

SEYCHELLES FOOTBALL FEDERATION REGULATIONS
2020/21 EDITION



**SEYCHELLES FOOTBALL FEDERATION
REGULATIONS 2020/21 EDITION**

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GENERAL PROVISIONS

Purpose and Applications

These Tournament Regulations for the Seychelles Football League (SFL) are promulgated by the Seychelles Football Federation (SFF) secretariat to regulate and govern the conduct, operations and administration of the SFL, all participating Clubs, League and Club Officials, Match Officials, Referees, Players and other related stakeholders as cited within these Regulations.

Scope of Application

These Regulations shall be used at all times in conjunction with all other governing documents and regulations of the SFL as issued from time to time.

These Regulations shall be binding on the SFL, all Clubs in the Competition, League and Club Officials, Referees, Players and other stakeholders and partners as cited within these Regulations and other SFF governing documents.

Enforcement

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Any breach of any of the provisions of these Regulations shall be enforced by the imposition of action and possible sanctions pursuant to the SFF Disciplinary Measures as may be subsequently issued.

Definition and Interpretation

Unless otherwise indicated, words and expressions in these Regulations shall have the same meaning as in other governing documents of the SFL.

Any interpretation of provision of these Regulations shall at all times be the interpretation that best achieves the objectives of the SFF.

Amendments

Any part of these Regulations may be amended from time to time, provided that any such amendments are formalized after appropriate consultation with the relevant committees of the SFL and approved by SFF.

DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATION

In these Regulations:

- A. Any use of the word “includes” or words such as ‘for example’ or ‘such as’ do not limit anything else that is included in general speech;
- B. ‘business day’ means a day when the offices of the SFL are ordinarily open for business;
- C. All notices must be in writing and in the English language, Creole or French; and
- D. Any reference to ‘Rupees’ is to Seychelles Rupees (SCR).

Annual Salary means the gross salary (exclusive of any retirement benefits) paid by a Club to a professional Player for a 12-month period.

Appeals Body means the body that is responsible to accept a clubs submission of appeal if application has been rejected by the First Instance Body.

Associate in relation to a Club or a Player includes any:

Related corporation or entity that is under the direct or indirect control or influence, whether formally or informally, of that party;

Person who is or was acting, or who proposes to act, on behalf of or with that party;

In relation to a Club, any director, secretary, officer, employee, agent, shareholder or member of that Club; and

In relation to a Player, a spouse or partner (legal or de facto), parent, child or sibling of that Player or any immediate relative or person with whom the Player has a close personal relationship.

CAF Statutes means the statutes and accompanying standing orders and

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regulations promulgated by the African Football Confederation (CAF) from time to time.

Club means any entity certified by the Club Licensing admitted by the SFF and SFL to field a team in the Competition.

Code of Conduct means the SFF Code of Conduct and SFL Code of Conduct as may hereafter be issued.

Competition and/or **SFL**, and/or **the League** means the football club competition organized and sanctioned by SFF and staged and managed by the SFL, including the SFF Cup and the Airtel cup.

COSAFA means the Council of Southern African Football Associations

FIFA Statutes means the statutes including the standing orders and regulations promulgated by FIFA, including the Regulations Governing the Status and Transfer of Players, as amended from time to time.

Financial Year means the twelve (12) month period from 01 January to 31 December each year.

First Instance Body (FIB) means the body that approves and certifies clubs of having the necessary criteria required to register a club with the SFF.

Foreign Player means a Player who is not a native and citizen of the Seychelles and requires an ITC and a football GOP or a resident permit to be registered with a club.

Friendly Match means any match participated in by a Club that is not part of the Regular Season or SFF Cup or Airtel Cup and sanctioned by SFF.

Grievance means a dispute or grievance arising out or in relation to the Competition or these Regulations, including a dispute about the breach, termination, enforcement, or subject matter of the Player Registration Regulations, Standard Player Contract, Code of Conduct, or Disciplinary Regulations.

Grievance Procedure means the procedure that applies exclusively to facilitate the expeditious and fair resolutions of disputes or grievances as promulgated for the Competition by the Seychelles Football Federation from time to time.

GOP means the Gainful Occupational Permit

Intermediary means a person authorized to negotiate a Standard Player Contract on behalf of a player as specified in these Regulations.

International Compensation means any Transfer Fee or Training Compensation paid or payable by an International Club to a Club.

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ITC means the International Transfer Certificate

Just Cause means an event or omission which would entitle a legal termination of a Standard Player Contract.

Laws of the Game means the Official Laws of the Game as promulgated by IFAB and enforced by FIFA.

Long Term Injury means an injury or illness suffered by a Player which will, or is likely to, prevent a Player from participating in matches for a period of not less than six (6) months from the date the injury or illness as certified by a Medical Practitioner.

Match Official means a referee, assistant referee, fourth official, match commissioner, referee assessor or any person in charge of safety or any person appointed by SFL to assume responsibility in connection with a match.

Match Payments means any amount payable by a Club to a Player in addition to Annual Salary that relates to a Match, including appearances fees and win/draw bonuses if a Player's name appears on the starting list for that Match.

Medical Officer means the suitably qualified, accredited medical physiotherapist appointed by the Club to treat players for injury and illness.

Minimum Remuneration means the minimum Gross amount payable to each professional Player per annum by way of Annual Salary in accordance with the Employments Act

National Team means any national team squad selected or nominated by a FIFA Member Association, including the men's senior, Olympics, futsal or beach football teams or any other national representative team determined by FIFA from time to time.

NSC means the National Sports Council.

Occupational Fitness Health Certificate (OFHC) means a fitness health certificate that has to be renewed every two years.

Official means any person involved with:

Club Official - the administration, management or organization of a Club (whether paid or unpaid), including employees, contractors, consultants, officers and directors and representatives; or

Team Official - the management, preparation or participation of a Club's team (whether paid or unpaid) including the coaches, managers, medical staff (including team or match day doctor), physiotherapists, gear persons or kit-man and other support staff.

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Official Match means a SFL Match (including Regular Season or SFF Cup or Airtel Cup or Club Friendly) organized and sanctioned by SFL and/or SFF.

Player means any person who has been, is, or is eligible to be, registered to play with a Club in the Competition. A reference to a player includes a Youth Player and Replacement Player unless expressed otherwise.

Player license or Passport means the document that records each Club for which the Player has been registered since the season of his 12th birthday in chronological order.

Player Payments means any payment, considerations, advantage or other benefit provided, directly or indirectly by a Club (or an Associate) to a player (or an Associate) that relates in any way to:

That Player 's employment or engagement with that club as a football player, including Annual Salary, Match Payments, any retirement benefits, leave entitlements and all other remunerations, entitlements or bonuses; or

Any contract, arrangement, or understanding as to whether the player should join or stay with the Club (including sign on retention fees).

Player List means the list of Players for each Club maintained in accordance with these Regulations.

President Cup means the winner of the League competition shall play against the winner of the SFF cup of which the competition shall initiate the beginning of the Season.

Protest Form means the form which a club may issue a protest before the end of an official match.

Referee means the referee appointed by SFL to assume responsibility in connection with a Match.

Referee 's Report means SFL's prescribed report to be completed by a referee at the end of each match and submitted to SFL.

Registration Form means a standard form which is used for new registration, loan and transfer of players from a club to another.

Registration Period means:

First Registration Period – Shall not be more than twelve (12) weeks period and shall start on the 29th August 2020 and shall end on the 19th of November.

Second Registration Period – Shall not be more than four (4) weeks period starting on the eight (8th) of February 2021 to the seventh (7th) of March 2020.

Regular Season means the period of time SFL prescribes for the competition rounds of the competition within any twelve (12) month period.

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Replacement Player means a player employed by a Club on a short-term basis to replace a Player with a Long-Term injury or on National Team Duty in accordance with these Regulations.

Release Certificate means a certified document signed by the club from which the player is being transferred.

Seychelles Football League Season means, in each calendar year, the period commencing on the date of the first match-day of the League and ending on the last match-day of the League.

Seychelles Football League Regulations means the rules, by-laws, regulations and policies and procedures as developed or implemented for the Competition from time to time.

Season End means the last match of the season which finishes with the SFF Cup.

Seychelles Football League Competitions means competitions that are staged and managed by the SFF secretariat.

SFF Club Member means any registered Club approved by the SFF Executive Committee and ratified by the AGM and who has been issued a club licensing certificate by the First Instance Body.

SOCGA means the Seychelles Olympic and Commonwealth Games Association.

Sporting Just Cause has the meaning given in applicable FIFA or SFF Regulations.

Standard Player Contract means the contract for the employment of a player in the competition as specified by SFF.

Team means the Club's team participating in the Competition.

Team Official means any personnel involved with the management, preparation or participation of a club (whether paid or unpaid), including the coaches, managers, medical staff (including team or match doctor), physiotherapists, kit-man, and other support staff.

Training Compensation means any payment or fee payable to a club in consideration of registration or transfer of a player who is under 23 years of age to reflect the training and development of that player, whether the transfer took place during or at the end of the player's contract in accordance with the FIFA regulations. The player must become a professional for the compensation to apply.

Transfer Compensation means any payment to a club in consideration

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of the transfer of a non-Contracted player as per compensation table.

Transfer Fee means any payment or fee payable to a club in consideration of the transfer of a player who has a current player contract with that club or any amateur player that are registered with a club as per duration on the compensation grid.

UFFOI means the “L'Union des Fédérations de Football de l'Océan Indien”.

Youth Player means any player who has not yet turned 21 years of age as at the 1st of January of the year in which he is to participate in the Competition or as otherwise determined by SFL.

REGULATION 1

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP AND REGISTRATION

Preamble

These provisions regulate the status and eligibility of teams/clubs/and other eligible members, Associations and/or (Pty) Ltd. of the Federation for purposes of application for membership and/or renewal of membership.

APPLICATION FOR NEW MEMBERSHIP

Reg.1.A

a) Any legal entity wishing to become or renew their Membership with the Federation shall apply in writing to the General Secretariat of the Federation in the prescribed form and manner of which the approval of membership shall be issued after the First Instance Body has issued a club licensing certificate. Third division clubs, as a condition for registration must be a legal entity, but for the first three years will not necessarily have to meet the criteria to be issued with a club licensing certificate from the first instance body.

b) The application must be accompanied by the following mandatory item:

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- (i)** A copy of its legally valid statutes/Constitution;
- (ii)** Provide all documents required under the Club Licensing regulation.
- (iii)** A copy of its Certificate of Registration under the Registration of Associations Act (Cap 201) Sec. 4. or the Company Act 1972.
- (iv)** Registration fee and the annual fee as fixed by the Executive Committee of the SFF.
- (v)** Provide a list of all committee members of the team/club officials and addresses and contact telephone numbers of the team.
- (vi)** Provide a list of maximum 30 players and if the club has a Youth team of a maximum of 20 more players of which shall be between the ages of 16 to 19 years old at the start of the football season.
- (vii)** A declaration that it will always comply with the Statutes, regulations and decisions of the Federation, FIFA, CAF, COSAFA, **UFFOI**, NSC, **SOCGA** and other regional and international Associations which the Federation is affiliated to and ensure that these are also respected by its own members, clubs, officials and list of players;
- (viii)** A declaration that it will comply with the Laws of the Game in force;
- (ix)** A declaration that it recognises the Arbitration Tribunal of the Federation and the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) in Lausanne, as specified in these Statutes;
- (x)** A declaration as to where it is located and registered in the territory of the Republic of Seychelles;
- (xi)** A declaration that it will play all official home matches in the territory of the Republic of Seychelles. In extreme circumstances the Federation may allow international matches to be played outside the territory of the Republic of Seychelles;
- (xii)** A declaration to the effect that the legal composition of the applicant guarantees that it can make decisions independently of any external entity;
- (xiii)** Provide the names, address and contact number of person (s) mandated by the team/club/organization to transact business with the SFF. The list of officials and their contacts who are authorized with the right to enter into legally binding agreements with any other parties.
- (xiv)** The SFF will specifically not accept communication to or from any persons other than that nominated by the team/club.
- (xv)** All team/clubs must have an SFF certified manager (administrator) and medical personnel.

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(xvi) All team/clubs must have a qualified Coach License as follows:

I. Premier League teams Head Coach- CAF "A" or "B" license or equivalent, and Assistant Coach-CAF "B" or "C" license or equivalent.

II. Championship 1 teams Head Coach- CAF "B" or "C" license or equivalent, and Assistant Coach CAF "C" license or equivalent.

III. U 20 youth Inter-Club teams must have a CAF "C" license or a Local "D" License

IV. Certified Coaches may coach in any of the three divisions if they have been in coaching for more than Five (5) years and given an accreditation to that effect by an approved body of the Federation.

(xvii) A declaration that it undertakes to organise or participate in friendly matches only with the prior consent of the Federation;

(xviii) A copy of the minutes of its last AGM or constitutional meeting;

(xix) Enclose the duly executed player transfer certificate when applicable.

(xx) Enclose a clear and legible sample of the team/clubs' badge or emblem including the strip/kit colours for "Home" and "Away" matches.

(xxi) A declaration that in the event of any disagreement or dispute with the SFF, other teams/clubs, their members, SFF officials and referees, such disagreement or dispute may not be referred to a "Court of Law", but to an Arbitration Tribunal as provided for under Article 57 of the SFF Statute.

(xxii) Any other items as it may from time to time be specified by the Federation.

APPLICATION FOR RENEWAL OF MEMBERSHIP

Reg.1.B.

A team/club or other eligible members of the Federation applying for renewal of membership shall:

Request for renewal in writing to the SFF in the prescribed form and manner, before the end of the season or earlier if the Executive Committee so decide. Membership will only be renewed once the First Instance body has issued the certificate under Club licensing of which it has met all the necessary criteria.

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a) Enclose with its request a copy of the declaration that provisions under the Registration of Association Act (Cap 201) or Company Act 1972, has been complied with, e.g. filing of audited accounts, holding of proper meetings.

b) Confirm a list of licensed players being not more than 30 and not less than 20). Players previously registered but are not confirmed shall be deemed to be released by a club.

c) A team may register an additional 20 more players, of which 15 shall be under 19 years and not less than 14 years of age at the beginning of the season provided, it maintains a reserve team.

d) Subject to approval by the SFF Executive Committee, in the event that anyone of the 30 players becomes incapacitated for more than 6 months through injury, a club will be allowed to register a replacement player whilst applying to enter the player on the long term injury list of which the latter shall be de-Listed from the club's list and guaranteed in the standard contract to receive his minimum remuneration as long as he remains on the long term injury list.

e) Pay the team/club's annual fees as fixed by the Executive Committee.

f) In cases of any change enclose a clear and legible sample of the new team/clubs' badge or emblem including the strip/kit colours for "Home" and "Away" matches. (If applicable).

g) The prescribed completed registration/renewal form(s) shall be submitted in duplicate by the date stipulated. Late **or incomplete** registration **will** not be accepted and/or a censure or prescribed fine may be levied, see Reg.1.B (iii).and (iv).

h) A team/club censured by the penalty of expulsion, suspension, cessation, rejection and/or termination of membership may only be re-admitted at the discretion of the Executive Committee or of the members at a General Meeting and only then can registration and application formalities be proceeded with in the form stipulated above.

Reg.1. C

a) Any change in the particulars filed by a team/club under Reg.1.A and Reg.1.B shall be notified to the SFF Secretariat without delay and not later than one week of any such change(s). Sanction of Sr.500.00 will apply for non-notification, SFF will not accept back dated changes.

b) Compliance with the requirements stipulated in Reg.1.A shall be concluded by all teams/clubs within the deadline set down by the Executive Committee from time to time.

c) When a team/club has completed all formalities and is registered or renewed as a member of the SFF, it shall henceforth qualify to participate in competition(s) organised by the SFF provided that the entry deadline for the competition(s) has not expired.

d) Should a team/club complete the requirements stipulated in Reg.1.B within one week after the deadline set by the Executive Committee, upon payment of a100% surcharge of its' annual fees, the Executive Committee may register or renew it as a member as stipulated in Reg. 1.C (ii).

e) Subject to Reg.1.C (iii) should a team/club fail to complete any of the formalities stipulated in Reg.1.B within the time limit set by the Executive Committee, it shall be

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suspended from participation and in all General Meetings and competitions for the ensuing season or it shall be refused membership unless it proves to the latter's satisfaction and for good reasons why such delay arose.

Reg.1. D

a) Resolving a dispute between the SFF and a club member, between members, between members and players and between players, by going to court shall automatically result in the suspension of a team/club from the SFF.

b) Any breach or avoidance of the provisions of Reg.1.D (i) by either party to the dispute shall result in censure by the penalty of expulsion, suspension, cessation, rejection or termination of membership of the SFF and shall result in the forfeiture of its right to attend a General Meeting, participate and vote therein.

Reg.1. E

Any change in the particulars filed by a team/club under Reg.1.A (2) (e) and Reg.1.B. (iv) of the licensed players listed shall be notified immediately to the SFF and until the players' registration formalities are completed to the satisfaction of the SFF, any new player concerned shall not be eligible to play for that team/club.

Reg.1. F

a) Any team/club applying for membership or renewal of membership shall be subject amongst other things of special administrative procedures which may from time to time be stipulated by the Executive Committee of the Federation.

b) Adherence to the Provisions of Article 17 of the SFF Statutes shall be of major consideration when the Executive Committee of the Federation considers application for membership or renewal of membership.

REGULATION 2

**FIELDING TEAMS, POSTPONEMENT, ABANDONMENT, FORFEITURES AND
COLOUR CLASH**

Reg.2.A

a) A team shall be a member of the SFF except for foreign visiting teams. The minimum number of registered players for a team to commence a match shall be 7.

b) The minimum number of players on the field of play to continue a match shall be 7.

c) Subject to Reg.3.B. (V) and Reg.4.I. (ii) any dispute as to a player's right to play at any particular game shall be conveyed to the referee or the match commissioner and

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recorded before the commencement of the match. This may not preclude the player from participating in the match.

d) A team shall automatically forfeit a game if it cannot field a team at the official starting time of the match. In extenuating circumstances, the **Match Commissioner** shall allow the maximum of 15 minutes delay before starting a match.

e) No matches shall start before its scheduled kick-off time. Referees shall inform the two teams if the match will be delayed, thirty (30) minutes before kick-off time.

f) The SFF shall take protest seriously and investigate of any matches that has been stopped prematurely of reasons not accepted by the SFL.

g) Failure to field a team leading to forfeiture of a match, the consequences of which gives undue advantage to any Club winning any SFF competition shall result in serious disciplinary actions expulsion of the club and others being taken by the Executive Committee of the SFF.

h) A club which fails to field a team for whatever reason on **two occasions** for any SFF competition shall be suspended for the rest of the season from all competitions and shall be relegated to the lowest division where possible the following season. Other disciplinary actions may be taken by the Executive Committee of the SFF. For reasonable case the Executive Committee will only consider circumstances which are caused by "Force Majeure".

Reg.2.B

a) Should a team be awarded a match on grounds of forfeiture and the score of that match at a time of abandonment was less than 2-0 the score of the game will be deemed to be 2-0. However, if the score of that game at the time of abandonment was more than 2-0 in favour of the team awarded the match, the score shall stand.

b) If a team withdraws from any SFF Competition at any time before the end of the season, for whatever cause or reason, the results of any matches played before the default shall stand. The results of all remaining matches shall be 2 – 0 in favour of the opponent.

c) Should an away team cause a game to be forfeited for any cause or reason not acceptable to the Executive Committee of the SFF, it will compensate the home team for loss of earnings. The home team will be compensated to the extent of a fine which would be imposed as follows: -

Premier League Sr.20, 000.00 other Championships Sr.6, 000.00.

d) The team that decides not to sell tickets at a scheduled SFF official match applicable to **Premier League** teams only shall be fined an amount estimated by the Federation in lost revenues based on the Commissioner's report but not less than **SR5, 000.00** as a reimbursement cost of running that match.

e) A team which fields an illegal player shall automatically cause the forfeiture of the match regardless of an official complaint being received from the opposing team or not.

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An illegal player is an unregistered player or a player not eligible to play due to suspension or other disciplinary censure taken by the SFF,

f) A match abandoned or when a technical error has occurred not pertaining to the decision of the referee on matters of play shall be replayed in its entirety.

Reg.2.C

a) Postponement of any scheduled match may not be considered by the Executive Committee of the SFF unless it is mutually agreed upon by both teams and an alternative date for the fixture is proposed and requested in writing at least 7 days prior to the match by both teams, or unless in the opinion of the SFF Executive Committee or by reason of force majeure a postponement is in the interest of the game or particular competition, in which case the 14 day rule may be exceptionally waived by the Executive Committee.

b) The SFF may postpone, reschedule any scheduled match if it would be in the best interest of the game provided it offers a new scheduled date within 21 days.

c) In the event of a clash of colours at any match, the “away” team shall provide an alternative strip. For the purpose of this regulation an “away” team is the team shown second on the fixture. Home teams must play in official home colours as declared at the beginning of a football season. A **home** team in default may be fined or censured and may forfeit the game.

d) The SFF Secretariat shall publish and circulate a list of all registered clubs’ “home” and “away” colours at the beginning of each season.

e) Each team captain shall wear an arm-band displaying his clear identification on the field of play.

f) All players’ jerseys must bear clearly identifiable numbers from 1 to 30 for all competitions which shall correspond with the numbers against their names listed on the official team sheet for the match being played. **Players may only play in their official registered number and the Club should seek approval from the SFF administration if they wish to change their number.**

g) Goalkeepers shall not wear the same numbers as substitute goalkeepers of their team.

h) Names on shirts if displayed must correspond or identify with the name of the team/club or player registered with the SFF. All other equipment’s shall be worn in accordance to IFAB Laws of the Game 2016/17.

Reg.2.D

a) Any club/team wishing to participate in a friendly game involving the collection of ticket revenue shall give at least 14 days written notice to the SFF Secretariat requesting

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permission to (a) hold the match and (b) collect revenue. The SFF shall not unreasonably withhold permission provided the game is not contrary to the general interest of the game in the Seychelles.

b) A refusal by the SFF shall be communicated to the teams concerned at least 10 days prior to the day of the friendly match.

c) For international friendly games, in the Seychelles, the SFF shall be given at least 28 days' notice from the visiting team(s) before the game(s). Should the SFF believe that a match should be played in the best interest of the game it may waive or reduce the notice period.

d) A schedule of fixtures shall be published and circulated for all games organised by the SFF. The schedule of fixtures may be subject to changes and clubs will be informed of the changes of the rescheduled matches.

Reg.2.E

a) A team shall ensure that the players are medically fit prior to the commencement of any match. Regular medical and physical fitness checks should be conducted throughout the season.

b) All registered clubs should ensure to have and to submit to the SFF upon registration of all their players a valid physical medical certificate. Clubs must provide upon registration of a new player a physical medical Certificate which should be renewed every two years.

c) All registered clubs/teams shall be encouraged to provide adequate sports insurance to cover for their teams, players, and officials attending matches and training sessions.

d) All registered Football teams in the Premier league, must have a youth development programme and registered under 16-20 for registration for the 2020/21 season.

e) Periodic prescribed random drug testing may be conducted by approved sports authority or its appointed agents. Positive reaction to tests may result in suspension of the player(s) and censure of the club. SFF will comply with sanctions imposed by recognised sports authorities, of positive cases.

f) It is the responsibility of each team/club to ensure players can be evacuated to a medical facility during their matches and training sessions should the need arise. Each team/club should make prior arrangements for this eventuality. For international matches this responsibility rests on the SFF.

FIELD OF PLAY

Reg.2. F

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- a) SFF will inspect the fields of play and ensure that the fields of play comply with the Laws of the Game and the directives of FIFA, prior to the commencement of a season.
- b) The minimum illumination necessary for night matches will be 200 lux.
- c) The dimensions of the fields of play will be as follows:
 - Maximum length 120 meters; minimum length of 100 meters;
 - Maximum width 75 meters; minimum width of 68 meters.
- d) The referee is the sole judge of whether or not a match should be postponed or abandoned due to the unsuitability of a ground caused by inclement weather or any other factor.
- e) Match-balls will be in accordance with the Laws of the Game, and will be FIFA approved balls. The SFF will supply the match ball; however, the referee may accept a ball from the teams if for any reason the SFF is unable to provide a ball of suitable quality.
- f) A fixture may be played partly or wholly under floodlights.
- g) In normal circumstances, the referee will be the sole judge as to whether or not a pitch is fit for a fixture. However, in circumstances considered extra-ordinary by the Designated SFF Official, he may order a postponement of any game(s) provided such announcement is made before noon (12h00) on the day of the match.
- h) If a fixture is postponed through weather inclination, or the state of the pitch because of the weather, SFF will set another date on which the game will be played.

REGULATION 3

STATUS, REGISTRATION, TRANSFER AND LOANING OF PLAYERS

Reg.3.A

Status of players:

- a) Players participating in organised football by the SFF are either amateurs or professionals
- b) A professional is a player who has a written attested contract with a club and is paid more for his foot-balling activity than the expenses he effectively incurs.

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c) The costs of travel and accommodation expenses incurred through involvement in an official match and the costs of player's equipment, insurance and training may be reimbursed without jeopardizing a player's amateur status.

d) The SFF shall keep an official register of all foreign players registered with clubs/teams under its jurisdiction.

e) Every foreign player, except for foreign player who has a GOP for other employment or work purposes shall have a written contract which is attested by the Ministry of Employment with the club/team employing him and a copy should be submitted to the SFF immediately after attestation.

f) All contracts shall be contracts of employment including financial concluded for a predetermined period and a copy of these contracts shall be provided to the SFF and a copy of the players valid passport which does not expire before the predetermined period of the contract. The provisions of the standard FIFA players contract shall be included in the contract of employment.

g) Unless there is an extension of a current contract, the expiration of a contract period shall automatically deem a player to have been released by his club. If a player has a contract, he should remain on the list of the team/club except when he has joined the long-term injury list.

h) The SFF may stipulate additional provisions to be included in every contract concluded between a club/team and a **foreign** player registered with the SFF.

i) The language of the contract shall be either in English, French or Creole. In case there is an issue of interpretation, English shall take precedence.

Reg.3.B

Reacquisition of amateur status:

a) A player registered as a professional may not re-register as an amateur until at least 30 months after his last match as a professional.

b) No compensation is payable upon reacquisition of amateur status. If a player re-registers as a professional within 30 months of being re-instated as an amateur, his club shall pay training compensation in accordance with article 20.

Reg.3.C

Termination of activity

a) Professionals who end their careers upon the expiry of their contracts and amateurs who terminate their activity shall remain registered at the association of their last club for a period of 30 months.

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Reg.3.D

Registration of players

a) A player must be registered at an association to play for a club as either a professional or an amateur in accordance with the provisions of article 2. Only registered players are eligible to participate in SFL. By the act of registering, a player agrees to abide by the statutes and regulations of FIFA, the confederations and the associations.

b) A non-contracted player shall be registered and be binding for a maximum of three years with a club/team and shall need to register again after the three years have expired of which the registration shall be for another three years. If the three years have elapsed at any time during the season, the player may only be able to join another club in the next registration period and is still eligible to play for his present club until the next registration period where he may renew his registration if he wishes to do so.

c) A non-contracted player may renew his registration with his present club six (6) months before it expires of which his renewed registration shall be for a period of three years and the remainder time before his first registration has expired shall be added to his concurrent registration.

d) A player may only be registered for one club at a time, which includes Beach Soccer, Futsal, Subsidiary Leagues, and other tournaments which the SFF may organise from time to time.

e) Players may be registered for a maximum of three clubs during the period covering the SFF Football Calendar year. During this period, the player is only eligible to play in official matches for two clubs and may not register twice with the same club in a single season.

f) For a foreign player his registration would be considered as playing for his first club. As an exception to this rule, a player moving between two clubs belonging to associations with overlapping seasons (i.e. start of the season in summer/autumn as opposed to winter/spring) may be eligible to play for a third club during the relevant season, provided he has fully complied with his contractual obligations towards his previous clubs. Equally, the provisions relating to the registration periods (article 6) as well as to the minimum length of a contract (article 18 paragraph 2) must be respected.

Reg.3.E

Registration Periods*

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a) Players may only be registered during one of the two registration periods fixed by the SFF. As an exception to this rule, a professional player whose contract has expired prior to the end of the registration period may be registered outside that registration period, Associations are authorized to register such professionals provided due consideration is given to the sporting integrity of the relevant competition. Where a contract has been terminated with just cause, FIFA may take provisional measures in order to avoid abuse, subject to article 22 as defined by FIFA Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players.

b) The first Registration Period shall be notified to all clubs of its opening and this period may not exceed twelve weeks before the start of the new season which shall start from the 29th of August 2020 and up to the 19th of November 2020.

c) The beginning of the new season shall start with the kick-off of the President's Cup.

d) The second Registration Period may not exceed four weeks and shall begin from the eight (8th) of February to the seventh (7th) of March, unless otherwise amended by the Executive Committee.

e) The football season shall end on the last day of any organized local match of the SFL competition. No transfers of players shall be permitted between the end of season and the opening of the registration period.

f) The two registration periods for the season shall be entered onto the transfer matching system (TMS) at least 12 months before they come into force (cf. Annexe3, article 5.1 paragraph 1) FIFA shall determine the dates for any association that fails to communicate them on time.

g) Players may only be registered-subject to the exception provided for in article 6 paragraph 1- upon submission of a valid application from the club to the SFF during the registration period.

h) The provisions concerning registration periods do not apply to competitions in which only amateurs participate. The relevant association shall specify the period when players may be registered for such competitions provided that due consideration is given to the sporting integrity of the relevant competition.

Reg.3.F

Application for Registration

a) Only a player who is currently registered by the SFF to play for a registered club/team shall be admitted to competitions organised by the SFF.

b) A non-Seychellois player and/or a returning Seychellois player who is already affiliated to a national football association, shall not be registered with a club/team in

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Seychelles unless the SFF has received an international transfer certificate issued by the national association which the player wishes to leave

c) The application for registration of a foreign/professional player must be submitted together with a copy of the player's contract. The relevant decision-making body has discretion to take account of any contractual amendments or additional agreements that have not been duly submitted to it. Registration will have to be accompanied with a clearance certificate from NSC, the player will only be able to participate in organized competition after the SFF has received a valid GOP and a copy of an attested employment contract.

d) A non-Seychellois and/or a returning Seychellois player's eligibility to play shall not be considered definitive until the official transfer certificate has actually been received and duly signed by the former national association. SFF recommendation for registration and concession will only apply to non-Seychellois players who have played with national teams. Existing non-Seychellois players will only be subject to this after 2 years. Or expiration of contract whichever is later.

e) Seychelles Government policy and the NSC guidelines in respect to the participation of non-Seychellois players in football and other sports should be consulted.

f) A team/club will be permitted up to 5 registrations of free/unregistered players during the second registration period.

Reg.3.G

Unregistered Players

a) If a player who has not been registered, or registration has expired with the Federation, or GOP has expired, appears for a club in any official match, that player will be considered as having played illegitimately. Without prejudice to any measure required to rectify the sporting consequences of such an appearance, sanctions may also be imposed on the player and/or the club. The right to impose such sanctions lies in principle with the Federation or the organizer of the competition.

Reg.3.H

Eligibility to Play

a) Any player shall be eligible to play in SFF organised competitions if: -

(i) He/she is properly registered by a club and holds a valid SFF player license; and/or a valid GOP in the case of a foreign player;

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- (ii)** He/she is duly transferred from one club to another in accordance with Reg.3.J;
 - (iii)** He/she has not been suspended or banned by the SFF and/or any fine or other disciplinary measure which may have been imposed on a player has been discharged or has expired within the time stipulated by the SFF;
 - (iv)** He/she has been selected to participate in a representative side e.g. Praslin/La Digue selections, and subsidiary league selections, or such other leagues, divisions or selections as approved by the SFF.
- b) A registered foreign player whose GOP expires during the playing season, shall have his license automatically de-activated and come to be an illegal player. The player's license shall be re-activated any time outside the registration period upon receipt of a valid GOP. This exception applies only to a foreign registered player whose GOP has expired during the current playing season.
- c) Should a player be found to be registered for two (2) clubs during the same period of registration windows or played for two clubs, the Club will lose any match in which the player has played in accordance with the other provisions of these Regulations. Further, both clubs to which the player is registered will be referred to the SFF Disciplinary Committee and the club that registered an already registered player will be subject to fines and sanctions, including being suspended from participating in future SFF competitions; and the player concerned will also be suspended from participating in future SFF competitions.
- d) SFF and/or SFL shall carry out a check of the documents provided for the registration of players as soon as practical. Players with missing documentations will not be eligible for registration. All eligible players will be issued with official player license/card authorized by SFL. Should the player license/card be misplaced or lost thereafter, another eligibility player license/card may be issued by SFL only upon payment of SR 100.00 (One hundred Rupees) processing fee.
- e) A player is deemed ineligible to play if:
- (i)** The provisions of the preceding regulations are not fulfilled;
 - (ii)** He is fielded despite being subject to a suspension or contrary to a decision of the SFF Disciplinary Committee or the operation of the SFF Disciplinary measures;
 - (iii)** He fails a doping test;
 - (iv)** SFL finds that document submitted during registration is/are false.
- f) Any Club found guilty of fielding an ineligible player shall be dealt with under the SFF Disciplinary Measures.



Reg.3.I

Player/Coach/Medical Licenses

a) The Federation shall issue all SFF registered players/coaches/medical personal with a license containing the relevant details of the players/coaches/medical personnel. Licenses are issued free upon initial registration.

b) The player's license shall indicate the club(s) with which the player has been registered since the season of his 12th birthday. If a birthday falls between seasons, the player's license shall indicate the club with which he was registered during the season following his birthday.

c) Replacement of player/coach/medical personal licenses will be charged a fee the quantum of which will from time to time be decided by the SFF Executive Committee.

d) The player/coach/medical licenses are required to be produced for verification before the commencement of any official match. In the event that coach/medical personnel do not have a license, the person concern shall not be allowed to sit on the team bench.

e) If a player is not on the official license list, it shall not prevent the player from participating in a match. The Match Commissioner or the referee in the absence of the Match Commissioner has to note this on his report after informing the opposite team of the name of the player.

Reg.3.J

Transfer of Players

a) A registered player wishing to transfer from one club/team or another may not be permitted to be transferred with another club/team unless it is within the registration and/or transfer periods fixed by the SFF and until the latter has received a duly completed and signed transfer certificate on the prescribed form in triplicate from the club/team the player wishes to leave.

b) Players removed from the official list of a club shall remain registered with that club at the SFF for the remainder of the season and will need a transfer certificate during that period if he wishes to join another club. The transferor shall receive no compensation for any transfer in the new registration period with reference to this article, but the transferee shall pay the 5 % transfer fee to the SFF.

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c) If a player is not injured or under any sanction and is not on loan and does not play for his team/club from the beginning of the season until the 2nd registration period of the same season. The player may request for a transfer, by submitting a case to the Executive Committee for consideration under sporting just cause.

d) A club/team may not refuse to issue a transfer certificate, unless the player has failed to fulfill his/her obligations under the terms of his/her contract, or the club has not received compensation as prescribed by the Federation for non-contracted players. The Federation may accept compensation on behalf of a team where after granting transfer without the necessity of a transfer certificate.

e) A player shall not be authorized to train with or play in official matches for his/her new club/team until transfer procedure has been completed. A club must seek permission of the player's current club before approaching a player with a view to recruiting. Any club in breach of this procedure shall be liable to a fine **equal to 25% of the prescribed compensation**, should the case be brought to the attention of the SFF Executive Committee.

f) Compensation grid for the transfer of non-contracted local players shall be applicable according to the schedule below:

Age	Premier League	Championship 1	Regional	Women
Below 18yrs	Sr.15,000	Sr.7,500	Sr.1,875	Sr.1,875
18 to 23 yrs.	Sr.25,000	Sr12,000	Sr.3,125	Sr.3,125
24 to 28 yrs.	Sr.35,000	Sr.17500	Sr.4,375	Sr.3,125
29 to 32 yrs.	Sr.25,000	Sr12,000	Sr.3,125	Sr.3,125
33yrs onwards	Sr.15,000	Sr.7,500	Sr.1,875	Sr.1,875

g) Rates apply if the player is a registered player with a team/club for the last 3 years. If less than 3 years, then a percentage reflecting number of years between 1-3 years. Compensation shall begin after the player has been with the club for a full year from the date of registration. One third (1/3) after the first year, two thirds (2/3) after the second year and full compensation after the third year or more. Compensation in respect of all capped national team players shall be paid based on Premier League players. A transfer fee of 5% is payable to SFF by the transferee.

h) A non-contracted player who has expired his/her three years registration with a club can join another without the need for any payment of compensation. Full compensation will only be paid if the player has confirmed a second three years registration with his present club and wishes to be transferred any time after.

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All regulations pertaining to local national transfers between clubs/teams registered by the SFF under normal circumstances are subject to the following sub-regulations: -

- a) Unlimited transfers may take place within the first registration period.
- b) A team/ club will be permitted up to 3 transfers of players during the second registration period.
- c) Only the club/team with which the player wishes to play may request the necessary transfer certificate.
- d) The transfer certificate shall be prepared in triplicate on the prescribed SFF forms for that purpose.
- e) The transfer certificate must be completed in full and signed by all parties thereto.
- f) All three completed copies of the transfer certificate shall be sent to the SFF Secretariat together with a processing fee equivalent to 5% of the transfer fee which should be paid by the team acquiring the player.
- g) In the case of a transfer involving a foreign/professional player from one local club to another or to a foreign club, a Seychellois amateur player to a foreign club a transfer fee of 12.5% is payable to the SFF by the transferee.
- h) An endorsed copy of the transfer certificate shall be returned by the SFF to the club to which the player is to be transferred together with the player's license and receipt.
- i) Transfers must be completed and processed at least 24 hours prior to the next official match of the participating club to which the player has joined.
- j) A transfer certificate shall not be made subject to conditions and in particular the validity of the certificate may not be restricted to a limited period, except when a player is on loan, see Reg.4. N.
- k) The transfer certificate shall be processed and issued by the SFF within 72 hours of receipt thereof, provided that all necessary procedures have been completed by the applicant. Excluding Saturdays and Public holidays.
- l) (Transfers of non-contract players are automatic provided the amount payable per compensation grid is paid. Youth players registered under Regulation 1B (iv) shall be eligible for compensation but shall require a transfer document in all cases.
- m) In the event of disagreements, in the negotiations regarding transfer of non-contracted players between two clubs, the payments based on the compensation grid shall be made to the SFF and subsequently the transfer shall take effect.
- n) In general, transfer/loan outside the territory of the Republic of Seychelles can only be done up to the end of the second registration period except in special

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circumstances which shall be determined by the Executive Committee of the SFF. Due consideration to be given to the sporting integrity of the local competition.

Reg.3.L

a) The SFF may or may not issue a transfer certificate in respect of a player who is under suspension on disciplinary grounds, from the SFF.

Reg.3.M

Special provisions relating to contracts between professionals/amateurs' players and clubs

a) All attested contracts shall be submitted to the SFF Competition Department.

b) If an agent is involved in the negotiation of a contract, he shall be named in that contract

c) **The minimum length of a contract shall be from its effective date until the end of the season, while the maximum length of a contract shall be two years for foreign players and five years for local contracted players.** Contracts of any other length shall only be permitted if not consistent with national laws. Players under the age of 18, may not sign a professional contract for a term longer than three years. Any clause referring to a longer period shall not be recognized.

d) A club intending to conclude a contract with a professional must inform the player's current club in writing before entering negotiations with him. A professional shall only be free to conclude a contract with another club if his contract with his present club has expired or is due to expire within six months. Any breach of this provision shall be subject to appropriate sanction.

e) The validity of a contract may not be made subject to a successful medical examination and/or the grant of a gainful occupational permit.

f) If a professional enters into more than one contract covering the same period, the provisions set forth in chapter IV of FIFA Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players shall apply.

g) A player who is under 18 years of age may only sign a contract if it is attested by his/her guardian or parent in the player's presence and that of member of the management of a team/club who shall also declare authenticity of the signature.

Reg.3.N (bis)

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No club shall enter into a contract which enables any other party to that contract or any third party to acquire the ability to influence in employment and transfer-related matters its independence, its policies or the performance of its teams.

a) The FIFA Disciplinary Committee may impose disciplinary measures on clubs that do not observe the obligations set out in this article.

Reg.3.O

a) Upon expiry of his/her contract a player shall be free to conclude a contract with another club/team, with or without a compensatory agreement between his/her club and another club.

b) Nothing contained in these regulations, either written or implied, shall prevent a person moving from one club/team to another club/team at any time in the capacity of coaching or managerial. Nonetheless, the Competition Department must be informed by the Club and approve.

c) A player shall be permitted to play in a knock-out competition for only one club during a playing season. Inclusion on a team sheet shall be deemed as participation in a match. (Any competition which ends with a knock-out phase shall be considered as a knock-out competition).

Reg.3.P

Loan of Players

a) Clubs/teams may loan or receive players on loan to or from other clubs upon application to the SFF on the prescribed form, subject to the following conditions: -

(i) A club/team cannot receive on loan more than six players per playing season but a club/team can loan out as many players not exceeding six to any one club/team provided it does not fall below the Club minimum registered quota.

(ii) A player on loan shall remain a registered player of its mother club, but shall cease to feature on the team list of its mother club until the expiry of the loan period.

(iii) The loan period shall not be less than **4 months** in duration. A player on loan may be recalled back to its mother club at any time after the four months period if the loan period exceeds four months.

(iv) The two clubs/teams which are party to the loan agreement can be from the same League. Clubs/ teams can loan any of its registered players to a local club or to an

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overseas clubs/ teams and receive also on loan players from local and overseas clubs/teams.

(v) The loan of players will not be approved after Seventh (7th) March of the football season.

(vi) Players on loan shall not be allowed to participate in any matches against its parent Club (the Club that the player is registered with).

(vii) The loan of a player shall not be counted as a transfer. A player on loan shall return to his actual club/team upon completion of the loan period and automatically at the end of the SFF Calendar year, and only if the club list of players is at its maximum, which would require the club to release a player. If a player is not automatically relisted upon completion of his loan period, the player will be considered as a free player.

(viii) The player received on loan shall be regarded as a registered player with that club and counted in as a club/team maximum/minimum quota. Likewise, a player loaned out shall be delisted from its mother club list of players and counted out as a club/team maximum/minimum quota.

Reg.3.Q

Loan of local Contracted Players

a) A **contracted player** may be loaned to another club on the basis of a written agreement between him and the clubs concerned. Any such loan is subject to the same rules as apply to the transfer of players, including the provisions on training compensation and solidarity mechanism.

b) **The minimum period of loan shall be four months**

c) The club that has accepted a player on a loan basis is not entitled to transfer him to a third club without the written authorization of the club that released the player on loan and of the player concerned.



REGULATION 4

FOREIGN PLAYERS

Reg.4.A

a) The following conditions shall apply to clubs/teams wishing to employ foreign players: -

b) Only Four foreign players can be registered per team per calendar year and not more than four at any one time. A club may change all four foreign players in the registration period provided it has not gone above the maximum quota allowed per calendar year.

c) Under no circumstances shall any club have more than four registered foreign players at any one time in a calendar year on its players list, save in cases where a foreign player succumbs to an injury and is certified to become disabled for more than 6 months, the club will be allowed to register a new foreign player whilst retaining the injured player on the list of long term injury in the condition that the contract is valid. The replacement player may register any time outside the registration period.

(b) A club/team can use only three of the four registered foreign players on the field of play at any one time during the match.

(c) Expatriates already holding a resident permit or are employed on contract in Seychelles, of which the validity is not less than 1 year, may also participate in football. They shall be unsalaried. Reg.4A (i) applies.

d) The clubs must comply with procedures to follow for recruitment of foreign players as laid down by the respective agencies deemed appropriate and necessary by the SFF to ensure effective and lawful recruitment of such players., the national football association of the player will be obliged to certify this as laid down by the following agencies: the SFF Executive Committee shall issue up-to-date information guidelines, of competence to that effect, to the technical department.

- ◆ The Seychelles Football Federation
- ◆ The Ministry responsible for sports
- ◆ The National Sports Council
- ◆ The Ministry responsible for employment
- ◆ The Immigration Authorities

e) Any such other foreign federation, authority, club, person, or Government as the SFF may deem appropriate and necessary to ensure effective and lawful recruitment of such players.

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REGULATION 5

PROTECTION OF MINORS

Reg.5. A.

a) The SFF shall be guided by FIFA Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players Chapter VI International Transfers Involving Minors Article 19 Protection of Minors as per 2012 Amendments

Reg.5.B

Registration and reporting of minors at academies

a) Clubs that operate an academy with legal, financial, or de facto links to the club are obliged to report all minors who attend the academy to the association upon whose territory the academy operates.

b) The SFF is obliged to ensure that all academies without legal, financial or de facto links to a club:

(i) Run a club that participates in the relevant national championships, all players shall be reported to the association upon whose territory the academy operates, or registered with the club itself, or

(ii) Report all minors who attend the academy for the purpose of training to the association upon whose territory the academy operates.

c) Each association shall keep a register comprising names and dates of birth of the minors who have been reported to it by the club's academy.

d) Through the act of reporting, academies and players undertake to practice football in accordance with FIFA Statutes, and to respect and promote the ethical principles of organized football.

e) Any violations of this provision will be sanctioned by the Disciplinary Committee in accordance with the FIFA Disciplinary Code.

f) Article 19 shall also apply to the reporting of all minor players who are not nationals of the country in which they wish to be reported.

REGULATION 6

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SUBSIDIARY LEAGUES

Reg.6.A

a) All clubs/teams and players shall abide to and be bound by the Statutes of the Seychelles Football Federation, its rules, regulations and bye-laws.

b) Each club/team shall become a registered **Associate Member** of the SFF and shall comply with the requirements set out in Reg.1 hereof and pay the club/teams' annual subscription and registration fees as prescribed by the Executive Committee of the SFF for Subsidiary Leagues.

c) Subsidiary League: winner of Inner Island League competition may be promoted to Division III if in the opinion of the Executive Committee it is in the interest of SFF and football, if and when the Executive Committee resolve that the subsidiary league winner should be given the opportunity to participate in the official national League the team must first win a play-off against the last team in the third Division or participate in tournaments to qualify.

REGULATION 7

MATCH COMMISSIONER AND PRE-MATCH PROCEDURES

Preamble

Guidelines for the effective use of dressing rooms, verification of players, pre-match procedures, and other related matters.

Reg.7.A

a) Senior and Reserve league matches organised by the SFF shall require the appointment of a match commissioner who is designated as the official representative of the SFF at the match.

b) The absence of the match commissioner will not constitute an obstacle to the playing of the match at the scheduled date, time, and venue. The match commissioner cannot be replaced except by the SFF.

c) In the absence of the match commissioner, the referee designated to officiate shall assume the responsibilities of the match commissioner, except for those duties pertaining to the assessment of the match referees.

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Reg.7.B

a) The responsibility of ascertaining the regularity of the field's dimensions, markings and practicability, of ascertaining the strength of the electric floodlights for nocturnal matches and of verifying the player passport is exclusively that of the referee. The referee, the 2 assistant referees, and the fourth official are the only persons to control the procedures concerning the substitution of players during the match.

b) The match commissioner, if he deems it necessary for the security of the referees, the team's officials, the players or spectators may decide and order not to have the match played.

c) If any protest(s) concerning any of the regulations is submitted in writing to the match commissioner before the start of the game, he shall endeavour to resolve and reconcile conflicting points of view. However, if he fails, he shall register the protest and ensure that the match is played in accordance with the provisions of the rules.

d) If for some reason or in the event there is a postponement of a match, the match commissioner shall inform the SFF Secretariat accordingly which shall then advise the two teams of the date, time, and venue of the replay.

Reg.7.C

a) The two teams, ready for verification, the referees, and the match commissioner must be present in the dressing rooms at least 30 minutes before kick-off time.

b) The match commissioner and the referees must make every effort to kick-off the match at the designated time. If for any reason a match is started more than five (5) minutes after the designated kick-off time, the match commissioner shall give full details for the delay on his match report.

c) No changes to a team sheet may be made after a match has kicked-off. For a player who is not present for verification before a match, entry onto the field of play will be subject to verification of identity in the presence of a representative of the opposing team.

d) The verification of the players must be carried out inside the dressing rooms.

e) On entry to the dressing room the match commissioner shall introduce himself giving his designation and then proceed to introduce the referees. The match commissioner may use this occasion to make any remarks to the teams which he feels may be necessary in assisting the good conduct and running of the match.

f) The officials of a team at the pre-match verification shall ensure that the players are lined-up in the order in which they appear on the match sheet, with each player in possession of his player's license identity document.

g) If undergarments are worn, the colour of the sleeve should be the same main colour as the sleeve of the jersey or shirt.

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- h) If under shorts are worn, they should be of the same colour as the shorts.
- i) Team officials in the technical area must wear the attire of their respective teams.
- j) Any team or match officials who is found to be responsible for the delay in the starting of a match shall be subject to a fine by SFF.

Reg.7.D

- a) The keys to the dressing rooms shall be given to an official of each team. The teams must enter the dressing rooms during the half-time recess. No player(s) can remain on the field of play or around it during the half-time break or remain within the confines of the technical area and substitute's bench.
- b) Whilst in general teams are expected to respect dressing rooms allocated as 'Home and 'Away' basis, this may be changed by the Seychelles Football Federation from time to time for specific matches on grounds of security.

Reg.7.E

- a) At least five minutes before the kick-off time the players and substitutes accompanied by the five officials whose names appear on the official match sheet shall come out of the dressing rooms preceded by the match commissioner and referees. No person shall be permitted to remain in the dressing rooms after kick-off.
- b) No persons, other than the substitute players, the identified "ball boys" and the seven named team officials may stay in the technical area or on the team bench or within or around the active playing area. The active playing area is defined as the whole area between the stands/spectator areas and the dressing rooms.
- c) Smoking and consumption of alcoholic beverages are not permitted in the technical area during matches.
- d) Flag bearers, supporters and other spectators are strictly forbidden from penetrating the active playing area. Only persons properly authorized by the SFF such as security personnel, police, SFF officials, first-aid personnel, accredited press and media representatives may enter the active playing area as defined in Reg.7.E. (ii) Above.
- e) Retrogressive, irrational, and other ritual ceremonies either by players or spectators or others are strictly prohibited.
- f) Request for holding of silence for mourning to be made at least 12 hours before the match to the SFF, in exceptional circumstances to the Match Commissioner. Referee will only take instructions on the matter from SFF or the Match Commissioner and this would

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be limited for people directly involved in football (players and management). Match commissioners must ensure that, where possible announcements are made to the public on the purpose of the mourning and must ensure kick-off is not delayed.

g) The use of pyrotechnics and flares at matches is strictly prohibited and may result in the prosecution of offenders.

h) Players and officials are not allowed to display political, religious, or racial messages in any language or form on their playing or team kits, equipment (including kitbags, beverage containers, medical bags, etc.) or body for the duration of their time in the stadium.

Reg.7.F

a) The match commissioner must submit his detailed report of the home team match on the prescribed form to the SFF secretariat immediately after the match and in any event not later than 48 hours thereafter. In the absence of the match commissioner, this duty shall be incumbent upon the referee, Reg.7.A (iii) refers.

b) The match commissioners report is confidential and may not be divulged to or discussed with/by third parties.

c) The match commissioner must immediately inform the SFF of any official complaints received, or any events of unusual nature which occur.

d) Home teams are obliged to give information on ticket sales at the end of each match in a signed statement.

REGULATION 8

THE PRESS AND MEDIA

Reg.8.A

a) Members of the press and media are required to be registered by the SFF on the prescribed form for accreditation. They should be members of the media and press association.

b) A press pass on which is stated areas which may be accessed will be issued by the SFF to all accredited persons, which pass will admit the bearer only to all officially organised football matches and venues for the purposes of reporting on the event.

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Reg.8.B

- a) Should live television and/or radio coverage of any match be requested, a fee/royalty may be required/negotiated by the SFF for that purpose.
- b) Highlights of matches in part or in entirety shall be decided by the SFF if there would be fees or royalties. Property of image remains that of SFF.

Reg.8.C

- a) Publicity and advertising of officially organised SFF football matches will be provided by the media at reduced or at no cost, subject to negotiation by the SFF and football clubs/teams individually.
- b) Adverse personalised retrogressive and irrational press comment against members of the SFF Executive Committee, its officials and/or employees may result in the suspension or withdrawal of press accreditation.

REGULATION 9

SFF AND NATIONAL TEAMS

Preamble

To ensure the necessary development and success of football in the Republic of Seychelles, the SFF may actively establish SFF and national football squads subject to financial resources.

Reg.9.A

- a) Officials shall be appointed by the SFF Executive Committee to properly run the various teams under their direction in compliance with any regulation.
- b) Accredited national teams' managers and coaches proposed by the national team Committee shall be confirmed by the Executive Committee.
- c) Players will, from time to time, be selected in National Teams.

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- d) Should a club be requested to release more than one player at any one time or its main goalkeeper, it shall have the right to postponement of any SFF matches in which it is taking part.
- e) Clubs in the competition will be given notice of the annual programmes for all national team duties and activities through the international calendars developed by FIFA and each confederation from time to time.
- f) When a player is selected, the SFF will give required notice of its intention to seek a release of the player from club duties for international duties.
- g) Players refusing to play for the National Team of reason that are unacceptable to the Executive Committee may be suspended to perform in local competitions with their registered club.
- h) The SFF shall be responsible for the player's insurance cover against illness and injury whilst training, including injury sustained in any friendly or international match.
- i) A player who is unable to comply with a request for release due to injury or illness may be required by the SFF to undergo a medical test.
- j) FIFA Statutes and regulations on the release of Players from clubs for national team duty will apply.
- k) The national team Management Committee(s) is expected to:
- (i) Implement the football development strategies as defined by the SFF;
 - (ii) Ensure that the approved working progress is being implemented;
- l) Ensure positive co-ordination of training and relationships with coaches;
- m) Ensure practical arrangements are implemented at all times;
- n) Monitor the progress of the training programs and players performance;
- o) Be responsible for the player's welfare and health;
- p) Monitor player's attendance and discipline;
- q) Participate in squad selection;
- r) Keep proper records, documents and data related to the team;
- s) Prepare the teams' program and budget;
- t) Submit regular reports to the SFF Executive Committee
- u) Generally, professionally manage and to do all the necessary for the wellbeing of the team.

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The SFF shall seek financial and other assistance from the Ministry responsible for sports, the National Sports Council, and other partners in order to achieve the above objectives and seek the services of a professional national coach through the Ministry responsible for sports.

REGULATION 10

EXECUTION OF DOCUMENTS AND POWERS

Reg.10.A

a) All deeds, instruments, contracts and other documents shall be deemed to be duly executed by or on behalf of the SFF if signed by the **Chairman**, and any other any member of the Executive Committee as designated by the Chairman.

b) Cheques drawn on any bank or banking account, and all negotiable and transferable instruments, drawn or endorsed in the name of the SFF shall be signed or endorsed by the Chairman, Vice Chairman Treasurer or Secretary and shall be bound by any two of these four signatories as per procedure manual.

c) All banking accounts, fixed deposits and savings accounts opened or established in the name of the Seychelles Football Federation or SFF in brief, shall be operated by the Executive Committee and all cheques drawn on these accounts or withdrawals from any of these accounts shall be signed by the Chairman, Vice- Chairman or Treasurer and the SFF shall be bound by any two of these three signatures. Deposit of funds into any one of these accounts may be made by the General Secretary or accounting staff of the Secretariat.

Reg.10.B

a) Subject to the provisions of the Registration of (Associations Act and/or any regulations made under that Act or any other law which may hereafter be enacted, the SFF shall have the same status, powers, and rights as an individual and may carry on all such activities as may appear to the Federation to be requisite, necessary, conventional or conducive to the attainment of its objectives.

REGULATION 11

LEGAL NOTICES AND PROCEEDINGS

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Reg.11.A

- a) The Federation may act, sue and be sued, under its corporate name, represented by its Chairman or any designated office bearer.
- b) Service of process on the Chairman in respect of any notices, actions, pleadings and proceedings either judicial or extra judicial, shall be good and valid on the Federation.
- c) Notice to teams/clubs at stated addresses (Reg.1.B. viii) will be deemed as if due process of serving notices has been complied with.

REGULATION 12

DISPUTE RESOLUTION PROCESSES

Reg.12.A

a) Subject to the applicable schedule of fees, as approved by the SFF Congress, there will be five (5) processes of dispute resolution available to the teams within the SFF Official Competitions, which are:

- (i) Protests: - Women's, Subsidiary Leagues and SFF youth
 - Football Competitions- SR 1, 000.00
 - Men Competitions - SR 2, 000.00
- (ii) Complaints: - Women's, Subsidiary Leagues and SFF youth
 - Football Competitions- SR 1, 000.00
 - Men Competitions - SR 2, 000.00
- (iii) Dispute Resolution: Women's, Subsidiary Leagues and SFF youth
 - Football Competitions- SR 1, 000.00
 - Men Competitions - SR 2, 000.00
- (iv) Appeals: Women's, Subsidiary Leagues and SFF youth
 - Football Competitions- SR 2, 500.00
 - Men Competitions- SR 5, 000.00
- (v) Arbitrations: Women's, Subsidiary Leagues and SFF youth
 - Football Competitions- SR 5, 000.00
 - Men Competitions - SR 10, 000.00

b) The aforementioned processes are preceded by administrative processes that are monitored and enforced by the Designated SFF Official(s) and whose decisions in terms thereof are final, which administrative processes are dealt with hereunder.

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c) SFF and each of its Members, Subsidiary Leagues, and Local levels will appoint a Disciplinary Committee in terms of the SFF Statute to deal with judicial processes that are of a disciplinary or misconduct nature in accordance with the SFF Statute and the SFF Disciplinary Measures as amended by these Regulations.

d) SFF Executive Committee will appoint a Dispute Resolution Committee in terms of the SFF Statute to deal with judicial processes that are of not of a disciplinary or misconduct nature in accordance and to do so in accordance with the SFF Statute read with these Rules and/or other relevant SFF regulations.

REGULATION 13

PROTESTS

Reg.13.A

a) Any team directly involved in a game may lodge a protest with SFF in respect of any game played under the auspices of SFF, if the protesting club participated in the same game.

b) Where the protest relates:

- (i) The use of a player reflected on the opposing team sheet who is allegedly unregistered, suspended, banned, fraudulently or improperly registered, the protesting team must, at any time prior to the kick-off of the match, object in writing on the team sheet to the use of the said player (setting out the reasons for the objection) by furnishing the referee in the presence of the senior assistant referee, with such objection and the objection is counter-signed by the opposing team representative and the match commissioner, and endorsed by the referee in his report and/or the report of the Match Commissioner; or
- (ii) Any other contravention of the SFF Statute and/or these Regulation by a team, team official, player or match official (offending party) who participated in the said match, the protesting team must ensure that the exact nature and cause of the protest is furnished in writing to the referee in the presence of the senior assistant referee, and is counter-signed by the opposing captain, immediately prior to the kick-off of the match, or during half-time or and before the final whistle.

c) A written protest, accompanied by a protest fee, as determined in these Regulation and/or SFF Disciplinary Regulations, must be lodged with the Designated SFF offices within Twenty-Four (24) hours (these hours apply to working days and will not run on weekends or public holidays) after the game.

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d) The written protest, referred to in c) above, must set out the full facts on which it is based and must refer to the Article and/or Rule and Regulation allegedly contravened by the offending party.

e) A protest will not be made against the referee's and/or assistant referee's decision connected within the field of play; such decisions are considered final.

f) Upon receipt of a protest, the Designated SFF Official may:

- (i) Forward to the offending party the documentation received from the protesting team, advise the offending party, of the nature of the protest and request such party for a written explanation, but warning such party, that such explanation may be later used in evidence against the said party.
- (ii) If no replies have been sought, or if they have, upon receipt of the replies asked for, or if no replies are received within five (5) days of the Designated SFF Official making the requests, the matter will be referred by SFF to the Disciplinary Committee.

g) Any charge(s) referred by SFF in terms of Rule f) will be heard by the Disciplinary Committee in accordance with the SFF Statute and these Regulations and will deal with the matters raised by the protesting party in its written protest. The onus is on the protesting party to ensure that the provisions of Rules b, c, and d above are complied with. Should the protest not comply with these provisions, the protest will be dismissed.

h) The protesting team will take responsibility for preparing and presenting its case and conduct the proceedings in the same way SFF would in the case of misconduct proceedings at the instance of the Association. The protesting team will consequently have the right to be present at or give evidence before the Disciplinary Committee hearing the charge(s) against the alleged offending party. SFF may subpoena the witnesses to give evidence or produce any book, paper, or document in the hearing at the specific and timeous request of the protesting party or the alleged offending party. The Party requesting witnesses shall be responsible for the traveling costs of the witnesses.

REGULATION 14

ARBITRATION TRIBUNAL

Preamble

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Notwithstanding the provisions enshrined in the Constitution of the Republic of Seychelles and the fundamental rights contained therein, clubs, teams their members and officials shall refer disputes with the SFF, other clubs, their club members or their officials, to an arbitration tribunal appointed by mutual consent. They may not refer the matter to a Court of Law without exhausting internal arbitration procedures.

Reg.14.A

Application Procedure

a) Any individual or legal entity wishing to bring before the Arbitration Tribunal a dispute within the meaning of Reg. 12 of the present Rules shall file a written application with the SFF Secretariat. The application shall include:

- (i) A copy of the decision being challenged, where applicable;
- (ii) A brief statement of the facts and legal arguments on which the application is based;
- (iii) The claimant's request for relief;

(iv) Where applicable, an application for a stay of the effects of the decision being challenged or for any other preliminary relief of an extremely urgent nature;

b) Any appropriate comments on the basis for Arbitration jurisdiction;

c) The claimant's address at the site of the SFF and, where applicable, the facsimile numbers and electronic mail address at which the claimant can be reached for the purposes of the proceedings and, where applicable, the same information for the person representing the claimant.

d) The application/defense shall be written in any of the three official languages of the country. A standard application form is available to the parties at the SFF Secretariat.

e) The respondent must file a defense attached with all relevant documents.

f) A request for Arbitration shall be lodged in writing within 7 days from the **day on which the decision to which an objection is being raised has been notified to the parties involved by the SFF Secretariat otherwise the result shall stand.**

g) The written request shall be duly signed by the party or parties who are requesting Arbitration against a decision, who are duly authorized by their club officials or club members.

h) Should the request for Arbitration be admitted the Arbitration Tribunal procedures will commence within 7 days of notification of admittance by the SFF to the parties requesting Arbitration.

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i) Payment of costs of the Arbitration Tribunal shall be met by the party or parties requesting Arbitration. These costs may consist the following: -

- ◆ Administration costs
- ◆ Arbitrators fees
- ◆ Experts' fees, if any.

The deposit prescribed in (iii) above and paid at the time of request of Arbitration may be deemed to be a down payment on the above costs.

Reg.14.B

a) The SFF shall have a list of at least five arbitrators approved by its Annual General Meeting.

b) Both parties to a dispute shall appoint one arbitrator each from the pool of arbitrators so approved. The party requesting the arbitration must include name of its nominated arbitrator in original request after having confirmed his/her availability. Once nominated the parties to the dispute cannot change their nominated arbitrator.

c) If the SFF is not a party to the dispute it shall nominate the Chairman of the Arbitrators Tribunal.

d) If the SFF is a party to the dispute, the Chairman of the Arbitrators Tribunal shall be appointed by the Responsible Government Sports Authority.

e) Parties to the dispute shall strictly abide to the decisions of the Arbitration Tribunal.

Reg.14.C

a) The Arbitral Award, or the decision pronounced by the Arbitration Tribunal shall be in writing and is binding on the parties.

b) If this is not the case, the other party may ask the judicial courts for the award to be enforced.

Reg.14.D

a) The language of the arbitral proceedings shall be English although Creole or French may be used and interpreted into English for the records.

b) A time limit for arbitral proceedings will be set at 28 days from the first hearing.

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c) The Arbitral Award shall state the costs and in what proportion these shall be borne by the parties thereto. The Arbitral Award shall be communicated to the parties within 3 working days of the closure of the hearings.

Reg.14.E

PROCEDURE BEFORE THE PANEL

a) Defense of lack of jurisdiction

(i) Any defense of lack of jurisdiction of the Panel must be raised at the start of the proceedings or, at the latest, at the start of the hearing.

b) Procedure

(i) The Panel organises the procedure as it considers appropriate while taking into account the specific needs and circumstances of the case, the interests of the parties, in particular their right to be heard, and the particular constraints of speed and efficiency specific to the present ad hoc procedure. The Panel shall have full control over the evidentiary proceedings.

c) Hearing

(i) Except where it considers another form of procedure more appropriate, the Panel shall summon the parties to a hearing on very short notice immediately upon receipt of the application. It shall append a copy of the application to the summons to appear addressed to the respondent.

(ii) At the hearing, the Panel shall hear the parties and take all appropriate action with respect to evidence. The parties shall introduce at the hearing all the evidence they intend to adduce and produce the witnesses, who shall be heard immediately.

(iii) If it considers itself to be sufficiently well informed, the Panel may decide not to hold a hearing and to render an award immediately.

d) Other evidentiary measures

(i) If a party requests an opportunity to introduce additional evidence which, for legitimate reasons, it was not able to produce at the hearing, the Panel may permit it to the extent necessary to the resolution of the dispute.

(ii) The Panel may at any time take any appropriate action with respect to evidence. In particular, it may appoint an expert and order the production of documents, information, or any other evidence. It may also, in its discretion, decide whether to admit or exclude evidence offered by the parties and assess the weight of evidence. The Panel shall inform the parties accordingly.

e) Failure to appear

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If one party or both parties fail to appear at the hearing or to comply with injunctions, summonses or other communications issued by the Panel, the Panel may nevertheless proceed.

REGULATION 15

COMPLAINTS

Reg.15.A

- a) Any team, affiliate, official, player, staff member, or any other person or body in membership of SFF or its affiliates, inclusive of a Club that has not lodged a protest in respect of a game in which it participated, may lodge a complaint with SFF, in respect of any act of misconduct/offence allegedly committed.
- b) The complaint must be lodged in writing within seven (7) days of the incident, and accompanied by a complaint fee, as determined in these Regulation.
- c) The written complaint must set out the full facts on which it is based and refer to the Article and/or Rule and Regulation allegedly contravened by the offending party.
- d) The complaint must not be in respect of a protest based on facts substantially similar to a grievance that has been complained of and has been entertained by SFF and/or the Disciplinary Committee.
- e) The complaint must not be made against the referee's and/or assistant referee's decisions connected with play in any game, except if the complaint contains an allegation of corruption, or misconduct on the part of the referee.
- f) The onus is on the complainant to ensure that the provisions of Rules (b), (c), (d), and (e) above are complied with. Should the complaint not comply with these provisions, the complaint will be dismissed.
- g) Upon receipt of a complaint, the Designated SFF Official may:
 - (i) Call for any further written information and documentation from the complainant; and
 - (ii) Forward to the alleged offending party the documentation received from the complainant and advises the alleged offending party of the nature of the complaint and asks such party for a written explanation, but warning such party, that such explanation may be later used in evidence against the said party.
- h) If no reply has been sought, or upon receipt of the replies asked for, or if no replies are received within 5 (five) days of the Designated SFF Official making these requests, the matter will be referred to the Disciplinary Committee.

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i) Any charge(s) referred by SFF in terms of Reg.15.A (h) will be heard by the Disciplinary Committee in accordance with the SAFA Statute and these Uniform Rules and will deal with the matters raised by the complainant in its written complaint.

j) The complainant will take responsibility for preparing and presenting its case and conduct the proceedings in the same way SFF would in the case of misconduct proceedings at the instance of the Association. The complainant will consequently have the right to be present at, or give evidence before the Disciplinary Committee hearing the charge(s) against the alleged offending party. SFF may subpoena witnesses to give evidence or produce any book, paper, or document in the hearing at the specific and timeous request of the complainant or the alleged offending party. The complainant will prepare the documents and prosecute his case and the alleged offending party will defend its case and present its evidence; the Association shall only prosecute cases where they have charged clubs for misconduct.

k) The sanctions imposed by the Disciplinary Committee that hears a matter as a result of a complaint will be limited to the following sentences or combination of sentences:

- (i) The imposition of a monetary fine not exceeding SR20, 000, 00 (Twenty Thousand Rupees);
- (ii) The censure of the offending party concerned;
- (iii) The closure of a ground for a stated period;
- (iv) Ordering the offending party to pay all expenses of and incidental to the consideration of the matter;
- (v) Suspension of individual players or officials;
- (vi) Recommend to the Executive Committee the cancellation/expulsion or suspension of a team from the SFF League Competitions for any period. In this case, all results involving the expelled team will be expunged from the SFF League Competitions as if the team had never played any matches;
- (vii) The barring of the offending party from entering the relevant SFF League Competition in the following season;
- (viii) Forfeiture of points without awarding them to the complainant or any other team directly or indirectly affected by the misconduct.

REGULATION 16

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DISPUTES

Reg.16.A

a) Any dispute or difference, not otherwise expressly provided for in the SFF Statute or these Rules between a club or clubs and any player in respect of the player's registration, transfer or contract of service will be adjudicated by the Dispute Resolution Committee provided that the dispute does not fall under the jurisdiction of the National Dispute Resolution Chamber.

b) A party to the dispute will lodge with the relevant SFF Official, a written notice of dispute accompanied by a dispute fee as determined in the Rules and/or SFF Regulation. Thereafter SFF will summon all the parties to the dispute, to appear before the Dispute Resolution Committee. In hearing the dispute, the Dispute Resolution Committee will adopt such procedures or formalities as it, in its sole discretion deems appropriate, save where otherwise provided in the SFF Statute and these Rules.

c) Any party to the dispute may appeal against any decision of the Dispute Resolution Committee. No other person or body will have the right to appeal against any decision of the Dispute Resolution Committee taken in terms of this Rule. The appeal will be lodged in terms of relevant SFF Regulation.

REGULATION 17

PROCEDURE OF APPEAL TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Preamble

Any decisions taken by either the Disciplinary Committee and/or the Sub-Committees of the SFF may, in the following manner, be referred to the Executive Committee under these regulations for the purpose and process of appeal.

Reg.17.A

a) The members of the Appeal Committee shall not belong to any other body of the Federation at the same time.

b) The Executive Committee shall consist of a chairman, deputy chairman and the number of members deemed necessary.

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c) The function of this body shall be governed by the Regulations of the Federation. The committee shall pass decisions only when at least three members are present. In certain cases, the chairman may rule alone in accordance with the Regulation of the Federation.

d) The Executive Committee is responsible for hearing appeals against decisions from the Disciplinary Committee provided that the decisions involve suspensions of a player exceeding 6 matches or 3 months or fines exceeding SR10, 000.

Reg.17.B

a) The responsibility for taking the final and definitive decision on any case rest with the Executive Committee.

b) The appeal shall be in writing and shall be lodged at the SFF Secretariat.

c) Members of the Executive Committee shall be independent unrelated and shall declare in writing by an undertaking and pledge to the Chairman that they have no connection or interest in the Appellant, Respondent or subject matter of the Appeal.

Reg.17.C

a) Any member of the SFF, club, player, official or coach directly affected by the decision being contested may lodge an appeal.

b) Decisions against which an appeal has been lodged may be upheld, cancelled or modified. The decision may be revised in favour of or against the appellant.

Reg.17.D

a) An appeal shall be lodged on the prescribed form within 7 days, from the day on which the decision to which an objection is being raised has been notified to the parties involved by the SFF Secretariat.

b) The SFF shall only consider appeals lodged through the club/team and not on an individual basis. The written appeal shall be duly signed by the party or parties thereto.

c) A fee of SR2, 500 for the appeal shall be paid to the SFF Secretariat together with the appeal documents. If the appeal is upheld, the fee shall be reimbursed. If the appeal is

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rejected or a decision modified to the disadvantage of the appellant the fee shall be forfeited

d) If an appeal is patently and inherently frivolous and/or unjustified, the appeal committee may in addition penalise the guilty party/parties by pronouncing a fine or other disciplinary measure.

e) The Executive committee may pronounce any decision it deems fit in its own discretion regarding the liability to pay costs of the appeal meeting (if any).

Reg.17.E

If the decision of the Executive committee is rejected by the appellant, the matter may be referred to Arbitration in accordance with Reg.11 on a "point of law" if the action of the Executive Committee is not within the powers conferred to it by SFF Statutes or published SFF Regulations.

REGULATION 18

SFF GENERAL MATCH RULES

Preamble

Football matches played in Seychelles will be governed by the Laws of the Game of FIFA as laid down by the International Football Association Board and amendments there to. Provided that for official football matches as for friendly, youth, futsal & woman's matches the number of substitutes or players can be different.

Reg.18. A

a) All matches shall be played by two teams who shall each field a maximum of eleven players of the same gender. A match can commence with a team fielding seven players. No team shall be allowed to continue a match with less than seven players. Matches of mixed gender are prohibited.

b) Each man's team shall be allowed up to seven substitutes listed on the team sheet being six outfield players and one goalkeeper, of which no more than three are permitted to be substituted during a match. A team shall not be allowed to have not more than six (6) outfield players on its bench.

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c) A maximum of 18 players plus 7 officials may be listed on the official match team sheet.

d) At any time, only the players and officials stated on the team sheet and the club chairman are allowed in the changing room.

e) A team is allowed a maximum 40 entry passes on its match day and only 25 shall have access to the changing room

f) . A team with a registered youth team will be allowed an additional 10 entry passes. A team has to give 50 passes to the gate keeper.

Reg.18.B

a) Competitions shall be organised on a league and/or knock-out basis.

b) Teams shall be classified into two main divisions and such other subsidiary divisions as may from time to time be determined by the SFF.

c) The number of “legs” rounds played in the leagues by each division shall be decided by the Executive Committee prior to the beginning of each season.

d) The system of automatic relegation or promotion of teams in the various divisions shall be decided by the Executive Committee at the start of each season and may be subject to play-offs.

e) Newly formed teams will be required to enter at the lowest level of competition being organized at the time of its registration.

Reg.18.C

a) Matches may be organised at various venues, subject to and dependent upon the condition and availability of grounds.

b) Matches shall be organised on a “home” and “away” basis.

Reg.18.D

a) For women’s teams the number of players shall be decided by the Executive Committee at the beginning of each season.

b) Up to seven substitutes shall be listed on the team sheet for an 11 a side match for women’s teams which shall comprise ten outfield players and one goalkeeper, of which no more than five are permitted to be substituted during a match.

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c) With the exception of a foregoing, all other rules and regulations shall apply to women's football.

Reg.18.E

a) In league matches organised by the SFF points shall be awarded as follows:

- ◆ **Win 3 points**
- ◆ **Draw 1 point**
- ◆ **Loss 0 point**

b) In knock-out tournaments organised by the SFF. Matches will be played in accordance to the competition's regulations, in consultation with the sponsors.

c) A team which fails to turn-up for a match at the official starting time shall automatically forfeit the game and the opposing side shall be awarded the game with 3 points and 2 goals in league matches. Unless duly authorized by the Match Commissioner under Reg.2.A par. (d).

d) A team which fails to turn-up on two successive occasions without valid reasons shall be withdrawn from all competitions and shall cease to be a member of the SFF, pending ratification at the next Ordinary General Meeting.

Reg.18.F

a) A player shown the "yellow" card by the referee shall be penalized by 2 disciplinary points.

b) A player receiving two (2) "yellow" cards in the same game resulting in a "red" card shall be penalized by four (4) disciplinary points plus suspension from the team's next game played.

c) A player who receives a "red" card only shall be penalized by four (4) disciplinary points and dismissed from the field of play. The player will be suspended from the teams/club's next two games and the matter shall be referred to the Club Competition Committee of the SFF. A team other than a youth team that has ceased to be a member of SFF, shall prior to reinstatement reimburse the SFF officiating and other costs incurred in respect of the team in year of withdrawal and for any equipment received as donation.

d) Accumulation of 16 disciplinary points during one season shall carry a penalty of suspension for two consecutive matches, and/or any other disciplinary measures taken by the Club Competition/Disciplinary Committee.

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e) Disciplinary points shall not be carried forward into the following season, but any outstanding suspensions shall be.

f) Failure of a team to play a match will not be counted as a penalty being served. However, for opposing team, a player will be deemed to have served his suspension.

g) A player physically and intentionally striking a referee or other persons officiating the game shall be suspended for a maximum period of one (1) season. Repetition of the same offence will result in indefinite suspension.

h) Yellow/red cards received in reserve league competition shall be counted as in any matches of the team/club.

i) Yellow cards and suspensions shall not be counted for friendly matches organized by the SFF. However, a player will not be eligible to play for his club if suspended for disciplinary reasons.

REGULATION 19

SFF SUB-COMMITTEES

Reg.19.A

a) In accordance with Art 42 of the SFF Statutes, the Executive Committee may set-up and re-establishes sub-committees for the purpose of dealing with any matter, the members of which shall be appointed by the SFF Executive Committee.

b) A record of all sub-committee meetings shall be kept, and a copy forwarded to the Executive Committee. Each committee must meet at least a minimum of six times a year...

c) Sub-committees may regulate their own proceedings.

d) Sub-committees act on the authority of the Executive Committee.

Reg.19.B

a) The Standing Committees of the Federation shall be accordance with the provisions of the SFF Statutes.

b) Other temporary ad-hoc sub-committees may be set-up from time to time as necessary.



REGULATION 20

DISCIPLINARY MEASURES

(Players, Officials, Others)

Reg.20.A

The judicial bodies of the Federation and the Executive Committee may impose various disciplinary measures stipulated by the SFF Statutes as defined by FIFA Disciplinary Code which are primarily: -

(1) For natural and legal persons:

a) A warning;

(A warning is a reminder of the substance of a disciplinary rule allied with the threat of a sanction in the event of a further infringement.)

b) A reprimand;

A reprimand is an official written pronouncement of a disapproval sent to the perpetrator of an infringement.

c) A fine;

A fine issued in Seychelles Rupees (Sr.) it shall be paid in the same currency. The fine shall not be less than Sr. 500, and not more than Sr. 100,000

The body that pronounces the sanction decides the terms and time limits for payment. If the fine is added to match suspension, it shall be paid before his suspension has ended. Club/Team are jointly liable for fines imposed on their players' officials and supporters the fact that a natural has left the Club/Team does not cancel out the joint liability.

d) The return of awards.

The person required to return an award shall return all the benefits received, in particular sums of money and symbolic objects (medal, trophy etc.)The money received shall always be returned in full. The body pronouncing the sanction decides any interest that may be due as it sees fit.

(2) For natural persons:

a) A caution;

(i) A caution (yellow card) is a warning from the referee to a player during a match to sanction unsporting behaviour of a less serious nature (cf. Law 12 of the Laws of the Game).

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- (ii) Two cautions received during the same match incur an expulsion (indirect red card, (cf.art.52 o)) and, consequently, automatic suspension from the next match (cf.art. 19 par.4). The two cautions that incurred the red card are rescinded.
- (iii) The following incur automatic suspension from the subsequent two matches:
 - A player receiving an accumulation of five (5) yellow cards shall automatically be suspended from the teams/club's next game played. In the event of a transfer, the player shall only be eligible to play for his new club where the player or his previous club has completed its matches, whichever is earlier.
- (iv) The Disciplinary Committee may extend the duration of this suspension (cf. par 3).
- (v) If an abandoned match is to be replayed, any caution issued during that match shall be annulled. If the match is not to be replayed, the cautions received by the team responsible for causing the match to be abandoned are upheld; if both teams are responsible all the cautions are upheld.
- (vi) If a player is guilty of serious unsporting behaviour as defined in Law 12 of the Laws of the Game and is sent off (direct red card), any other caution he has previously received in the same match is upheld.

b) An expulsion;

- (i) An expulsion 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. He shall not be allowed in the VIP area.
- (ii) Expulsion takes the form of a red card for players. The red card is regarded as direct if it sanctions serious unsporting behaviour as defined by Law 12 of the Laws of the Game; it is regarded as indirect if it is the result of an accumulation of two yellow cards (cf. art. 18, par. 2).
- (iii) An official who has been sent off may give instructions to the person replacing him on the substitutes' bench. He shall, however, ensure that he does not disturb the spectators or disrupt the flow of play.
- (iv) An expulsion automatically incurs suspension from the subsequent two (2) matches, even if imposed in a match that is later abandoned and/or cancelled. The Disciplinary Committee may extend the duration of the suspension.

c) A match suspension;

- (i) A suspension from a match is a ban on taking part in a future match or competition or to attend it in the area immediately surrounding the field of play.
- (ii) The player who has been suspended shall not be included on the players' list for the match. The suspension is imposed in terms of matches, days or months. Unless

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otherwise specified, it may not exceed twenty-four matches or two years if the suspension is to be served in terms of matches, only those matches played count towards execution of the suspension.

- (iii) If a match is abandoned, cancelled, or finally forfeited, suspension is only considered to have been served if the team to which the suspended player belongs is not responsible for the facts that led to abandonment, cancellation or forfeit of the match. If a suspension is combined with a fine, it is prolonged until the fine has been paid in full.

d) A ban from the dressing rooms and/or the substitutes' benches;

- (i) A ban from the dressing rooms and/or substitutes' benches deprives someone of the right to enter teams' dressing rooms and/or the area immediately surrounding the field of play, and in particular to sit on the substitutes' bench.

e) A ban from entering a stadium;

- (i) A stadium ban prohibits someone from entering the confines of one or several stadiums.

f) A ban on taking part in any football-related activity;

- (i) A person may be banned from performing any kind of football related activity (administrative sports or any other).

(3) For legal persons:

a) A transfer ban;

- (i) A transfer ban prevents a club from signing any player during the period in question.

b) Playing a match without spectators;

- (i) The obligation to play a match behind closed doors requires team/clubs to have a certain match played without spectators.

c) A ban on playing in a particular stadium;

- (i) A ban on playing in a certain stadium deprives clubs/teams of the right to have their teams play in a certain stadium.

d) Annulment of the result of the match;

- (i) The result of a match is annulled if the result reached on the field of play is disregarded.

e) Exclusion;

- (i) Exclusion is the deprivation of the right of clubs/teams from taking part in a current and/or future competition.

f) A forfeiture;

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- (i) Teams/Clubs sanctioned with a forfeit are considered to have lost the match by 0-2. If the goal difference is greater, the higher score is upheld.

g) Deduction of points;

- (i) A club/team may have points deducted from those already attained in any current championship.

h) Relegation to a lower division

- (i) A club/team may be relegated to the lower division.

For the sake of interpretation in case of any ambiguity the Club Competition/Disciplinary Committee shall be guided by the FIFA Disciplinary Code (FDC of 30th May 2011).

Reg.20. B

Players

a) Fouls and misconduct by players are governed by Law 12 of the Rules of the International Football Association Board. What constitutes foul play and misconduct shall be determined by the referee. The decisions of the referee regarding facts connected with play are final.

b) The Club Competition/Disciplinary Committee shall be guided by **Reg.20.A** hereof.

c) The referee's report and match commissioner's report shall be scrutinised to determine the seriousness of the offence. Any other evidence deemed appropriate will be examined or heard, including television evidence.

d) In respect to violent and improper conduct the followings additional sanctions shall be applicable: -

e) Retaliation without causing harm to the opposing player and/or bringing the game into disrepute. (Two match suspension **(1+1)**).

f) Retaliation causing bodily harm to the opposing player(s). (Four match suspension **(1+3)**).

g) Persistent fighting on the field of play. (**Four** match suspensions **(1+3)**).

h) The sanctions to apply will be based on actions which took place in the opinion of the Club Competition/Disciplinary Committee.

i) In respect to other miscellaneous incidents involving players with team officials or spectators shall be investigated by the Club Competition/Disciplinary Committee and appropriate action taken.

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Reg.20.C

Team Officials

- a) Aggressive behaviour between officials of opposing teams shall carry an automatic four (4) consecutive match suspension.
- b) Aggressive and/or abusive behaviour between a team official and match officials shall carry an automatic four (4) consecutive match suspension and a minimum fine on the club/team of SR.500.
- c) For violent conduct at a match venue by a team official bringing the game into disrepute, the Club Competition/Disciplinary Committee shall decide on an appropriate sanction, which shall not be less than (a) and (b) above.
- d) For physically assaulting match officials and/or players. The offender may be banned indefinitely.

Reg.20.D

- a) Any person, being directly involved in the game, may request the Club Competition/Disciplinary Committee to investigate alleged actions of persons for bringing the game of football into disrepute. Such request shall be **verbal or in** writing and shall contain a clear statement of the alleged incident/act and any other relevant supporting evidence.
- b) The SFF will type out a verbal complaint, clearly stating the person making the complaint and its time, prior to submitting a verbal complaint to the Club Competition /Disciplinary Committee; SFF will establish veracity of the complaint. If a player or official of a team/club is summoned to appear before the Club Competition Disciplinary Committee to give evidence and fail to do so, the player or official and/or the team/club of the player or official may be sanctioned.
- c) The Club Competition/Disciplinary Committee shall investigate any such request within 21 days of the complaint and either dismiss the allegation or impose sanctions as appropriate with a report to the Executive Committee in writing.
- d) If the action of player(s) or management is considered by the Club Competition/Disciplinary Committee as not only that of an individual but also that of the team (inaction by the captain or the management to prevent incidents will be construed as condoning the action, sanctions will be imposed.

On an individual basis on players and officials.

- (a) Suspended players or officials of a team/club, may not have access to the changing room, substitutes' bench, or the field of play during official matches of the team/club.

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(b) Subject to ratification by the Executive Committee, deduction of 3 points effective current season if this would have a bearing on promotion or demotion or being crowned champions or representing the SFF in foreign competitions. If not, the deductions of points will be effective for the season following the one in which the incident took place.

(c) Subject to ratification by the Executive Committee, banned to act as Seychelles representatives in international competitions.

(d) Payment of a fine and if the incident is felt to be very serious, referring the matter to the Executive Committee with recommendation for suspension **of the club/team**.

REGULATION 21

BALL PERSONS

Minimum requirements

Reg.21.A

- a) There shall be a minimum of six (6) ball persons on duty for each match of which shall be provided by the SFL.
- b) Ball Persons must not be younger than twelve (12) years of age.
- c) Balls persons may be male or female.
- d) All ball persons must be familiar with the rules of the game.

Instructions

Reg.21.B

- a) Ball persons must be spread equally around the pitch to ensure that back of each goal line and that the length of each touchline is adequately covered.
- b) Ball persons shall either stand or kneel behind or beside the advertising boards, without obstructing the views of spectators.
- c) The balls shall either be placed on the ground next to the ball persons or held still in their hands.

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d) Under no circumstances may ball persons play with the balls with their head, hands or with their feet.

e) Ball persons shall concentrate on the action to ensure that only one (1) ball is returned to play and not two (2).

f) Unless they are under supervision, ball persons are strictly forbidden from entering the field to play, the Technical area, or the changing room.

g) If the ball crosses the boundary lines and lands, for instances, behind the advertising boards, or in the crowd, the ball person closest to the player who intends to return the ball into play shall throw his football to the player. Once the ball has been replaced the ball person shall retrieve the other ball and return to his former position.

REGULATION 22

TEAM SHEETS

Reg.22.A

a) Teams shall submit their list of 18 players at least 48 hours prior to the official match. Changes to the list of 18 players may be made up to the 45 minutes before the start of play.

b) Teams will submit duly completed team sheets to the referee at least forty-five (45) minutes prior to the start of play. No changes shall be permitted after the start of play. Such list to include:

c) The full names (family and first) of the eleven (11) players (as well as their registration and jersey numbers) who are starting the game;

d) The full names (family and first) of the seven (7) substitutes (Six outfield players and 1 Goal-Keeper) (as well as their registration and jersey numbers) which may be utilized during the game;

e) The full names of the team officials positioned in the technical areas for the game;

f) Teams home and away colours;

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- g) Players that are suspended;
- h) Players that are on loan;
- i) Players starting a match are to be marked with a tick (✓) and substitutes are to be marked with a cross (x) on the team sheets;
- j) If a player's name appears on the team sheet as the first eleven(11) or as a substitute he/she will be deemed, for the purposes of these Regulation, to have participated in the match, save that a team may at any time before kick-off, amend its team sheet by substituting any player, if its opponents have lodged a protest in terms of these Regulation relating to the use of any player who is allegedly unregistered, suspended, banned, fraudulently or improperly registered, in which case the said substituted player will not be deemed to have participated in the match.

REGULATION 23

ACTS OF MISCONDUCT/OFFENCES

Reg.23.A

- a) Without derogating from the generality of what constitutes an act of misconduct/offence, the following are specifically declared to be acts of misconduct/offenses on the part of a player, official, servant or duly authorized (express or implied) representative of a team, official of SFF, or member of any sub-Committee as the case may be.
- b) On the part of a team where:
- c) It fails to provide adequate security at its venue:
 - (i) It will be presumed, unless the contrary is proved, that a club has failed to provide adequate security at its venue where the spectators at such venue, irrespective of their affiliation, committed acts, or were responsible for conduct that is considered improper behavior;

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- (ii) It will not be a defense to the previously mentioned charge that a larger crowd than anticipated attended or attempted to attend the game;
- d) Its players, officials, servants or duly authorized (express or implied) representatives or supporters directly or indirectly interrupt, obstruct or disturb the normal proceedings of a game before, during or after the match;
- e) Its players, officials, servants or duly authorized (expressed or implied) representatives, for any corrupt, dishonest or unlawful purpose in connection with a game played under the auspices of SFF, or in connection with the affairs of the SFF Official Competitions, give, offer or promise, whether directly or indirectly, any inducement, reward or bribe of whatsoever nature, to anybody whatsoever;
- f) Its players, officials, servants or duly authorized (express or implied) representatives accept any inducement, reward or bribe referred to in Rule e) above;
- g) It fails to comply with or contravenes any provision of these Regulation, the SFF Statute, and/or any other relevant SFF By-laws, the CAF Statutes and the FIFA Statutes, and as well as the Laws of the Game;
- h) It fields an unregistered, suspended, banned, fraudulently or improperly registered, or in any other way disqualified or prohibited person;
- i) It fails to fulfill a fixture for which a date and a venue have been fixed by SFF;
It fails to comply with any lawful order or instruction made by the Disciplinary Committee, an official of SFF, and/or match officials;
- j) It fails to comply with or contravenes any order, resolution or code of conduct made or passed by the Competitions Committee;
- k) It knowingly furnishes incorrect information of whatsoever nature to SFF;

Reg.23. B.

- a) It's players, officials, servants or duly authorized (express or implied) representatives or supporters commit an offence in terms of Reg20.b) hereunder;
- b) Persons referred to Reg20.a) above, who behave in any manner whatsoever, inside or outside a ground before, during or after a match, no matter on which ground the match

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is played. Without derogating from the generality of what constitutes misbehavior on the part of supporters, the following are specifically declared acts of misbehavior:

- (i) Invasion or attempted invasion of the field of play, save for reasons of crowd safety;
- (ii) Causing the abandonment or attempting to cause the abandonment of a match;
- (iii) Throwing or attempting to throw missiles, bottles and other objects, whether potentially harmful or dangerous or not, on to the pitch, or at any person;
- (iv) Fireworks and rockets being let off;
- (v) Acts of violence or attempted acts of violence against anyone at the game;
- (vi) Failing to conduct themselves in an orderly fashion;
- (vii) Insulting or assaulting players, team officials, match officials or any other person present at the game;
- (viii) Maliciously damaging or attempting to damage any property at the ground;
- (ix) Other acts of unsporting behavior;
- (x) It fails to protect match officials against acts or attempted acts of violence or any other form of abuse before, during or after a match;
- (xi) It's players refuse to continue a match or abandon the field of play without permission by the referee, or cause the abandonment of a match;
- (xii) It's officials cause the abandonment of a match;
- (xiii) It fails to immediately report any act of alleged misconduct, within its knowledge, to SFF;
- (xiv) It incites, permits or assists any person or body in the contravention of the Laws of the Game, the Statute of SFF, these Rules, and any other relevant SFF By-Laws, the CAF Statutes or the FIFA Statutes, as well as the Laws of the Game;
- (xv) It, inclusive of its officials, players, servants or duly authorized (express or implied) representatives, or supporters commits any act or makes any statement, either orally or in writing, or has been responsible for conduct which is considered ungentlemanly, insulting or improper behavior, or likely to bring the game, sponsors, any member, the SFF League Competitions, SFF, CAF or FIFA into disrepute;

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- (xvi) It fails to attend a Disciplinary Committee hearing to which it was summoned or subpoenaed.

Reg.23.C

a) Its officials, players, servants or duly authorized (express or implied) representatives' assault, threaten, intimidate, coerce, interfere, mislead or insult a match official, player, official of SFF, public, press or media, or any other person, before, during or after any match.

b) Notwithstanding any provision of these Rules, where a team is charged with any offence in terms of Reg.20.B (b), or any other offence relating to the misbehavior of spectators, such a team will be guilty of such offence if SFF shows that there was misbehavior on the part of any spectators at the ground, unless such team satisfies the Disciplinary Committee that the misbehaving spectators were not its supporters.

c) On the part of a player, official, servant or duly authorized (express or implied) representative of a team, official of SFF, members of any sub-committee, who:

- (i) Directly or indirectly interrupts, obstructs or disturbs the normal proceedings of a game, before, during or after the match;
- (ii) For any corrupt, dishonest or unlawful purpose in connection with a game played under the auspices of SFF, or in connection with the affairs of the Official Competitions, gives, offers or promises, whether directly or indirectly, any inducement, reward or bribe of whatsoever nature, to anybody whomsoever;
- (iii) Accepts any inducement, reward or bribe referred to in Reg20.C(ii) above;
- (iv) Fails to comply with or contravenes any provision of the SFF Statute, and these Rules, any relevant SFF By-Laws, the CAF Statutes or the FIFA Statutes, as well as the Laws of the Game;
- (v) Fails to comply with any lawful order or instruction made by the Disciplinary Committee and/or match officials;
- (vi) Fails to comply with or contravenes any order, resolution or code of conduct passed by the Competitions Committee;
- (vii) Fails to attend a Disciplinary Committee hearing to which (s) he was summoned or subpoenaed;
- (viii) Knowingly furnishes incorrect information, of whatsoever nature, to SFF;

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- (ix) Assaults, threatens, intimidates, coerces, interferes, misleads or insults a match official, player, official of SFF, public, press or media, or any other person, before, during or after any match;
- (x) Engages in any conduct causing a situation dangerous to the public safety, before, during or after a match;
- (xi) Fails to protect match officials against acts or attempted acts of violence or any other form of abuse before, during or after a match;
- (xii) Fails to immediately report any act of alleged misconduct within its/his/her knowledge, to SFF;
- (xiii) Permits or assists any person or body in the contravention of the Laws of the game, the SFF Statute, these Rules, and applicable SFF By-Laws, the CAF Statutes or the FIFA Statutes;
- (xiv) Uses obscene or other objectionable language in connection with the affairs of the SFF Official Competitions;
- (xv) Is employed directly or indirectly by the media, which will include employment by a newspaper, television or radio station, or contributes items or information to any newspaper, television or radio station, without the prior written approval of the chairperson of the Competitions Committee, which permission will not be unreasonably withheld;

Reg.23.D

- a) Commits any act or makes any statement, either orally or in writing, or has been responsible for conduct which is considered ungentlemanly, insulting or improper behavior, or likely to bring the game, sponsors, any member, the SFF Official Competitions, SFF, CAF or FIFA into disrepute.
- b) On the part of any player, where (s) he refuses to continue a match, or abandons the field of play without permission by the referee, or causes the abandonment of a match.
- c) On the part of an official, where the said official causes the abandonment of a match.
- d) Any team or person who has been found guilty of committing an offence by the Disciplinary Committee will be liable to such penalties or combination of penalties as the Disciplinary Committee may impose in terms of the SFF Statute and these Rules.

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- e) Any club, player, official, servant or duly authorized (express or implied) representative of a team, member of the SFF Competitions Committee or of a sub-committee who:
- (i) Attempts to commit any offence in terms of the SFF Statute and these Rules will be guilty of an offence and will be liable, on conviction, to the same penalties as are competent for a contravention of the Statute or Rules;
 - (ii) Is convicted of any criminal offence in relation to all matters and questions relating to football in the Republic of Seychelles, will be deemed to have committed an offence in terms of the SFF Statute and these Rules and, after a hearing, will be liable to such sanctions and penalties as the Disciplinary Committee may impose. In this regard, in any disciplinary hearing, a certified copy of the judgment of the convicting court will be proof of such conviction.

Reg.23.E

- a) Officials, players, servants, or duly authorized (express or implied) representatives of a team may attend matches under the auspices of SFF, only on condition that they observe the SFF Statute, these Rules and any relevant SFF By-Laws as well as the Laws of the Game.
- b) Where any statement made by an official, player of a team which is considered ungentlemanly or improper and/or is likely to bring SFF, its sponsors, or any other member into disrepute, is reported in the press or media, the relevant SFF Official will notify the said official or player of the said reported statement and enquire from the said player or official whether (s)he denies or admits having made the said statement, to which the said person will reply within 5 (five) days of receiving the said notification. Failure to respond will entitle the relevant SFF Official, or his representative, to invoke Regulation 38.1.
- c) Where such a person admits the said statement, disciplinary action may be taken by SFF.
- d) Where such a person denies having made the said statement, the said person will:
- e) Furnish SFF with an affidavit, denying having made that statement within 5 (five) days of receiving notification from the relevant SFF Official; and
 - f) Publicly deny and refute such statement at a press conference called by SFF on a date stipulated by SFF.
 - g) Where such a person fails to reply to the notification by the relevant SFF Official, or having denied making the statement, fails to comply with Reg20.e) above, the said

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statement will be irrefutably presumed to have been made by such person, and correctly reported by the press or media, and SFF may institute disciplinary action against the person concerned.

h) It will not be a defense against any charge instituted by SFF, to show that the statements were true and in the public interest unless the statement was based on a grievance by the person concerned which was raised and discussed at a Competitions Committee meeting, or at any other appropriate forum of SFF, prior to the statement having been made to the press or media.

REGULATION 24

MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

Reg. 24.A

a) In conformity with Art 16 of the SFF Statutes a registered club/team may resign from the SFF by giving 30 days written notice to the SFF Secretariat. The Executive Committee of the SFF shall accept the resignation without prejudice to any rights it may have against the club/team's resignation and the right to claim any outstanding dues to the SFF from the club/team upon re-application by the club/team to join de novo the SFF whether under the same name or another name.

b) A club/team and its official that resigns from the SFF shall lose, henceforth all rights and privileges conferred by membership.

(i) There shall not be more than 12 teams/club in the Premier League.

(ii) There shall not be more than 10 teams/ club in Championship 1

(iii) There shall not be more than 10 teams/ club in Championship 2.

(iv) All newly form team /club which express the intention to register with the SFF to participate in organize football competition shall write an official request to the Executive Committee.

(v) Newly formed club/team shall pay a deposit of Sr, 5000.00 and remain on probation for the full season.

Reg.24.B

a) A club/team registered with the SFF may affiliate with another registered club/team and may alter its name by giving the SFF Secretariat 14 day's written notice of its intention. Affiliation, alteration of names shall only take place at the close of the season.

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Such **affiliation, alteration of names** shall not affect the status of division of the club/team of which the affiliation, **alteration or change of names** fall under.

b) A club/team may not have a complete change of name and remain in their present division but may do so and apply to start in the lowest division should the Executive Committee not object.

c) A club/team registered with the SFF may alter its name and team logo by giving the SFF Secretariat 14 day's written notice of its intention. The alter of name or logo shall be in accordance with **the Registration of Association Act (Cap 201) Sec. 4 or the Company Act 1972**. The name can be accepted or rejected by the SFF Executive in accordance with FIFA Statute.

d) Clubs from a higher division may alter its name and incorporate the name of a team from a lower division (which has been disbanded or amalgamated) with which it has amalgamated, but the latter's name shall come second to the team that is in the higher division. Vice versa shall not be an issue.

REGULATION 25

REFEREES

Preamble

These rules shall govern the activities of referees and assistant referees officiating in all matches of the Seychelles Football Federation.

Reg. 25.A

General Provisions

The football referees have the duty and full authority to conduct and control football matches organised by the Seychelles Football Federation and any other body authorized by the SFF.

In the practice of their duties, referees are subject to the SFF rules and regulations.

Referees shall be directly responsible to the SFF Referees Committee.

Reg. 25.B

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Recruitment

a) The Referees' Committee of the SFF shall be responsible for the recruitment of referees in collaboration with the Technical Department.

b) Active referees **shall have the obligation to** participate in the recruitment of referees.

Reg. 25.C

Training

a) The SFF Referees Committee is responsible for the training of referees.

b) Referees are obliged to attend the training courses organised for them.

c) In setting-up training courses intended for referees, the SFF Referees Committee will make use of competent instructors.

d) The SFF Referees Committee may set up technical and advisory bodies which will be responsible for the training and development of referees.

Reg. 25.D

Classification

Referees will be classified in the following categories:

Class I: includes International

Class II

Class III

Class IV Trainees

Reg. 25.E

Recruits

a) A person applying to become a referee shall comply with the formal requirements from time to time set up by the SFF Referees Committee.

b) There is no age limit for applicants. However, referees under the age of 18 shall provide parents' consent.

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- c) He/she shall be literate in English
- d) **He/she shall pass a medical and physical test approved by the Referees Committee.**
- e) He/she shall pass theory and practical entrance exams set by the Referees Committee.

Reg. 25.F

Promotions

- a) Class IV officials shall be promoted to Class III provided they have:
 - (i) Officiated as Assistant Referee in a minimum of 12 official matches, for at least 6 months in the lower divisions
 - (ii) Participated in and attended training courses for referees
- b) Passed the Class III examination (75% pass mark)
- c) Class III officials shall be promoted to Class II provided they have:
 - (i) At least 38 matches in 12 months and practical experience of officiating matches as Class III
 - (ii) Officiated in minimum of 50 officials matches
 - (iii) Showed outstanding ability and obtained good marks by assessment
 - (iv) Passed Class II examination (75% pass mark).
- d) Class II officials shall be promoted to Class I provided they have:
 - (i) Gained at least **25 matches experience in 3 years** as a Class II Officiated as the referee in a minimum of 75 official matches
 - (ii) Showed outstanding ability and obtained good marks by assessment
 - (iii) Satisfied the SFF Referees Committee with their contribution and participation in refereeing activities.
- e) Class I Referees/Assistant Referees are nominated by the Executive Committee of the SFF upon:

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- (i) The recommendation of the SFF Referees Committee.
- (ii) Having passed aptitude tests set by F.I.F.A.
- (iii) They are able to communicate in English.

Reg. 25.G

Rights duties and responsibilities

a) Referees shall receive certificates on passing specific tests as set down and provided for in these rules.

b) Referees shall be covered by insurance for any injuries suffered in the course of or as a direct consequence of refereeing official SFF matches.

c) All clubs/teams under the authority of the SFF are responsible for the safety and protection of referees, faced with aggressive actions from officials, players and spectators and shall take necessary measures to assure order and the respect of the referees before, during and after a match.

d) Referees officiating matches shall be entitled indemnities as set out from time to time by the SFF.

e) Referees, who officiate at SFF senior cup final knock-out Competition, shall be presented with cup final medals.

f) Awards may also be made at the discretion of the SFF for long and meritorious service.

g) Referees shall be entitled to a pass from the SFF that will allow free access to all football matches played in Seychelles. Entrance to stadium shall be subject to appropriate uniform being worn.

h) The referees shall at all times wear the official uniforms and FIFA/SFF badges to officiate matches.

i) Referees must be at the venue of the football match at the latest 60 minutes before kick-off time.

j) Pre-match inspections by referees shall be done at the latest 15 minutes before kick-off.

k) Match sheets and match reports shall be sent to the secretaries of the SFF within 48 hours after the match had been played. **A penalty of Sr.50.00 shall apply for up to 5 days delay and Sr.100.00 thereafter for each week that follows. (Amendment in bold made on 31st May 2011)**

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l) Referees must give at least 48 hours' notice to the SFF Referees Department if they are unavailable to officiate a match. **If changes are made within 48 hours an administrative fee of Sr.25.00 will apply. (Amendment in bold made on 31st May 2011).**

m) Referees will be assessed to their physical fitness (Coopers Test) at the beginning of each season and **every three months thereafter, in accordance with FIFA regulations. (Amendment in bold made on 31st May 2011).**

n) Referees should inform the SFF Referees Committee when they are leaving the country or are unavailable for officiating.

o) The age limits for active referees are;

- 45 years for Class I international referees
- 50 years for national referees, based on physical ability.

Reg. 25.H

Discipline

Referees are expected to behave in a manner, which does not compromise their impartiality. Referees shall maintain good discipline and gentlemanly conduct. They must uphold and show good behaviour worthy of their activities as referees.

They shall not make accusations, utter insults against the SFF Sponsors or any of its officials or any clubs and club officials, players and spectators.

Referees must not criticize publicly, in anyway whatsoever, any of their colleagues (referees) having refereed a match.

Referees shall not make comments to the press on matters of a match.

Reg. 25.I.

Penalties

a) The SFF Referees Committee shall take disciplinary action against any referee for poor performance or behaviour incompatible to his status as referee.

b) Disciplinary actions shall be taken against referees who fail to turn up for matches in accordance with these rules.

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c) Sanction or censure may be taken against referees should they be responsible for the forfeiture of a match.

d) Referees shall also be sanctioned by the Executive Committee of the SFF for bringing the game into disrepute.

e) The principal sanctions which may be imposed are;

By the SFF Referees Committee:

- A written warning
- Fine of up to Sr.500.00
- Suspension for a maximum period of one month

By the Executive Committee of the SFF:

- Suspension for more than one month,
- Demotion to an inferior class,
- Suspension for life

Reg.25J

Code of conduct for Class I “International Referees”

It is expected that as Class I “international referees” they shall maintain exemplary discipline. They must show good behaviour worthy of their status as Class I “international referees”.

They should not carry accusations, utter or speak insults or false allegations against the SFF, Sponsors, the teams, officials, coaches, players and spectators

They should not criticise publicly, in anyway what so ever, one of the colleagues refereeing or having refereed a match. They must advise and help junior referees

They should abide by the regulations and decisions of the SFF Referees’ Committee, aimed to control the activities of referees.

They are expected to give priority to refereeing **rather** than to other footballing activities, thereby be ready to officiate any match as to which they have been appointed. **(Amendment in bold made on 31st May 2011).**

They should attend activities, training courses and meetings called for referees.

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It is expected that they obtain good grades and above in assessments made by match assessors.

Failing to abide by the referee's regulations and/or code of conduct will result in suspension or removal from the list of Class I "International Referees".

Class I "international referees" are expected to assist the SFF in the promotion of refereeing activities in the Seychelles, which include recruitment and training of those below them.

REGULATION 26

MATCH COMMISSIONERS

Reg.26.A

Appointment of Match Commissioners:

- a) SFL shall appoint a Match Commissioners Panel prior to the commencement of each season.
- b) Match Commissioners will be appointed to matches by the SFL.
- c) Match Commissioners shall apply presentable dress code to all matches that they are appointed as per the code of conduct.

Reg.26.B

Role of the Match Commissioner

- a) Match Commissioners do not have any specific power or authority over clubs or Referees but may have specific powers or authority delegated to them from time to time by SFL.
- b) The primary role of the SFL Match Commissioner Is to ensure that clubs adhere to SFF and SFL Regulations. Match Commissioners will liaise with clubs on match day on all issues relating to the running of matches.
- c) SFL Match Commissioners are required to report all breaches of applicable Regulations to SFL, including breaches that may have occurred but were rectified after consultation with the home club.

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- d) On match day they will position themselves in a good vantage position, once all relevant areas have been inspected and the match has commenced, where they can monitor the events transpiring on and off the field of play.
- e) SFL Match Commissioner must contact the SFL operations/Competitions Head if there is a match day operational issue that he/she wishes to discuss that directly relates to the match they are covering.
- f) SFL will coordinate all Match Commissioner appointments and will ensure that they receive all correspondence issued to clubs on match day operational issues.
- g) Match Commissioners are not authorized to act as a spokesperson for the competition of SFL and must not speak to the media in relation to any incidents that have occurred at any match they have been appointed to.
- h) In the event that a Match Commissioner is not present, the match shall continue and the referee shall state in his report.

REGULATION 27

DISCIPLINARY REGULATIONS

Reg.27.A

Application of SFF Disciplinary Measures:

- a) The SFL shall observe and apply the SFF Disciplinary measures (the 'Disciplinary measures').
- b) Any changes or updates made to the SFF Disciplinary measures shall automatically be incorporated into the regulations for the SFL unless and until the SFF issues a written circular stating specifically that any such amendment shall not be incorporated and also stating the period for which such non-incorporation shall apply.

Reg.27.B

Cautions and Expulsions:

- a) All matters relating to cautions and/or expulsions (yellow and red card), including the carrying forward of cautions between stages of the Competition, shall be undertaken in accordance with the SFF Disciplinary measures(Reg.17, Reg.19) and/or otherwise by way of a circular issued to that effect.

Reg.27.C

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Indiscipline and Violent Conduct:

a) Any individual reported for any act of indiscipline or violent conduct at the Stadium (including without limitation within the team dressing room or on the Field of Play), Official Training Site, Accommodation, or any other location within the Venue of a Match shall be subject to disciplinary proceedings.

Reg.27.D

Protest:

a) A protest is an objection of any kind to any matter that has a direct effect on a Match and any matters related to a breach of these Regulations or SFF Disciplinary measures (Reg.19).

b) Unless otherwise stipulated, to be considered valid, protests shall be:

(i) Submitted in writing on the Protest Form to the Match Commissioner before the end of the Match in question.

(ii) Followed up with a full written report, including a copy of the original protest, sent to SFL within forty-eight (48) hours of the end of the Match; and

(iii) Accompanied by a non-refundable fee of five hundred Seychelles Rupees (SR500) paid to SFF within forty-eight (48) hours of the end of the Match.

c) No protest shall be lodged relating to the Referee's decisions regarding facts connected with play. Such decisions are final and binding and not appealable, unless expressly otherwise stipulated in the SFF Disciplinary measures(Reg.17, Reg.19)

d) Should the SFF Disciplinary Committee determine that a protest is unfounded or irresponsible, it may impose a fine on the protestor.

e) If any of the formal conditions of a protest as set out in these Regulations are not met, such protest shall be disregarded. Following the completion of the final Match of the Competition, any and all protests shall be disregarded.

f) The SFF Disciplinary Committee shall make decisions on protests. The SFF Disciplinary Committee may transfer a protest to the SFL administration or its related Committees for decision if it is deemed to be purely operational in nature.

Reg.27.E

ACTS OF MISCONDUCT/OFFENCES

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- i) The Club Competition Committee shall investigate any acts of Misconduct/Offences and take appropriate actions against the offenders and may revert to the SFF Executive Committee to act with regards to extreme cases in which has brought the game into disrepute.

REGULATION 28

INSURANCE

Reg.28.A

INSURANCE

a) SFL shall issue guidelines and/or regulations for the required insurance policy to be taken out by all Clubs. Such insurance including but not limited to third party liability may involve an appropriate guaranteed sum for injury and damage to persons, object and property. The policies will fully cover all risks connected with the staging of the Competition. The SFF, game officials and playing ground officials are indemnified from any insurance claims which might arise.

b) Clubs are responsible for the insurance coverage (including hospitalization and surgical operations) of their delegation, including players and officials, at their own expense, for all matches played in the overseas Competition. Claims for damages against SFF, CAF, FIFA, COSAFA, UFFOI, SOCCA and the Indian Ocean games are indemnified from any claims which might arise.

REGULATION 29

TICKETING

TICKETING

Reg.29.A

a) Ticketing, including production, distribution and sales, shall be the responsibility of the Club. SFL will provide a ticket design to the Club. The Club shall ensure that printed tickets include, wherever available, time of match, ticket pricing and sitting information.

b) All tickets shall incorporate club and SFF logos and marks of the Competition and the

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SFL commercial partners as submitted to the Club as part of the ticket design.

c) Clubs shall inform the SFF of the total amounts of tickets sold for statistical purposes and reporting.

d) Clubs will fix their own ticket cost and shall give due notice of any changes in the ticket cost.

REGULATION 30

FINAL PROVISIONS

Patron

Reg.30.A

a) The Patron of the Seychelles Football Federation shall be nominated by the Executive Committee and appointed by the Chairman of the SFF.

b) It is usual for the Football Federation to have a senior representative of the State as its Patron. In many countries the Patron is the Head of State but in others it will be a prominent government figure.

c) The role of Patron is rarely a demanding one. The Patron is very much a figurehead, although the support of the Patron is of course very much appreciated. The SFF is expected to keep the Patron informed of its plans and progress.

d) The post of Patron may be reviewed by each newly elected Executive Committee at its' first meeting after the A.G.M. at which it was installed.

Violations

Reg.30.B

Violations of any of these rules, regulations and bye-laws shall be sanctioned in accordance with Regulation 15 hereof.

Matters not provided for

Reg.30.C

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Subject to the laws of Seychelles any matter not specifically provided for under these regulations shall be **decided upon** by the Executive Committee.

Certified by the General Secretary as being the true copy of the SFF Regulations. These Regulations were adopted at the Executive Committee Meeting held ata.m., on Saturday at Maison De Football Roche Caiman Mahe, and shall come into force on 8th of March 2018.

General Secretary

Date.....