committee shall aggravate the sanction provided for under the last clause of Article (81) of this Code where the offender is one of the persons referred thereto in Clause (1) of this Article.

# **Article (110): Exemption from Liability**

The Judicial Committee's chairman, members and Legal Secretary and the Secretary General of the Judicial Committees may not be held liable for any action or omission or any aspect of default relating to any disciplinary actions pursuant to this Code.



**Part V: Procedures** 

**Chapter I: General Provisions** 

**Article (111): Time Limits** 

- 1- Time limits to which the concerned person shall adhere commence from the day on which said person has been notified of the relevant document.
- 2- If the last day of the time limit coincides with a public weekly or seasonal holiday, the time limit shall expire on the business day following the public holiday.

#### **Article (112): Compliance**

- 1- The document shall be handed over to the concerned person by email or fax no later than midnight of the last day of the time limit.
- 2- The time limit shall not be held to have been met unless the action required has been carried out before expiry of the time limit.
- 3- Where the document has been sent by email or fax; the time limit shall be held to have been considered if the concerning party has received the document on the last day of the time limit.
- 4- Parties may send documents via email to the Committee. The Committee may, in the event of difficulty of service, use the means it may deem appropriate.
- 5- In the event of appeals, the appeal fees shall be considered to be paid on time if the payment is irreversibly made into the nominated SAFF account by midnight on the last day of the time limit.

## **Article (113): Interruption of Time Limits**

Time limits shall be held interrupted:

1-The time limit shall be deemed interrupted during public holidays, i.e. Eid al-Fitr, Eid al-Adha, the National Day, and the Founding Day 2- Special provisions may apply in specific circumstances.

# **Article (114): Extension of Time Limits**

- 1- The time limits fixed in this Code shall not be extended.
- 2- The Committee chairman may, at request, extend the time limit fixed thereby.
- 3- The Committee chairman may not extend the time limit more than twice. Extension for the second time shall be made for exceptional circumstances.
- 4- The chairman decision to extend or not to extend a time limit is final and binding and incontestable. The Committee chairman may verbally notify the applicant of dismissal.

# **Chapter II: Right to Defense** Article (115): Right to plead

1- The parties shall be heard in writing or orally by sending legal memorandums before any decision is passed.



- 2- Any party to litigation may, in particular:
- 2-1 Submit material and legal arguments;
- 2-2 Request production of evidence;
- 2-3 Be involved in the production of evidence; and
- 2-4 Obtain a reasoned decision.
- 3- Special provisions may apply in certain circumstances.
- 4- Where the Committee has fixed a deadline for sending a memorandum of reply; the concerned party shall comply with such deadline even if it coincides with a holiday.

#### **Article (116): Restrictions**

- 1- The right to be heard may be restricted in exceptional circumstances such as when confidential matters need to be safeguarded or the proceedings need to be conducted properly.
- 2- Special provisions may apply in certain circumstances.

#### **Chapter III: Evidence**

#### **Article (117): Types of Evidence**

- 1- Any type of evidence may be produced.
- 2- The following categories of evidence are particularly inadmissible:
- 2-1 Any evidence that violates human dignity;
- 2-2 Any evidence that does not serve to establish relevant facts; and
- 2-3 Any evidence in a language other than Arabic that is not accompanied by a certified translation except for match officials' reports executed in English.
- 3- The following categories of evidence are particularly admissible:
- 3-1 Reports of match officials;
- 3-2 Reports of assistance referees;
- 3-3 Reports of match commissioners and referee assessors;
- 3-4 Declarations made by the parties and witnesses;
- 3-5 Material evidence; and
- 3-6 Expert opinions or video records.
- 4- Judicial Committees may at any time request production of more evidence.

# **Article (118): Witnesses**

1- All persons shall comply with a summons to appear before Judicial Committees as a witness.



- 2- The Judicial Committees may rely on all or part of the testimony of any witness and disregard them on grounds of irrelevance.
- 3- Notwithstanding sanctions required by application of Article (82) of this Code; any person who refuses to respond to a summons shall be sanctioned according to Article (135) of this Code.
- 4- Where the witness's testimony will make him subject to danger or threat; the Committee chairman may order as follows:
- 4-1 The name of the witness is not stated in presence of the parties;
- 4-2 The witness shall not appear at the hearing.
- 4-3 All or part of the information that may reveal the identity of the witness shall be included in a confidential file independent of the file of the claim.
- 4-4 The identity of the witness is verified secretly in the absence of the parties. The Committee chairman or a member thereof where necessary or the Legal Secretary shall record the personal particulars of the witness and said particulars of the witness shall not be sent to the parties. The parties shall be given a brief notice stating that the witness has been officially ascertained of but said notice shall not include any details that can be used to identify the witness's identity.

#### **Article (119): Evaluation of Evidence**

- 1- Judicial Committees shall have absolute discretion to admit or dismiss any evidence.
- 2- Judicial Committees may, in particular, take account of the parties' attitudes during proceedings, especially the manner in which they cooperate with the Judicial Committees, the secretariat of the Judicial Committee and SAFF Secretariat General. (See Article (140) of this Code).
- 3- Judicial Committees may take their decisions as they may deem appropriate.

## **Article (120): Reports of Match Officials**

- 1- Facts contained in the reports of Match Officials are presumed to be accurate.
- 2- Evidence of inaccuracy of the contents of the reports of Match Officials may be provided.
- 3- If there is any discrepancy between the reports developed by Match Officials and there is no acceptable means to differentiate between the facts contained therein, the Referee's report is considered authoritative regarding incidents that occurred on the field of play and the Match Commissioner' report is considered authoritative regarding incidents that took place outside the field of play.

# Article (121): Burden of Proof

- 1- The burden of proof regarding disciplinary offenses rests with SAFF, relevant Committees and the Association as the case may be. (See Article (139-2) of this Code).
- 2- The burden of proof in the case of a protest rests with the protesting party.



# **Chapter IV: Representation and Language of Procedures before Judicial Committees**

#### **Article (122): Representation and Legal Assistance**

- 1- Parties may seek the assistance of attorneys licensed by the official authorities in the Kingdom to legally represent them before Judicial Committees.
- 2- Where a party is not required to appear personally; it may be represented.
- 3- Parties are at liberty to choose the attorneys to represent them.
- 4- In all cases, the attorneys of the parties must provide a written authorization authenticated by the club, SAFF or the respective federation where the authorization is issued outside the Kingdom or a power of attorney issued by the competent authorities in the Kingdom.

#### Article (123): Language used in proceedings

- 1- The language used before Judicial Committees in all legal proceedings, both written and oral, is Arabic.
- 2- Any party wishing to use another language during submissions may request in good time the services of an interpreter provided that it incurs the respective costs. The Judicial Committee may, in such case, decide as it may deem appropriate.
- 3- SAFF may where necessary seek the assistance of interpreters.
- 4- Decisions shall be passed in Arabic

# **Chapter V: Oral Hearings, Deliberations & Decisions Article (124): Hearings**

- 1- As a general rule, there are no oral hearings before Judicial Committees and the Committee shall decide based upon the papers contained in the file heard before it.
- 2- A party may request a hearing. The Committee chairman shall decide on any such request and his decision shall be final and binding and incontestable.
- 3- Hearings shall be closed.

## **Article (125): Hearing Procedures**

- 1- The chairman shall decide on the order at the hearing.
- 2- Once the hearing has ended; the chairman allows the person against whom proceedings are being conducted a final opportunity to speak.
- 3- The oral hearing terminates with this closing statement made by the party.

# **Article (126): Deliberations**

- 1- The Committee shall deliberate privately.
- 2- If a hearing has been held; it shall immediately be followed by the deliberations.
- 3- Deliberations shall be conducted without interruption except for exceptional circumstances.



- 4- The chairman shall decide in which order the various questions will be submitted for deliberation.
- 5- The present members shall express their opinions in the order set out by the chairman who always has the last word.
- 6- The Legal Secretary of the Committee shall have consultative powers only.

#### Article (127): Deliberations & Decision-making without Meetings

- 1- The Legal Secretary of the Committee may, where necessary, arrange deliberations to be conducted via telephone conferences, video conferences, by circulation or by another other means of communication.
- 2- The parties may not in such case request a hearing.
- 3- The Legal Secretary of the Committee shall take meeting minutes as if an ordinary meeting was held.

#### Article (128): Decision-making

- 1- Decisions shall be passed by absolute majority of the votes of the Committee's present members.
- 2- All present members shall cast their votes.
- 3- Where there is a tie; the chairman shall have a casting vote. The Committee's decisions shall be enforceable upon issuance thereof.

#### **Article (129): Decision Form and Content**

Without prejudice to the application of Article (130) of this Code; the decision contains the following:

- 1- The composition of the Committee;
- 2- The names of the parties;
- 3- A summary of facts;
- 4- The grounds of the decision;
- 5- The legal provisions on which the decision is based;
- 6- The operative part of the decision; and
- 7- A reference to the method of appeal.
- 8- The decisions shall be signed by the Committee chairman or his deputy.

# Article (130): Decisions without grounds

- 1- The Judicial Committees may issue the wording of the decision without stating any grounds thereof. Where the parties are communicated of the same; they shall have three (3) days to file a request to the Committee to be provided with the grounds of the decision. Failing which; the decision shall be final, binding and incontestable.
- 2- Where a party requests in writing the grounds of the decision; the Committee shall communicate such grounds to all parties.
- 3- The time limit to lodge an appeal shall start to run upon receipt of the grounds of the decision issued by the Committee.
- 4- grounds for the uncontestable decision may not be requested.



#### **Article (131): Notification of Decisions**

- 1- The Legal Secretary of the Committee or the Secretary General of the Judicial Committees shall notify all parties of the decisions.
- 2- Decisions and other documents intended for the concerned party such as players and officials shall be addressed to the club to which they belong. The club shall notify the addressed concerned parties. Notices and documents served through clubs shall be held to have been duly communicated to the addressed person and a copy thereof shall be deemed to have been duly received upon their delivery to the club.
- 3- The club shall notify its players, the administrative and technical staff members, employees and the like of the decisions, communications and else. Where the club fails to notify the concerned parties; it shall be sanctioned with a fine of twenty thousand (20,000) Saudi Riyals and other sanctions provided for under Article (11) of this Code may be also imposed.
- 4- The decisions and documents served by email or fax shall be deemed to have met their legal validity conditions.
- 5- A copy of the decisions may be served to the Secretariat General and the competent authorities.

#### Article (132): Legal Means of Notification

Judicial Committees shall communicate their decisions, letters and other documents by a letter signed by the chairman, the deputy chairman, or the Legal Secretary of the Committee to every party or its legal attorney via the approved email or fax.

## **Article (133): Enforcement of Decisions**

Decisions shall come into force as soon as they are notified.

# **Article (134): Publication of Decisions**

- 1- Judicial Committees may, when they may deem appropriate, publish decisions issued thereby without the consent of the parties.
- 2- Where such decision contains confidential information; the Judicial Committees may decide, at their own initiative or at the request of a litigating party, to publish an anonymous version of the decision.

# **Chapter VI: Errors, Costs & Expenses**

# **Article (135): Obvious Errors**

Judicial Committees may at any time rectify any errors in calculation or any other obvious errors in the decision.

# **Article (136): Costs & Expenses**

- 1- Costs and expenses shall be incurred by the unsuccessful party.
- 2- Where there is no unsuccessful party; SAFF shall pay such costs and expenses.
- 3- Costs and expenses may be equally shared by different parties if this is fair.



- 4- The Committee deciding on the merits may decide on how the costs are borne and the relevant amounts are announced by the chairman whose decision shall be final and non-appealable.
- 5- Every party shall incur its own costs such as the costs of the appearance of the respective witnesses, interpreters, attorneys, legal advisers and experts.
- 6- The Committee shall assess the fees, costs, and expenses related to the case or complaint such as attorney's fees, etc. The Committee also shall identify the party that must pay the same.

### **Chapter VII: Protest** Article (137): Protest

- 1- A protest is an objection to incidents that have occurred and directly affected the match. A protest is made by a team due to a violation of this Code or other Regulations of SAFF or the Organizing Body.
- 2- Unless stated otherwise; a protest shall be submitted subject to the following procedures:
- 2-1 A protest shall be lodged in writing on the relevant form prepared for this purpose (See Annex No. 1 attached to this Code) within two hours following the end of the match to the Match Commissioner or the person so acting in matches where there is no match commissioner, whether by hand or electronically.
- 2-2 The grounds of the protest shall be submitted in a full written report to the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee within forty-eight (48) hours following the end of the match in question. The protest shall be lodged by an official letter signed by the Club's Chief Executive Officer or his deputy subject to settlement of the protest fees at the sum of ten thousand (10,000) Saudi Riyals to be deposited into SAFF account.
- 2-3 Protests shall be supported with clear and legal evidence of the offense.
- 3- Should the above procedures be not considered, the protest shall be dismissed.
- 4- Protests shall be decided prior to the following match of the concerned teams for knockout matches.
- 5- Where the protest is admitted in form and on the merits; the protest fees shall be refunded.
- 6- Where the protest is dismissed in form and on the merits; the protest fees shall be confiscated in favor of SAFF.
- 7- No protest may be made against the decisions made by match officials whose decisions are final, binding and incontestable.
- 8- The Committee may refer the protest to the Organizing Body to decide thereon where the lodged protest falls within the jurisdiction of the Organizing Body.
- 9- Protests may not be submitted against any decision issued by the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee



# Chapter VIII: Proceedings and Investigations before the Committee Article (138): Commencement of Proceedings

- 1- The Committee shall hear disciplinary offense claims falling within its jurisdiction.
- 2- The Committee may commence proceedings in offenses based on the following:
- 2-1 Automatic intervention ex officio and based on its powers;
- 2-2 On the basis of the reports of match officials;
- 2-3 A protest has been lodged;
- 2-4 At the request of SAFF Chairman, Board of Directors or Secretary General;
- 2-5 On the basis of documents received from official authorities; and
- 2-6 A complaint has been filed.
- 3- SAFF or any committees thereof, the Organizing Body, the Association or any person governed by the Code may file a complaint or lodge a report on any conduct incompatible with SAFF regulations to the Committee provided that it is made in writing.
- 4- Match officials shall disclose the offenses coming to their notice.
- 5- The Secretariat General shall provide the Committee with cautions, ejections, disciplinary offenses reports, complaints and claims.
- 6- The Committee may invite to its meetings whoever it may deem appropriate for discussing, considering or opining on the submitted issues provided that they have no right to vote.

## Article (139): Investigations

- 1- Prior to opening of disciplinary proceedings, the Legal Secretary of the Committee shall conduct the necessary preliminary investigations ex officio on the basis of the information received pursuant to Article (138) of this Code.
- 2- The Legal Secretary of the Committee may prosecute the offense on behalf of SAFF before the Committee and it shall have all powers and authorities to appoint or assign an independent legal advisor to assist it in prosecuting the offense and/or represent SAFF before the Committee.
- 3- If the Legal Secretary of the Committee sees that there is no case; he may close the preliminary investigations without opening judicial proceedings.
- 4- If the Legal Secretary of the Committee sees that there is a case; he may open the judicial proceedings.
- 5- As an exception from the preceding paragraph; as for any violation of the provisions of this Code resulting in the minimum fine provided that the respective person is not a repeated offender; the Committee Legal Secretary, may prior to closure of investigatory proceedings and opening disciplinary proceedings, offer the offender imposition of an insinuating administrative sanction subject to the requirements of the applicable regulations of competition in question.



- 5-1. In such case, the Legal Secretary of the Committee may communicate with the concerned party and offer it deduct up to 20% of the fine amount where the guilt is not discussed and grant it a short time limit for reply.
- 5-2. The concerned party shall notify the Legal Secretary of the Committee of its attitude towards the proposal of the administrative sanction within the fixed time limit. Failure to reply during such time limit shall be held an implied consent on said sanction.
- 5-3. Where the proposal of the administrative sanction is accepted; the Legal Secretary of the Committee shall, subject to presentation of the administrative sanction to the Committee chairman, notify the concerned party of imposition of said sanction and register the same and notify the Secretary General and the competent authorities therewith.
- 5-4. Where the concerned party denies the offense; the Legal Secretary of the Committee shall open the judicial proceedings.
- 5-5. Where the Committee chairman refuses the proposal of the administrative sanction; the Legal Secretary of the Committee shall open the judicial proceedings.
- 5-6. The party that refuses imposition of the administrative sanction shall be held to have assigned any right to request the grounds of or appeal against the decision.
- 5-7. Any administrative sanction shall come into force as soon as it has been notified.
- 5-8. In exceptional cases, the Committee chairman may appoint or deputize a Committee member to conduct investigations and take one or more actions concerning the heard incident.
- 6- Parties and witnesses are orally or in writing cross-investigated and documents and all claim related procedures verified. The Committee may close investigations without issuing a decision, if the Committee finds that there is no case, complaint or the like.
- 7- Judicial proceedings may be closed where the parties have reached an agreement or a party is declared bankrupt or the claim has become groundless.
- 8- The Committee may re-open judicial proceedings after having been suspended or closed where new facts or evidence are discovered within the time limit of prosecution.

#### **Article (140): Collaboration with Judicial Committees**

- 1- All parties shall cooperate with the Judicial Committees to establish facts as follows:
- 1-1. Every person shall assist and cooperate honestly, sincerely and in bona fide with Judicial Committees at all times regardless of whether they are involved as parties, witnesses or else. This necessitates, inter alia, full response without reservation to the Committee requests for clarification of facts, providing oral



or written statements, provision of information, documents or other material and disclosure of incomes and financial statements.

- 1-2. Persons invited to cooperate with Judicial Committees concerning a specific file shall regardless of whether they are involved as parties, witnesses or else, keep the information provided and their involvement in the file strictly confidential unless otherwise instructed by competent judicial committee.
- 1-3. Persons bound by this Code shall refrain from any act actually or apparently intended to obstruct, evade, prevent or otherwise interfere with any actual or potential action of the Judicial Committee.
- 1-4. Where there are judicial proceedings or preliminary investigation before the Judicial Committee; persons bound by this Code shall not destroy any material evidence; make any false or misleading statement or representation; or submit any incomplete, false or misleading information or documents.

  1-5. It is prohibited to harass, intimidate, threaten or retaliate against someone for any reasons related to that person's actual or potential cooperation with
- 2- In the event of failure to comply with the provisions of Clause (1) of this
- 2-1. As regards any violation of Clause (1-1); such as hesitation to respond or to reply on the part of the parties; the Judicial Committee chairman may sanction the offender with a fine of at least fifty thousand (50,000) Saudi Riyals along with the additional sanctions he may deem appropriate according to Articles (10 & 11) of this Code.
- 2-2. As regards any violation of Clauses (1-2 through to 1-4); the Committee may impose an appropriate fine of at least two hundred thousand (200,000) Saudi Riyals as well as ban from any football-related activity for a maximum of two years.
- 2-3. As regards any violation of Clause (1-5); the Committee may impose a fine of at least two hundred thousand (200,000) Saudi Riyals in addition to a sports sanction as follows:
- Where the offender is a player; he shall be suspended for twelve (12) matches.
- Where the offender is an Officer; he shall be banned from taking part in any football-related activity for two years.
- 3- Where a party fails to collaborate with the Judicial Committee or comply with the fixed time limit; the Committee shall decide on the subject based on the papers of the file in its possession.

# Article (141): Prosecution before Disciplinary and Ethics Committee Chairman ruling alone:

The provisions governing the functioning of the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee shall apply in the same manner whenever a decision is severally made by the Committee Chairman or his deputy.



the Judicial Committee.

Article: the following sanctions shall apply:

# **Chapter IX: Procedures of Submission before the Committee Article (142): Formal Procedures before the Committee**

- 1- Complaints, claims, notices or other material shall be served via approved email of the Committee as of the date of the occurrence of the incident subject to the time limit of litigation.
- 2- Fees at the sum of ten thousand 20.000) Saudi Riyals shall be paid into SAFF account.
- 3- All formal procedures for submission of complaints, claims, notices or other material shall be written in a word format within the fixed time limits.
- 4- All communications shall be served in a (pdf) format via the approved email of the Committee and such email shall be the only legal means for all communications and correspondence received and served by the Committee.

#### **Article (143): Statements and Documents**

Parties shall submit relevant reports, complaints, statements and documents to the Committee in Arabic. Where documents are executed in another language; a certified Arabic translation thereof shall be attached thereto with the exclusion of match officials' reports executed in English. Such documents shall include the following:

- 1- Name, capacity and address of the plaintiff or his attorney in full;
- 2- Name, capacity and address of the defendant;
- 3- Accurate description of facts;
- 4- Requests and legal grounds thereof;
- 5- Documents (originals when requested by the Committee) and any other evidence. Where a witness testimony is required; the facts subject of said testimony shall be summarized.
- 6- Names and capacities of mentioned juristic personalities; and
- 7- Evidence substantiating settlement of fees subject to the above Article.
- 8- The statement shall be dated and signed by the concerned person or his attorney or representative.
- 9- The statement and attachments thereto shall be sent to the Committee via the approval email and registered in a special record prepared for this purpose.
- 10- The Legal Secretary of the Committee shall under the control of the Committee chairman or his deputy, return any statement that is incomplete or submitted or signed by a representative not legally appointed or authorized. The plaintiff shall be granted a time limit to conclude such requirements. Failing which, the claim and other material shall not be officially recorded.
- 11- Upon receipt of the defendant's reply; the Committee may only re-exchange communications between the parties when and where it so deems appropriate.

# **Chapter X: Appeal Committee Article (144): Appealable Decisions**

1- An appeal may be lodged with the Appeal Committee against any decision passed by the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee with the exclusion of the following sanctions:



- 1-1. A warning;
- 1-2. A reprimand;
- 1-3. A suspension of up to three (3) or less matches without calculating the automatic suspension or for two or less months;
- 1-4. A fine of up to fifty thousand (50,000) Saudi Riyals against any club;
- 1-5. A fine of up to twenty thousand (20,000) Saudi Riyals in other cases; and
- 1-6. Decisions passed according to Article (85) of this Code; and
- 1-7. Decisions described under this Code or other SAFF Regulations as final, binding or incontestable.
- 2- Appeal may not be made in cases in which the appellant did not request the reasons for the decision

#### Article (145): Eligibility to Appeal

- 1- A party to the proceedings before the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee and having a legally protected interest justifying amendment or cancellation of the decision may lodge an appeal with the Appeal Committee.
- 2- Clubs may appeal against decisions sanctioning their players, officials or members provided that they have obtained the written consent of the concerned person.

#### **Article (146): Time Limit for Appeal**

- 1- Any party intending to appeal must notify the Appeal Committee of its intention to so do in writing within two (2) days following having been notified of the decision.
- 2- The grounds of appeal shall be lodged in writing within a maximum of three (3) days following the lapse of the above two-day term.
- 3- The appeal shall be held dismissed where the requirements of Clauses (1 & 2) of this Article have not been satisfied.
- 4- The Committee may in urgent cases shorten the deadlines for submission of the grounds of appeal.
- 5- The appeal shall be directly submitted before the Appeal Committee.
- 6- The appellant shall lodge the appeal followed by the grounds of appeal via the approved email or fax of the Appeal Committee. The application must include a photocopy of the appealed decision. As regards the grounds of appeal; they shall be attached with all supporting documents. The appeal may not be admitted where the application or the grounds are not signed by the appellant or his attorney.

# **Article (147): Grounds of Appeal**

The appellant may rely concerning the grounds of appeal on misrepresentation of facts or misapplication of the law or regulations.



#### Article (148): Appeal Fees

- 1- Every person wishing to lodge an appeal shall deposit a sum of twenty thousand (20,000) Saudi Riyals into SAFF bank account prior to the lapse of the maximum time limit for submission of the grounds of appeal; and notify the Appeal Committee of evidence substantiating the same.
- 2- If this requirement has not been complied with; the appeal shall not be held admitted.
- 3- Fees shall be refunded to the appellant where the appeal is admitted but they shall incur the same where the appeal is dismissed.

#### Article (149): Effects of Appeal

- 1- An appeal does not have a suspensive effect except with regard to orders to pay sums of money.
- 2- The results of appeal affect the decision reviewed by the Appeal Committee.
- 3. The appellant shall not be prejudiced by his/her appeal against the decision.

# Article (150): Order of Judicial Proceedings Leading to a Decision

- 1- The order of judicial proceedings shall be determined according to the provisions of this Code and as the Appeal Committee may deem appropriate.
- 2- Decisions shall be signed by the hearing chairman or his deputy.

#### **Article (151): Appeal Committee Decisions**

- 1- As a general rule; decisions made by the Appeal Committee shall be final and enforceable except for the cases in which SAFF Statutes permit appeal against thereto.
- 2- As regards contestable decisions; parties may lodge appeals before Saudi Sports Arbitration Center (SSAC) according to SSAC Regulations.

# Article (152): Prosecution before Appeal Committee Chairman Ruling Alone Where the Committee Chairman takes the decision severally; the same articles governing the Appeal Committee shall apply.

# **Chapter XI: Saudi Sports Arbitration Center (SSAC) Article (153): Appeal before Saudi Sports Arbitration Center (SSAC)**

SAFF Statutes and Regulations and this Code shall decide the type of decisions to be taken by SAFF Judicial Committees and appealed before SSAC.

# **Chapter XII: Provisional Measures Article (154): Request**

- 1- The Chairman of the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee may provisionally, upon request or ex officio pronounce, alter, or revoke a sanction:
- 1-1. If an offense is committed and no decision can be taken early enough concerning the main issue.
- 1-2. In the event of emergencies.



2- In similar circumstances, the Chairman may issue other provisional measures as he may deem appropriate especially to ensure compliance with the enforcement of a sanction already in force.

#### **Article (155): Provisional Measures**

- 1- The Chairman shall make his decision based on the evidence available at such time.
- 2- The Chairman is not bound to hear the verbal statements made by the parties.

#### **Article (156): Interim Measure Decision**

- 1- The Chairman shall immediately deliver his decision.
- 2- Such decision shall be implemented forthwith.

#### **Article (157): Duration of Provisional Procedures**

- 1- Provisional procedures may not be valid for more than thirty (30) days.
- 2- This period may be extended only once for a maximum period of twenty (20) days.
- 3- Where a sanction has been pronounced provisionally; the term of said sanction shall be offset against any final sanction.

#### **Article (158): Appeal against Provisional Procedures**

- 1- An appeal against provisional procedures may be lodged before the Appeal Committee Chairman.
- 2- The time limit for lodging the appeal is two (2) days commencing from the decision receipt date.
- 3- The grounds of appeal shall be sent to the Appeal Committee within two (2) days following the lapse of the time limit set forth in the preceding paragraph.
- 4- Every person wishing to lodge an appeal shall deposit a sum of twenty thousand (20,000) Saudi Riyals into SAFF bank account.
- 5- If this requirement has not been complied with; the appeal shall not be held admitted.
- 6- This sum shall be refunded to the appellant where the appeal is admitted but they shall incur the same where the appeal is dismissed.
- 7- Appeal shall not stay the enforcement of the sanction.

# **Article (159): Acceptance of Appeal against Provisional Measures**

The appeal shall be admitted where the contested facts of the decision are incorrect or in the event of misapplication of the law or the regulations.

# **Chapter XIII: Extension of Sanction Article (160): Request for Extension of Sanction**

In the event of serious offenses (including but not limited to unlawfully influencing match results, falsification, forgery, corruption, betting and other offenses) and where FIFA or AFC laws or regulation so require; SAFF shall



communicate with FIFA to extend the sanction to the international level.

#### **Article (161): Sanction Extension Conditions**

The application for sanction extension shall meet the following conditions:

- 1- The sanctioned person shall have been duly summoned to appear before Judicial Committees.
- 2- The sanctioned person shall have been given the opportunity to defend himself.
- 3- The decision has been duly notified.
- 4- The decision is consistent with SAFF Regulations.
- 5- The extension of the decision shall not conflict with public order and the acceptable behavioral standards.

## **Chapter XIV: Review & Pardon** Article (162): Application for Review

- 1- Where a binding decision has been issued; an application may be made for review following issuance of such decision if a party discovers new facts or evidence that could, despite investigation and inquiry, not have been discovered sooner and would have resulted in a more favorable decision.
- 2- The application for review shall be submitted to the Judicial Committee issuing the decision within ten (10) days following discovery of the reasons for review.
- 3- The time limit for submission of the application for review shall be one year following enforcement of the decision.
- 4- A decision on such review shall be issued by the chairman of the committee that passed the decision and its decision shall be final, binding and incontestable.

# **Part VI: Closing Provisions**

# Article (163): Code Scope of Validity & Application

This Code shall apply to all cases explicitly or impliedly set forth in articles hereof together with the persons and categories set out in this Code.

# **Article (164): Omission & Customs**

- 1- Where this Code is silent; the Committee may apply to SAFF for addition of articles concerning new cases consistent with the laws and sports customs.
- 2- Judicial Committees may consider and decide on the case, concerning which this Code is silent, heard before it in the light of the sports laws of FIFA, AFC, customs, equity principles, or legal precedents.

# **Article (165): Interpretation**

The Committee is entitled to interpret the provisions hereof.



#### **Article (166): Conflict**

The provisions hereof shall prevail over any SAFF regulations whereby they conflict therewith.

## **Article (167): Approval & Validity of this Code**

- 1- This Code shall repeal the Disciplinary and Ethics Code approved by SAFF Board of Directors at its Meeting No. (k/T/23) dated 16-08-2023.
- 2- This regulation was approved by the decision of the Board of Directors of the Federation No. (23/1336) dated 09/08/2023.
- 3- This Code shall come into force as of the date of approval thereof.

Disclaimer: the official and binding language of the [Disciplinary and Ethics Regulations] is Arabic. This English-language translation is provided as a guide and is for informational purposes only. In the event of any discrepancy between this version and the binding Arabic version, the latter shall prevail.





Clean Disciplinary and Ethics Regulation

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# Annex No (1): Protest Form

# **Protest Form**

Competition/Tournament	:	
Match	:	
Venue	:	Date:
(hereinafter referred to a	as the "Applica	(Title) (Team)  nt") hereby submit this protest to the Match hand delivery, email, or fax).
2- This protest is about:		
Accordingly, even if this sect within the time limit will rend	ion has been com ler this protest in	otest must be submitted in a full written report. pleted, failure to submit the full written report admissible.  (Date) at
certify that if this protest the match; it will not then		mitted within two (2) hours following the end o
a copy of the original pro-	test) and settle the	s failed to submit the full written report (including e protest fees within the deadlines provided for in ant regulations; this protest will be inadmissible
5- This form shall be held a decide to accept or dismis		SAFF Disciplinary and Ethics Committee shall
6-		
Signature of the authorize the Applicant	ed signatory of	Signature of the Match Commissioner
I hereby certify that I have re the original written protest protest submitted online or	or the original	Signature:
maintained a copy thereof.	by Iax and nave	Date:
Signature:  Date:		Time:within two (2) hours following the end of the match
		☐ Yes ☐ No



