

Regulations AFC Cup 2009

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DEFINITIONS

The terms in Capital letters used in these Regulations (as hereinafter defined) shall have the following meaning(s):

- Accommodation* Hotels or any other locations providing accommodation to guests for the Competition.
- Accreditation or Accredited* The giving of authority to a person or a group of persons, involving certification, which allows the accredited person(s) to undertake specified activities within the Controlled Access Areas.
- Advertising Rights* The right to promote to the exclusion of all others save as qualified in this Agreement, brand and/or corporate names and/or products and/or services at and/or in relation to the Competitions by whatever means available, whether existing now or to be developed in the future, whether at the Stadia or within the Controlled Access Areas, by in-stadium/out-stadium perimeter signage and other advertising, concessions, displays, sampling, premiums, equipment usage or other methods and through printed matter such as programmes, posters, letterheads, press releases, newsletters and tickets, including, for the avoidance of doubt, subject always to the AFC Guidelines, the right to display such advertising on the clothing or footwear worn, or on any equipment used, carried or transported by officials, medical and security staff, ballboys and/or photographers. The display of the name and/or logo of the bona fide supplier of clothing on the strip of referees/linesmen and other officials are also included. For the avoidance of doubt, advertising on the strip of Participating Players is excluded, other than where it is in accordance with AFC rules and regulations.
- AFC* The Asian Football Confederation.
- AFC Committees* AFC Standing Committees including The Disciplinary Committee, Appeals Committee, Referees Committee, Finance & Marketing Committee, AFC Executive Committee, Hosting Committee for AFC Club Competitions, AFC Professional League Ad-Hoc Committee and such other committees of the AFC as

advised by AFC from time to time.

AFC Competitions Committee

The AFC Committee consisting of a Chairman and six (6) members whose duties are to organise and manage competitions on behalf of the Confederation including making decisions on any matters related to these Competitions; to arrange the groups, venues and dates for competitions and matches and delegate, if necessary, the organisation of the same to any Member or Committee; to appoint officials for its competitions; to recommend to the Executive Committee amendments or alterations to the Rules, Regulations and Instructions for competition and matches; to submit reports on competitions and matches to the Secretariat.

AFC Delegation

Any officials appointed by AFC, including but not limited to the Head of Delegation, Head of Administration, Venue Manager, Match Commissioner, Referee Assessor, Referee, Assistant Referees, Fourth Official, Media Officer, Security Officer, Medical Officer and Technical Study Group Officer.

AFC Headquarters

AFC House, Jalan 1/155 B, Bukit Jalil, 57000 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

AFC Logo(s)

The official logo of AFC, and/or such other official logo, which shall be the only marks used by AFC, save where otherwise mutually agreed by the parties.

AFC's Marketing Partner

The marketing company, if any, that AFC has contracted the Commercial Rights for the Competition.

AFC Official Merchandise

The official merchandise of AFC, to which the AFC Logo and the Competition Marks may be applied, to those products at the sole discretion of AFC.

AFC Website

www.the-afc.com

Ambush Marketing

Also known as parasitic marketing, is generally understood as being marketing or promotional activities activated by individuals or entities which

have no official association with a product and/or service, and where such activities seek to take advantage of the goodwill associated with an event or other sponsored property.

Archive Materials

Any audio and/or audio-visual materials and/or photographs, Image Rights, Broadcast Rights, Film Rights, Video Rights, New Media Rights, and/or all Competition Data.

Broadcast Affiliates

Any entity, including the Host Broadcaster, which has acquired from AFC directly or from AFC's Marketing Partner any rights in respect of the Broadcast Rights of the Competition.

Broadcast Rights

The right to broadcast the Competition and the right of access to the Stadia to the exclusion of all others, for the purposes of producing a live television and/or radio signal and/or recordings of the Competition in any form of audio and/or audio-visual medium and the right to license the right to exhibit such live signal and/or recordings and/or part thereof by any and all forms of television and/or radio and/or any media now existing or as may be developed in the future, including, all forms of terrestrial, cable and satellite television, IPTV, broadband (fixed and/or wireless), Internet and Interactive Television on a world-wide basis.

Clean Stadia

The Stadia shall be free from commercial or promotional messages, advertising, displays or facilities of any kind except for those installed, erected or otherwise authorised by AFC from the period commencing 48 hours prior to each Match or other event comprising the Competitions until 24 hours thereafter so that the Commercial Rights shall be fully available to AFC without hindrance.

Clubs

Clubs which exist within the geographical territory of National Association, and who shall be under the control and jurisdiction of a National Association whilst participating in the Competition.

Commercial Affiliates

Any entity to which AFC directly or indirectly has granted or will grant any aspect of the Commercial

Rights in respect of the Competition, including but not limited to Official Sponsors, Official Supporters, Official Licensees and Official Media Partners.

Commercial Rights

All rights of commercial exploitation of the Competition, including without limitation all rights of commercial exploitation of the Advertising Rights, Broadcast Rights, Concession Rights, Hospitality Rights, Image Rights, Merchandising Rights, Promotional Rights, Sponsorship Rights, and Travel and Tour Rights, by New Media Rights, Video Rights and/or commercial exploitation by any other means.

Competition

AFC Cup 2009 which shall include the Matches as set out in the Match Schedule, including any qualifying matches, activities on the field of play (other than matches), opening ceremonies, presentation or closing ceremonies, press conferences or official functions connected therewith.

Competition Data

Any and all information related to the Competition, including Fixture Lists, Image Rights, information and/or statistics about the Participating Teams and/or Participating Players, information and/or statistics about their participation and/or performance in the Competitions, match analysis, referee decisions, and any other information in relation to the Competition.

Competition Marks

Shall mean any and all current and future competition Trademark's and/or logos, copyrights and/or designs whether or not registered or applied for and whether registered in part or in whole including any and or present and future names, designations, symbols, logos or identifying music or sounds of AFC or the Competition, the AFC Fair Play name and device mark, the official logo, the Competition Trophy and other artistic and autographic representations in one, two or three dimensional proportions used by or in association with the Competition.

Competition Website

The official website in relation to a Competition operated exclusively by AFC with a dedicated URL registered, owned and maintained by AFC, at AFC's

sole expense, for use exclusively by AFC.

Complimentary Tickets

Tickets which are supplied without charge.

Concession Rights

Sampling, vending and other distribution methods for and of products or services, including pourage rights at the Stadia and Facility Areas.

Controlled Access Areas

The locations of the Matches and other events, such as (without limitation) Stadia and their fences and perimeters, the aerial space above the Stadia, and all other locations associated with the Competitions, including the Facility Areas, media centres, international broadcast centres, Official Training Sites, designated official hotels (including but not limited to the official hotels for the Participating Teams), hospitality and VIP areas and facilities, other areas to which admission is regulated by the Hosting Association's accreditation system, and surrounding and adjacent areas to the locations described above.

Facility Areas

The location of Official Functions, press centres, ticket offices, official hotels, media areas, official hospitality areas and information centres controlled by or on behalf of AFC used in connection with the Competition whether at the Stadia or elsewhere at the Venues.

FIFA

The Federation International de Football Association.

Film Rights

The right to exploit visual images of the Competition, including images of the Participating Teams and/or Participating Players, whether produced for the purpose of the Broadcast Rights or separately, by means of cinematograph film throughout the Territory by any means of transmission and/or exhibition and/or reproduction now existing or hereinafter developed.

Force Majeure

Any event affecting the performance or any provision of this Agreement arising from or attributable to acts,

events, omissions or accidents which are beyond the reasonable control of a party, and shall include but not be limited to abnormally inclement weather, flood, lightning, storm, fire, explosion, earthquake, structural damage, epidemic or other natural disaster, failure or shortage of power supplies, war, terrorist action, military operations, riot, crowd disorder, strike, lock-outs or other industrial action, or civil commotion.

Hospitality Rights

The exclusive opportunity to sell all hospitality and entertainment facilities at the Venue or within the Controlled Access Areas in combination with the Complimentary Tickets, whether such facilities are in boxes, marquees or otherwise, but excluding those private facilities reserved for AFC officials and guests not forming part of any commercial programme.

Host Broadcaster

The organization appointed by AFC directly or indirectly to ensure and provide the production of the broadcast signals of the Matches and other events of the Competition, and the provision of all related services in accordance with the Broadcast Rights.

Hosting Association

A National Association appointed by AFC to organise, stage and host the Competition

Hosting Club

A club appointed by a National Association and approved by AFC to organize, stage and host the Competition.

Image Rights

The right to use still and/or moving images and/or representations of images of Participating Teams and Participating Players participation in the Competitions, in accordance with the Commercial Regulations.

*Interactive
Communications System*

Any interactive communication system that enables end users to engage in two-way interactive transmissions including the ability to access interactive programmes, services and media content, whether such programmes, services and media content are distributed by telephone or cable lines (whether fibreoptic, coaxial or otherwise) satellites, microwave or other wireless digital communication systems, cellular communication systems, WAP, UTMS, personal digital communications devices, pager services, online

data services, broadband, the Internet or any combination or subset of the foregoing employing any current or future design or technology or any similar interactive communications systems whether now known or hereafter developed.

Interactive Television

Any distribution of television signals in conjunction with an Interactive Communications System in such a way as to allow recipients to engage in two-way interactive communications including the ability to access interactive programmes and services irrespective of the means of distribution of such television signals.

Internet

The world-wide network of TCP/IP based networks, including services running applications such as the World Wide Web, email, chat lines, FTP and Gopher. For the purposes of this Agreement, Internet also means any private or proprietary network that connects to the above World Wide network of TCP/IP based networks through bridges or gateways, including AOL, CompuServe, MSN, Prodigy and Minitel.

Match(es)

Each football match(es) in its entirety (including extra time and penalty kick) of the Competition, and including any delayed, deferred Matches and/or replays.

Match Schedule

The published schedule containing details of the Competition (which details shall include but not be limited to the names of the Participating Teams, Venues, Stadiums, and details of the Match kick-off times)

Media

All members of the written press, on-line editors, photographers, television news crews and the representatives of the Broadcast Rights Holders entitled to media accreditation as determined by AFC.

Member(s) / Member Association(s)

Those Member Associations who are members of FIFA, and who have applied for and been granted Ordinary, Provisional, Associate or Exceptional membership of AFC. For the purpose of this definition "Ordinary",

“Provisional”, “Associate” and “Exceptional” membership shall have the same meaning as contained in AFC Statutes.

Merchandising Rights

The right to design, in consultation with AFC, and the right to exploit the Competition Marks and/or Official Status in connection with the promotion, manufacture, packaging, distribution and sale of goods and services of all kinds, including items of clothing, coins, medals, other collectibles and premiums related to the Competition.

National Association(s)

The controlling bodies for association football within each country or territory of Asia.

New Media Rights

The right to develop, prepare, adapt, reformat, publish and sell, distribute, transmit, exhibit or otherwise transfer, and licence others to do so, the Broadcast Rights, Film Rights, Video Rights, Image Rights and any Competition Data relating to the Competitions, for exploitation in any manner (whether sequentially or non-sequentially or in combination with any third party works or derivative works, if any) by any means, method or device including the Internet, broadband, wireless, Interactive Communication Systems, Interactive Television, intranet, extranet, digital magnetic and or optical information storage and retrieval systems, GSM or other mobile phone technology and any other device or medium for electronic reproduction, publication, distribution or transmission, whether now known or hereafter known or developed. For the avoidance of doubt, the New Media Rights will include the right: (1) To develop an Internet web site in relation to the Competition; (2) To develop e-commerce opportunities; (3) to publish the Competition Data, in print media (including, without limitation, magazines, books and other printed materials) ; and (4) to develop a computer game in relation to the Competition

<i>Official Functions</i>	Any official event organised in connection with the Competitions, including but not limited to press conferences, official dinners or lunches and banquets.
<i>Official Licensee</i>	A sub-licensee of the Commercial Rights appointed by AFC.
<i>Official Training Sites</i>	Training sites designated by the Hosting Association, and approved by AFC for use by the Participating Teams throughout the duration of the Competition.
<i>Participating Players</i>	Those players registered and participating in the Competition and any other players under the authority of AFC during the Competition.
<i>Participating Club(s)</i>	Those teams participating in the Competitions, under the authority of the Club, Member Associations and AFC during the Competition.
<i>Premiums</i>	A promotional item (including packaging, labelling and/or containers thereof) which incorporates a mark and/or logo of AFC and/or the Competitions, and which is distributed free of charge or via prize competitions.
<i>Promotional Rights</i>	Any rights to official publications, official suppliers, official products, sales promotion including but not limited to the right to organise promotional competitions and to make awards and give prizes, official music rights, the right to grant Official Status and all other rights of commercial value in regard to the Competition.
<i>Proprietary Interests</i>	Without limitation, intellectual property, copyright and analogous rights, trademark rights, moral rights, performing rights, personality rights and all remedies available under the applicable laws of unfair competition comprised in the Commercial Rights. For the purpose of this definition “moral rights” shall mean a privilege, right or claim which is based on moral considerations or ethical principles and which should be recognised by law, but which may not be

legally imposed or enforced as such.

Regulations

Those regulations controlled and published by AFC to be used in connection with the Competition.

Sponsorship Rights

An association with the Competition and/or AFC (subject to the special provisions regarding the development of AFC Logo as set out in this Agreement and/or the AFC Guidelines) by any combination of Commercial Rights, including title sponsor of the Competitions or any of them such as “AFC Cup 2009” sponsored / presented by Company A” and/or such other designation as mutually agreed by the parties.

Stadia

The official stadia (or any stadium) and the airspace and surrounding areas for the Matches, whether under the control of the Hosting Association or otherwise, used for the Matches, including without limitation parking facilities, VIP and hospitality areas, concourses, concession areas, fencing and entrances.

Team’s Official Delegation

The participating club’s Official Delegation will comprise of a maximum of eighteen (18) players and seven (7) officials who are named in the Final Registration for the Competition.

Territory

The World.

Ticketing

All operational measures to provide tickets to all spectators of every Match and for Official Functions of the Competition allowing them to enter the Stadia and for a Venue. Ticketing shall include the management of operation necessary for the production, sale, distribution, delivery and payment of the tickets of the Competition.

Tribune d’Honneur

The highest category of seating in the Stadia that is reserved for VVIP Guests.

Venues

Each host city and the immediately surrounding area in which the Stadia are located.

Video Rights

The right to produce or license the production of video cassettes, video discs, digital video discs or other video material containing material created by means of the Broadcast Rights and/or Film Rights for the purpose of exploiting said video cassettes and/or discs and/or material by means of, including but not limited to, sale or rental and by all forms of non-theatrical distribution.

For the purposes of this Regulation and provided the context so permits:

- (a) The singular shall include the plural and vice versa.
- (b) The masculine gender shall include the feminine and vice versa.
- (c) Reference to persons shall include any legal person or corporation.
- (d) References to AFC shall where the context permits include its successors and permitted assigns and, in relation to the availability of the Commercial Rights, its respective members, national bodies and hosting committees.

SECTION 1: REPRESENTATION

1. Representation

- a) The AFC stages the AFC Cup Competition (hereafter the “Competition”) annually.
- b) Any rights associated with the Competition which has not been granted by these Regulations and/or specific agreements to a participating Club, Member Association in the Competition belong to AFC.
- c) AFC stages the Competition with the participating Clubs and Member Associations (collectively hereinafter the Hosting Association) after the appointment by the AFC Executive Committee.
- d) The current AFC Statutes, all AFC regulations, guidelines, circulars and codes are binding for all parties participating and involved in the preparation, organization and hosting of the Competition. Any reference in these Regulations to the AFC Statutes refers to the Statutes valid at the time of entry and to all relevant AFC regulations, guidelines, circulars and codes.
- e) The winner of the Competition shall undertake to take part in the following competitions:
 - i. Intercontinental competitions arranged by AFC with other confederations
- f) Clubs are not authorised to represent AFC or the Competition without AFC’s prior written approval.
- g) AFC may appoint match officials including but not limited to Match Commissioner, Referees, Venue manager, Referee Assessor, Media Officer, Medical Officer and Security Officer for each match of the Competition for the purpose of match organization.
- h) All Players and Officials registered for participation in this Competition shall undertake to ensure their presence at the AFC Awards Night of the AFC Competitions Calendar Year if they are nominated for an award. Any player or official failing to do so shall be declared ineligible to participate in all AFC Competitions in the next calendar year. This clause is only applicable to Asian players playing in leagues of AFC Member Associations.

2. Participating Team Agreement

- a) The obligations and responsibilities of the hosting **Club/s** and their National Association are stipulated in the Participating Team Agreement (PTA), its annexes and amendments, the AFC List of Requirements and in these Regulations and other AFC regulations, guidelines and circulars and any other agreements reached between AFC and the National Association of the Hosting **Club/s**.
- b) Participating Team Agreement must be completed in full and submitted by the respective participating clubs through Member Associations to the AFC Secretariat.
- c) The name of the eligible **Club** must appear on the form, except for those countries whose competition(s) conclude after the date stipulated above. In such instances the Member Association must indicate by the stipulated date that it will enter **Clubs** for this Competition.
- d) Only the Participating Team Agreement submitted to the AFC Secretariat by fax and courier post will be valid and taken into consideration.
- e) The eligible Member Association and Club are responsible to ensure that the original copy of the Participating Team Agreement reaches the AFC Secretariat not later than the entry deadline communicated to the Member Association. If the Participating Team Agreement does not reach the AFC Secretariat by the entry deadline, the participation of the eligible Club will be cancelled.

3. Security and Safety

- a) The Hosting **Club** and its National Association, and the relevant government authorities are responsible for devising, planning and implementing adequate security and safety for the Competition at every relevant location (covering all Controlled Access Areas) which shall cover for all relevant persons at all times, including but not limited to the following:
 - i. All participating **Club's** players and officials
 - ii. AFC Match Officials
 - iii. Media
 - iv. Commercial Partners
 - v. Fans and spectators

- b) A detailed and highly relevant security plan shall be issued in the form of a binding declaration on all parties involved and shall include but not be limited to the Stadium and its vicinity, the training grounds and also hotels of visiting Club and AFC Match Officials. This security plan shall be based on the principles outlined in the FIFA Safety Guidelines.
- c) In the interests of the safety of players and match officials, Hosting Clubs and its National Association must provide access to the field of play that guarantees the safe entry and exit of these persons.
- d) The Hosting Club and its National Association may be subject to disciplinary measures if appropriate security arrangements are not provided. Sanctions may include fines and suspensions.

4. Insurance

- a) The AFC shall provide the match commissioner, referee assessor, referees, assistant referees, 4th officials and other AFC Match Officials insurance coverage from the time of their departure from home to the time of arrival.
- b) The Hosting Club must conclude the necessary insurance policies with a reputable insurance company, including but not limited to third-party liability. Such insurance must involve an appropriate guaranteed sum for injury and damage to persons, objects and property, and correspond to the specific circumstances of the associations concerned. Likewise, the policies must fully cover all risks connected with the staging of the Competition and exempt AFC from all claims and liabilities, and further name AFC as a co-insured in all policies.
- c) For the Competition, the Hosting Club should conclude the following insurance coverage on the basis of a general agreement:
 - i. Third-party liability insurance
 - ii. Insurance against liability for pecuniary loss
 - iii. Accident insurance
 - iv. Legal expenses insurance
 - v. Travel luggage insurance
 - vi. Spectator insurance
 - vii. Electronic equipment insurance
 - viii. Robbery insurance
 - ix. Fidelity insurance
 - x. Cup insurance
 - xi. Event cancellation insurance

xii. Medical insurance

- d) The remaining risks of the Hosting Club and its National Association must be covered by, at their own risk, by means of additional insurance contracts. AFC must be notified of such additional insurance coverage, and may request copies of the policies concerned.
- e) The Hosting Club and its National Association are solely responsible for the insurance coverage of the Stadiums and must release AFC of any liability whatsoever in this respect. A release of liability must be signed and returned to AFC at least one month before the start of the Competition. If such an exemption from liability is not presented in due time, the Hosting club agrees that the necessary insurance coverage may be concluded by AFC at their expense.
- f) The Participating 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 competition. Claims for damages against AFC are expressly excluded, and the participating Clubs shall hold AFC harmless against any such claims.

5. Responsibility

- a) The Hosting Club and its National Association shall discharge AFC and hold it harmless from all responsibility and relinquish any claim against AFC and the members of its delegation for any damages resulting from any act or omission relating to the organisation and course of the Competition to the exclusion of damages caused by AFC or the members of its delegation acting with intent or gross negligence.
- b) The Hosting clubs and its National Association shall exempt (indemnify and hold harmless) AFC from all third party claims for damages relating to match organisation, regardless of whether individual matches in question take place or not.

SECTION 2: TECHNICAL REGULATIONS

6. Matches played in accordance with the Laws of the Game

- a) All matches shall be played in accordance with the Laws of the Game laid down by the International Football Association Board and published by FIFA.
- b) In the case of any discrepancy in the interpretation of the Laws of the Game, the English version shall prevail and is authoritative.
- c) Only three (3) substitutes listed on the Match Starting List make take part in the match.
- d) If there are fewer than seven (7) players on either of the teams, the match shall be abandoned. In this case, the AFC Competitions Committee (and if required the AFC Disciplinary Committee) shall decide on the consequences.

7. Duration of Match

- a) Each match shall last 90 minutes, comprising two periods of 45 minutes, with an interval of 15 minutes in between from the whistle ending the first period to the whistle starting the second period.

8. Extra Time

- a) If, in accordance with the provisions of these Regulations, extra time is played as a result of a draw at the end of normal playing time, it shall consist of two (2) periods of fifteen (15) minutes each, with an interval of five (5) minutes at the end of normal playing time, but not between the two periods of extra time.

9. Away Goals

- a) For matches in the Knock-out format played on a home and away basis, if two Teams involved in a tie score the same number of goals over two legs, the Teams which scores more away goals (the away goal scored will be counted as double) qualifies for the next stage. If this procedure does not produce a result i.e. if the two teams score the same number of goals at home and away, extra time shall be played according to the provisions of these regulations.

10. Determining the Winner by Penalty Kicks

- a) If the result is still a draw after the two periods of extra time, penalty kicks shall be taken to determine the winner, in accordance with the procedures described in the Laws of the Game.
- b) If the taking of kicks from the penalty mark cannot be completed because of weather conditions or for other reasons beyond control, the results shall be decided by the drawing of lots by the Referee in the presence of the AFC Match Commissioner and the two (2) team captains.
- c) If, through the fault of a Team, the taking of kicks from the penalty mark cannot be completed, Art. 29 c) of these regulations shall apply.

11. Abandonment of Matches

- a) If the match is stopped by the Referee before the end of normal time or during any extra time because of any force majeure or any other incidents such as, but not limited to, the field is not fit for play, weather conditions, floodlight failure, etc. the following procedures must be followed:
 - i. The match is automatically suspended for the duration of thirty (30) minutes to allow conditions to improve sufficiently to restart the match, unless the referee decides that the match can be resumed earlier.
 - ii. At the discretion of the Referee, another suspension of a maximum of thirty (30) minutes shall be allowed if in his opinion this extra period of suspension will allow the match to be resumed. Otherwise, at the end of this second thirty (30) minute period, the Referee must declare the match to have been abandoned.
 - iii. In the case of an abandoned match, the AFC shall decide within two (2) hours of the Referee's decision to abandon the match whether the match result at the time of abandonment is valid or whether a replay shall be organised, taking sporting and organisational considerations into account.
- b) No appeals may be lodged against decisions stated in Art. 11 a).

12. Cancellation of Matches

- a) If the match cannot commence on time due to force majeure or any other incidents such as, but not limited to, the field is not fit for play, weather conditions, floodlight failure, etc. the following procedures must be followed:
 - i. The match must first be delayed for a minimum of thirty (30) minutes, unless the Referee decides that the match can commence earlier, before a decision to reschedule the match is taken.
 - ii. At the discretion of the Referee, another delay of a maximum of thirty (30) minutes shall be allowed if in his opinion this extra period of delay will allow the match to commence. Otherwise, at the end of this second thirty (30) minute period, the Referee must declare the match to have been cancelled.
 - iii. In the case of a cancelled match, the AFC shall decide within two (2) hours of the Referee's decision to cancel the match whether the match can be rescheduled, taking sporting and organisational considerations into account, or whether any other action and decision is needed to continue with the competition. Any disciplinary sanctions resulting from the cancelled match shall remain in force.
- b) No appeals may be lodged against decisions stated in Art. 12 a).

13. Stadiums (Stadia)

- a) The Stadium for the matches in the Competition shall be nominated upon entry, by the Clubs and subject to inspection and confirmation by AFC.
- b) Unless stipulated otherwise in these Regulations, matches in the Competition must be played in a stadium which meets all the requirement of and standards stated in the "AFC Stadia Regulations" in compliance with the safety & security standards and other AFC guidelines and instructions for international matches.
- c) The stadium nominated for the matches in the Competition by the Participating Club and its National Association shall be the home venue of the Participating Club in the national top league, unless otherwise instructed by AFC.

- d) If the Hosting Club considers the field of play unfit for play, the AFC Secretariat shall be informed immediately, as well as the visiting Club and the AFC Match Officials before their departure. If the Hosting Club concerned fails to do this, it will be obliged to cover all of the expenses incurred for travel, board and lodging of the parties involved.
- e) If there is any doubt regarding the condition of the field of play once the visiting Club has already left to play the match, the referee shall decide whether the field of play is playable or not. If the referee declares that the match cannot commence because of force majeure, or any other incidents such as, but not limited to, the field is not fit for play, weather conditions, floodlight failures, etc. the procedure to be followed is described in Art. 12 above.
- f) Throughout the competition a Club must play all its home matches in the Competition at one and the same Stadium unless forced to do otherwise because of circumstances beyond its control. In this case, the Club must provide proof and evidence, including but not limited to photographs, visual evidence and letters from the appropriate authorities as to why the Stadium is no longer fit to host the Match.
- g) Only upon receipt of the necessary documents, AFC will make a decision on condition of the Stadium and where necessary, grant the Club the permission to nominate another Stadium which must meet the conditions in the “AFC Stadia Regulations”.
- h) Prior to approving any Stadium, AFC reserves the right to conduct an inspection on the nominated Stadium. The cost of this inspection visit will be borne by the Club and/or its National Association.
- i) Should such Hosting Club not be able to propose an acceptable alternative Stadium within the deadline set by the AFC Secretariat, the AFC Secretariat will select an alternative Stadium in a neutral Venue. In such case, the club considered the “home” club must stage the relevant matches at the neutral venue in accordance with the instructions of AFC and in cooperation with the Member Association on whose territory the match will take place and local authorities. The costs of staging the match shall be borne by the club considered the home club.
- j) If, at any time during the Competition, the AFC Secretariat deems that, for whatever reason, the Stadium is not fit for staging a match; the AFC may consult with the Hosting Club and propose an alternative Stadium, in accordance with the standards required by AFC. Should such a

Hosting Club not be able to propose an acceptable alternative Stadium within the deadline set by the AFC Secretariat, Art. 28 will apply.

14. Field of Play

- a) The AFC Match Commissioner will inspect the stadium prior to the match day and ensure that all arrangements are in accordance with The Laws of the Game. If the conditions the Field of Play including the dimension of goal and field are not met by the Laws of the Game, the AFC Match Commissioner will issue instructions for the hosting clubs to rectify.
- b) However, if prior to the match kick-off time, Art. 14 a) is still not complied with, the Host Club shall forfeit the match. Victory and the resultant three (3) points will be awarded to the opposing team as well as the score of 3-0.

15. Team Bench and Technical Area

- a) Up to a maximum of eight (8) Team officials with TM 2 designation on AFC Eligibility Cards and seven (7) players (substitutes, injured or not playing) are allowed to sit on the team bench, provided they are in possession of the appropriate eligibility and access card.
- b) All officials and players on the team bench must wear their eligibility card at all times.
- c) All persons on the bench must wear kits that are contrasting with the kit of the players and referees on the pitch.
- d) Team 'A' shall occupy the left hand side bench as viewed from the 4th Official's bench.

16. Warming up

- a) The Clubs shall be entitled to warm up on the field of play before the match if the weather permits.
- b) During actual play, a maximum of six (6) players from each team may warm up at the same time assisted by one (1) official, but without a ball (except for the goalkeeper), behind the goal closest to their substitutes' bench or in a space determined by the AFC Match Commissioner. The players may be assisted by one (1) official from the team bench.

17. Official Training Sessions at the Stadium

- a) Depending on the weather and condition of the pitch, the visiting Team will be entitled to a one-hour official training session in the Stadium where they are due to play on the day or 2 days before their match at the same time as the match kick-off.
- b) The field of play must be prepared to match conditions for this session. If the field of play is not in good condition, the AFC Match Commissioner may direct the teams only to inspect the field of play wearing training shoes.
- c) If an artificial pitch is to be used for the matches, the visiting Club is entitled to have either a two (2) one-hour official training sessions or a two (2) hour official training sessions in the Stadium where they are due to play on the day or two days before their match.

18. Official Training Sites

- a) Official training sites, that conform to the AFC Marketing Regulations, in good condition and situated near the Visiting Team's headquarters in each venue shall be made available to the visiting Club at least two (2) full days prior to the match in the Competition and must be declared upon entry to the Competition.
- b) The Clubs participating in the Competition shall use only those training sites which have been officially designated for training by the Organising Committee for AFC Club Competitions and approved by the AFC.
- c) These official training sites are reserved for training and practice matches and shall not be used for other matches and events as from two (2) days prior to each Club's match in the competition, unless written permission has been obtained from the AFC.

19. Footballs

- a) The footballs for the Competition shall be selected and supplied by AFC as follows:
 - i. Each Club will be provided with 15 match balls for training.
 - ii. The Hosting Club will be provided 10 match balls for each match

- iii. Visiting Clubs are required to bring their AFC-provided training balls with them on away trips.
- b) Whenever the footballs are delivered to the Hosting Club and/or its National Association, the Hosting Club and/or its National Association is responsible to cover the cost of any taxes and / or fees pertaining to the clearance of these footballs.

20. Match Schedule

- a) All matches are played according to the AFC Competition Calendar for 2009 (Appendix 1) as set by the AFC Competitions Committee. The dates are final and binding on all concerned.
- b) The Clubs shall inform the AFC Secretariat of the kick-off times for all home matches upon entry to the Competition, which shall be subject to approval by AFC.
- c) The AFC Competitions Committee shall ensure that where necessary and possible, matches in the same group are played simultaneously when the situation demands for sporting reasons, taking into consideration time zones.

21. Competition System

- a) The Competition shall consist of two stages
 - i. Preliminary stage consisting of the matches of Group (League system) and Round of 16 (knock-out system)
 - ii. Knockout Stage consisting of the matches of Quarterfinals, Semi-finals, and Final (Knockout system)
- b) The matches in the Competition shall be played in accordance with one of the following three formats:
 - i. One single match (Knock-out system) : Round of 16
 - ii. Home & Away matches (League system) : In groups composed of several teams
 - iii. One home and one away match per team (knock-out system) : Quarter-Finals, Semi-Finals, Finals
- c) The AFC Competitions Committee decides on the playing system, playing format, the group formation and the duration of the Competition. Such decisions are final.

- d) There will two (2) Official Draw Ceremonies which includes a Draw for Preliminary Stage and another Draw for Knock-out stage of the Competition in accordance with Art. 21 a).
- e) Depending on the number of entries or in the case of withdrawals or suspensions of clubs, the AFC Competitions Committee reserves the right and may change the Competition System (cf. Art. 21) and the Technical Rules. (cf. Art. 22~24)
- f) Participating Clubs must play their home matches at home. Home matches may not be played in another country without the express permission of the AFC Competitions Committee.

22. Technical Rules for the Competition: Preliminary Stage: Group matches

- a) The Group matches of the Competition will consist of thirty-two (32) clubs, drawn into eight groups of four clubs. The groups shall be divided into four groups containing Clubs from the West and Central & South zones and four groups containing Clubs from ASEAN and East zones.
- b) The AFC Competitions Committee forms groups and/or sub-groups for the Competition by drawing lots whilst taking sports, geographic and economic factors into consideration, as far as possible. Clubs from the same Member Association will not be drawn into the same group.
- c) The clubs in the eight (8) groups shall be designated as follows:

West & Central & South

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

East & ASEAN

Group E	Group F	Group G	Group H
E1	F1	G1	H1
E2	F2	G2	H2
E3	F3	G3	H3
E4	F4	G4	H4

- d) The matches in the group are played under the league system whereby each club plays one home and one away match against each of the other club in its group.
- e) The following match sequence applies (the number designates the position drawn in each group):
 - 1st match day: 1 v 4, 3 v 2
 - 2nd match day: 4 v 3, 2 v 1
 - 3rd match day: 4 v 2, 1 v 3
 - 4th match day: 2 v 4, 3 v 1
 - 5th match day: 4 v 1, 2 v 3
 - 6th match day: 1 v 2, 3 v 4
- f) Three (3) points is awarded for a win, one (1) point for a draw and zero (0) point for a loss.
- g) In the league system the ranking in each group is determined as follows:
 - i. Greater number of points obtained in all group matches;
 - ii. If two or more Teams are equal on the basis of the above criterion, their place shall be determined as follows:
 - A) Greater number of points obtained in the group matches between the Teams concerned;
 - B) Goal difference resulting from the group matches between the Teams concerned; (Away goals do not apply)
 - C) Greater number of goals scored in the group matches between the Teams concerned; (Away goals do not apply)
 - D) Goal difference in all the group matches;
 - E) Greater number of goals scored in all the group matches;
 - F) Kicks from the penalty mark if only two Teams are involved and they are both on the field of play;
 - G) Fewer score calculated according to the number of yellow and red cards received in the group matches. (Appendix 2)
 - H) Drawing of lots
- h) The winners and runners-up of each group shall automatically qualify for the Preliminary Stage: Round of 16 matches.

23. Technical Rules for the Competition: Preliminary Stage: Round of 16

Round of 16

- a) The Round of 16 is played in accordance with the knock-out system (one leg). The winners of each group will host the matches in the Preliminary Stage
- b) Teams shall play one match and the Team having scored most goals in the match will qualify for the Quarter-finals.
- c) If the same number of goals is scored or a match ends without any goals being scored after 90 minutes, extra time shall be played (cf. Art. 8). If no goal or the same number of goal is scored during these periods of extra time by each time, penalty kicks shall be taken to determine the winner (cf. Art. 10).
- d) Away goals (Art. 9) do not apply.

24. Technical Rules for the Competition: Knockout Stage

Quarter-finals

- a) The Quarter-finals shall be played in accordance with the knock-out system, on a home and away basis.
- b) Teams shall play one home and one away match each, the sequence of which will be determined by lots drawn by the AFC Competitions Committee. The Team having scored most goals in both games will qualify for the Semi-finals. Away goals (cf. Art. 9) will be applied.
- c) If the same number of goals is scored away or both matches end without any goals being scored, extra time shall be played after the second match (cf. Art. 8). If the same number of goal or no goal is scored during these periods of extra time, penalty kicks shall be taken to determine the winner (cf. Art. 10).

Semi-finals

- a) The Semi-finals shall all be played in accordance with the knock-out system, on a home and away basis.
- b) Teams shall play one home and one away match each, the sequence of which will be determined by lots drawn by the AFC Competitions Committee. The Team having scored most goals in both games will qualify for the Final. Away goals (cf. Art. 9) will be applied.

- c) If the same number of goals is scored away or both matches end without any goals being scored, extra time shall be played after the second match (cf. Art. 8).
- d) If the same number of goal or no goal is scored during these periods of extra time, penalty kicks shall be taken to determine the winner (cf. Art. 10).

Finals

- a) The Finals shall be played in accordance with the Knock-out system, on a home and away basis.
- b) Teams shall play one home and one away match each, the sequence of which will be determined by lots drawn by the AFC Competitions Committee. The Team having scored most goals in both games will qualify for the Final. Away goals (cf. Art. 9) will be applied.
- c) If the same number of goals is scored away or both matches end without any goals being scored, extra time shall be played after the second match (cf. Art. 8).
- d) If the same number of goal or no goal is scored during these periods of extra time, penalty kicks shall be taken to determine the winner (cf. Art. 10).

SECTION 3: ENTRIES FOR THE COMPETITION

25. Eligible Clubs

- a) AFC shall determine the Club and its National Associations who are eligible for the Competition as well as the number of clubs from each Member Association.
- b) The eligible clubs are represented on the following basis.
 - i. Champion club of the previous edition of the AFC Cup
 - ii. Runner-up club of the previous edition of the AFC Cup
 - iii. One representative: winner of the top domestic league championship
 - iv. Two representatives: winner of the top domestic league championship and winner of the domestic knock-out competition
- c) In the event that the winner of the domestic knock-out competition is also the winner of the top domestic league, the Clubs which shall represent its National Association shall be nominated as follows:
 - i. One representative: winner of the top domestic league championship;
 - ii. Two representatives: winner and runner-up of the top domestic league championship
- d) In the event that the winner of the top domestic knock-out Competition is also the champion or runner-up of the previous edition of the AFC Cup, the Clubs which shall represent its National Association shall be nominated as follows:
 - i. One representative: winner of the top domestic league championship;
 - ii. Two representatives: winner and runner-up of the top domestic league championship
- e) In the event that the winner of the top domestic league championship is also the champion or runner-up of the previous edition of the AFC Cup, the Clubs which shall represent its National Association shall be nominated as follows:
 - i. One representative: winner of the domestic knock-out competition;
 - ii. Two representatives: runner-up of the top domestic league championship and winner of the domestic knock-out competition

- f) In the event that the winner of the top domestic league championship is also the champion or runner-up of the previous edition of the AFC Cup and is also the winner of the top domestic knock-out competition, the Clubs which shall represent its National Association shall be nominated as follows:
 - i. One representative: runner-up of the top domestic league championship;
 - ii. Two representatives: runner-up and third-placed club of the top domestic league championship.
- g) The winner or runner-up or third-placed club of the top domestic league championship can only be nominated from the top domestic league championship ending in the year preceding the current Competition.
- h) The winner of the domestic knock-out competition can only be nominated from the domestic knock-out competition ending in the year preceding the current Competition.
- i) All nominated clubs are subject to the approval of the AFC Competitions Committee.

26. Admission Criteria

- a) To be eligible to participate in the Competition, a Club must have qualified on sporting merit in accordance with Art. 25.
- b) All decisions by the AFC Competitions Committee regarding entries are final and not subject to appeal.

27. Duties and Obligations

On entering the Competition, the Club shall automatically undertake:

- a) To observe any agreements entered into with AFC as well as Regulations, policies, decisions, guidelines and circulars issued by AFC and the applicable national and supra-national laws;
- b) To comply with the Laws of the Game issued by the IFAB;
- c) To accept that all the administrative, disciplinary and refereeing matters connected with the Competition shall be settled by AFC in compliance with these Regulations or the decisions of relevant AFC Committee(s);

- d) To recognize the jurisdiction of the Court of Arbitration for Sport in Lausanne as defined in the relevant provisions of the AFC Statutes;
- e) To field their strongest team throughout the competition;
- f) To observe the principles of Fair Play;
- g) To be responsible for the behavior of their players, officials, members, supporters and any person carrying out duties on their behalf throughout the Competition, either at home or from their arrival in the host country until their departure;
- h) In their capacity as the Hosting Club, to make the appropriate arrangements for the staging of their matches, in conjunction with their Club, National Association and AFC Secretariat, and in accordance with the these Regulations.
- i) In their capacity as the Hosting Club, to guarantee that access to the stadium will be granted to the AFC delegation, officials and players of the visiting club, sponsors, travelling fans and media without any discrimination of gender, race and nationality.
- j) To accept all the arrangements made by the Hosting Club in agreement with the AFC Secretariat;
- k) To attend and participate in all official activities and events such as Team Manager's Meeting, media conferences, other media activities, etc. organized by AFC or the Hosting Association in accordance with guidelines and/or instructions in circulars issued by AFC regarding, in particular, media access to Clubs.

28. Withdrawal, penalty for failing to play and replacement

- a) Clubs shall play in all Competition matches.
- b) Clubs that withdraw prior to, or are excluded from playing in the Competition, may be replaced by another Club. AFC's Competition Committee shall make the relevant decision, including a change in the Competition system (Art. 21) and the Technical Rules for the Competition (Art. 23 and Art. 24) if necessary.
- c) If a Club withdraws after entering or does not report for a match at any Stage of the Competition, except in cases of force-majeure recognized

by the AFC Competitions Committee, or if it refuses to continue to play or leaves the stadium before the end of the match, the Club shall:

- i. Be considered to have withdrawn from the Competition.
 - ii. Have all its matches cancelled and considered null and void (all points, goals scored and goal against will not be counted and taken into consideration when deciding the ranking in the Group)
 - iii. Be required to pay compensation for any and all damages or losses suffered by the other Club, its Member Association, the AFC and AFC's Commercial and TV partner(s). The amount of compensation will be determined by the AFC Executive Committee.
 - iv. Be disqualified from taking part in the next edition of the Competition (and its qualifying competitions, if any.).
 - v. Be referred to the AFC Disciplinary Committee
 - vi. Return to the AFC any financial stipends that had been paid to them by AFC throughout the Competition or forfeit the right to the same.
 - vii. The AFC Executive Committee may impose additional sanctions and fines depending on the gravity of the situation
- d) The AFC Competitions Committee shall take whatever action it deems necessary in cases of force-majeure.

SECTION 4: TEAM'S OFFICIAL DELEGATION: OFFICIALS AND PLAYERS

29. Size of Delegation Attending Matches

- a) Each participating Club is entitled to an Official Delegation of a maximum of eighteen (18) players and seven (7) officials who must be registered in accordance with Art. 30 ~ 42. The Team's Official Delegation will be hosted by the Hosting Club (receiving full board, accommodation and transportation benefits).

30. Eligibility of players

- a) A player is eligible to play in the Competition provided he fulfils all the following conditions:
 - i. He is duly registered by the Club and its National Association concerned according to its own rules and those of FIFA Regulations for the Status and Transfer of Players where relevant;
 - ii. He is only eligible to play for a Club affiliated to its National Association concerned;
 - iii. He is duly registered with the AFC by the Participating Club according to the provisions of these regulations.
- b) A player is deemed ineligible if:
 - i. There is a violation of article 30 a);
 - ii. He is fielded despite being served a suspension (yellow & red cards);
 - iii. The player fails a doping test;
 - iv. AFC finds that documents submitted during registration is/are false

31. Stages of Registration of Players

- a) There are three (3) stages of player's registration:
 - i. Preliminary Registration to determine a squad of a minimum of eighteen (18) players and up to a maximum of thirty (30) players.
 - ii. Final Registration to specify a minimum of eighteen (18) players from the squad declared in the Preliminary Registration for the Competition.

- iii. Start List to identify the starting eleven (11) and up to seven (7) substitute players for each match during the Competition.

32. Documentations for Registration of Players

- a) For the registration of players for the Competition, players must be registered using the 'AFC Official Registration Form for Players'.
- b) Documentations for the registration of players are, but not limited to, the following;
 - i. Official Registration form for Players (or Naturalized Players);
 - ii. Copy of valid passport copy containing full name, passport number, date of birth, date of issue, date of expiry and nationality (group passport will not be accepted); (unless already previously submitted to AFC and available in AFCAS)
 - iii. Copy of national ID (unless already previously submitted to AFC and available in AFCAS)
 - iv. Copy of birth certificates (if requested by AFC)
 - v. Passport-size colored photo (taken within 3 months prior to the submission of the registration)
 - vi. Copy of valid contract containing the contract period in accordance with Art. 18 2) of FIFA Regulations on the Status and Transfer of the Players
 - vii. IRTC (International Registration Transfer Certificate) for foreign players
 - viii. Certified copies of the letter from MA of foreign player'(s) home country permitting the player(s) to play for the present club (in case there is no IRTC for the foreign players or non-citizen players)
- c) In cases of registration of naturalized players, the Member Associations concerned must present proof of naturalization by providing supporting documents issued by the competent authorities of their countries to prove that the player concerned has obtained the nationality at least one year ago from the Match Day 1 of the Competition.
- d) AFC reserves the right to request for additional documents than those stipulated in clause b) above.

33. Principles for Registration of Players

- a) A Club can register no less than eighteen (18) players and no more than thirty (30) players for the Competition with sequential shirt numbers from 1 to 50 while the shirt number one (1) shall be reserved for Goalkeeper.
- b) If a club fails to register a minimum of eighteen (18) players, the club will be considered to have withdrawn in accordance with Art. 28 c).
- c) Throughout the Competition (Preliminary Stage and Knock-out Stage) and for each match to which he is registered, each player shall wear the same number allocated to him on the AFC Official Registration Form for Players from 1 ~ 50 submitted to AFC during the preliminary registration. The same player may not use different shirt numbers in different matches. New players registered as replacements for injured players can only be allocated vacant shirt numbers, or numbers made vacant by the non-registration of players bearing these numbers.
- d) Clubs are permitted to register three (3) non-citizens or foreign players in their AFC Official Registration Form for the Players.
- e) Clubs must register three (3) goalkeepers in their AFC Official Registration Form for the Players. Registration of fewer goalkeepers will not entitle clubs to register more outfield players.
- f) A player can only be contracted, registered and / or playing with one club at any point of the time. The player cannot sign or play with any other club regardless of where the club is based. It is the Club's responsibility to ensure that their player is not contracted or registered to any other club.
- g) For international transfers, the official date of FIFA International Registration Transfer Certificate (IRTC) shall be taken as proof of the date of registration to the present Club. For internal transfers, the official date on the player's contract shall be taken as proof of the date of registration to the present Club.
- h) Should a player be found to be registered for two clubs during the same period of registration windows or played for two clubs, the Club will lose the match in which the player has played and the provisions of Art. 28 c) will apply.
- i) Further, both clubs to which the player is registered with will be referred to the Disciplinary Committee and subject to fines and sanctions, including being suspended from participating in future AFC Competition

and the player concerned will also be suspended from participating in future AFC Competitions.

- j) Each column in the AFC Official Registration Form for the Players must be completed with correct information.
- k) The AFC Secretariat shall carry out a check of the documents listed in Art. 32 b) above immediately after the closure of the registration window. Players with missing documentations will not be eligible for registration. All eligible players will be issued with official eligibility cards authorized by the AFC Competitions Committee. Should the card have been misplaced, the Club shall be required to pay a USD 1,000 (One thousand US Dollars only) production fee for every card lost, to replace it.
- l) Any club found guilty of fielding an ineligible player shall forfeit the match. Victory and the resultant three (3) points will be awarded to the opposing team as well as the score of 3-0, or greater, depending on the score of the match. The guilty team, its officials and players will have their medals and title stripped. The guilty club, member association, its officials and team officials shall also be subject to further fines and sanctions as determined by the AFC Disciplinary Committee.
- m) It is responsibility of the club to ensure that all original forms and supporting documents in accordance with Art. 32 are sent in good time and reach AFC Secretariat in Kuala Lumpur in Malaysia before the deadline set in Art. 34 a) & b) and Art 35 a). Proof of submission is not proof of receipt.
- n) Should the AFC Secretariat not receive the original copy of the AFC Official Registration Form with all required document by the deadline according to Art. 34 a) & b) and 35 a), the club shall be automatically disqualified from the Competition and be considered to have withdrawn in accordance with Art 28 c).
- o) In the event there is a dispute pertaining to the status of a player, the case will be referred to FIFA.

34. Preliminary Registration of Players for Preliminary Stage: Group matches and Round of 16

- a) Depending on which round in the Preliminary Stage a team enters, for all match days in the Group Stage and Round of 16, each club participating shall submit to AFC Secretariat, via fax and courier, the AFC Official

Registration Form for the Players and the supporting documents in accordance with Art. 29 to 33 by 10 February 2009.

- b) Once the AFC Official Registration Form has been received by AFC and seven (7) days prior to the first group match day (MD 1) of the Competition, up to three (3) players may be replaced in the event that they are medically unfit to play (certified by doctor in English). AFC must receive a detailed medical assessment to be reviewed by any member of the AFC Medical Panel which confirms whether the injury is sufficiently serious to prevent the player from taking part in the Competition. The club shall then immediately nominate in writing a replacement player in compliance with Art 32 & 33 of these Regulations. Until the replacement player has received his AFC Eligibility card, he will not be considered to have been registered for the Competition.

35. Preliminary Registration of Players for Knock-out Stage: Quarter-finals, Semi-finals and Final

- a) For all match days in the Knock-out stage, each club entering the Competition shall submit to AFC Secretariat, via fax and courier, the AFC Official Registration Form for Players and the supporting documents in accordance with Art. 32 by 31 August 2009.
- b) If the AFC Secretariat does not receive the original copy of AFC Official Registration Form for Players by the 31 August 2009, the Club will be considered to have registered the same players as those in the Preliminary Stage.
- c) Once the AFC Official Registration Form has been received by AFC and seven (7) days prior to the first match day of Quarter-Final in the Competition, up to three (3) players may be replaced in the event that they are medically unfit to play (certified by doctor in English). AFC must receive a detailed medical assessment to be reviewed by any member of the AFC Medical Panel which confirms whether the injury is sufficiently serious to prevent the player from taking part in the Competition. The club shall then immediately nominate in writing a replacement player in compliance with Art 32 & 33 of these Regulations. Until the replacement player has received his AFC Eligibility card, he will not be considered to have been registered for the Competition.

36. Final Registration of Players

- a) Participating Clubs are required to submit a final registration of a maximum of 18 players at least ninety (90) minutes before kick-off of the match, by using the Player Selection List. Only those players bearing an official eligibility card are eligible for registration.
- b) No replacement of players is allowed once the final registration is completed.

37. Player Selection List

- a) Each match in the Competition, each **Club** will receive a “Player Selection List” on which the numbers and full names of up to thirty (30) players in the squad are listed.
- b) The **Club** must indicate on the “Player Selection List” the eleven (11) players who will start the match and the other seven (7) players. The **Club Captain** must be identified on the “Player Selection List”
- c) The club can field three (3) foreign players at the same time.
- d) Both **Clubs** must hand their “Player Selection List” to the AFC Match Commissioner at least ninety (90) minutes before the kick-off of their match.
- e) If the “Player Selection List” is not completed and returned on time, the matter will be submitted to the AFC Disciplinary Committee.

38. Match Starting List

- a) Upon receipt of the “Player Selection List”, the AFC Match Commissioner will produce, through AFCAS, the Match Starting List.
- b) The Match Starting List must be signed by the Head Coaches and Team Managers of both Teams and returned to the AFC Match Commissioner whose signature will make the Match Starting List an official document.
- c) The AFC Match Commissioner will ask to see the official eligibility cards of the players whose names are listed on the Match Starting List sixty-five (65) minutes before kick-off. Only those players who are in possession of an official eligibility card are entitled to play in the matches.

- d) After the Match Starting List has been completed and signed by both Teams and returned to the AFC Match Commissioner, and if the match has not yet kicked-off, the following instructions apply:
 - i. If any of the eleven (11) players listed on the Match Starting List selected to start the match are not able to start the match for any reason, they may be replaced by any of the substitutes listed on the Match Starting List. Such replacements will reduce the quota of substitute players accordingly. During the match, three (3) players may still be replaced.
 - ii. If any of the substitutes listed on the Match Starting List are not able to be fielded for any reason, they may not be replaced, which means that the quota of substitute players will be reduced accordingly.

39. Appointment of Officials

- a) Each participating club must appoint a team manager who coordinates with AFC Match Commissioner regarding all match related matters. The appointed team manager of the Club must be registered as one of the eight (8) officials as indicated in Art. 42 and must represent the Club in all official activities with regards to the match.
- b) Each participating club must appoint a club media officer working in full time exclusive capacity forty-eight (48) hours prior to match day, on match day, and forty-eight (48) hours after match day. The appointed club media officer must be registered as one of the eight (8) officials as indicated in Art. 42.
- c) Both the appointed team manager and club media officer must attend the pre-competition workshop, the team managers' meeting, press-conference and other official function in the Competition. Failure to do so will result in the Club being fined US\$5,000.00 (Five Thousand US Dollars only).

40. Registration of Officials

- a) Depending on which round in the Preliminary Stage a team enters, for all match days in the Play-off, Group and Round of 16, each club participating shall submit to AFC Secretariat, via fax and courier, the AFC Official Registration Form for the Officials and the supporting documents in accordance with Art. 41 to 42 by 10 February 2009.

- b) For all match days in the Knock-out stage of Quarter-Finals, Semi-Finals and Final, each club entering the Competition shall submit to AFC Secretariat, via fax and courier, the AFC Official Registration Form for the Officials and the supporting documents in accordance with Art. 41 by 31 August 2009.
- c) If the AFC Secretariat does not receive the original copy of AFC Official Registration Form for Officials by the 31 August 2009, the Club will be considered to have registered the same officials as those in the Preliminary Stage.

41. Documentations for Registration of Officials

- a) For the registration of officials for the Competition, officials must be registered using the 'AFC Official Registration Form for Officials'.
- b) Documentations for the registration of Officials, but not limited to, as following ;
 - i. Official Registration form for Officials
 - ii. Passport-size colored photo (taken within 3 months prior to the submission of the registration)
 - iii. Copy of valid passport copy containing full name, passport number, date of birth, date of issue, date of expiry and nationality (group passport will not be accepted) (unless already previously submitted to AFC and available in AFCAS)
 - iv. Copy of National ID (unless already previously submitted to AFC and available in AFCAS)
 - v. Certificate / Qualifications based on his/her function
 - i) Team Manager: full time employment contract with the club
 - ii) Head coach and Assistant Coach: Individual's coaching certificate or coaching license (unless already previously submitted to AFC and available in AFCAS)
 - iii) Team Media Officer: Full time employment contract with the club, Diploma in the field of communications and / or previous experiences in the field of communications (unless already previously submitted to AFC and available in AFCAS)
 - iv) Doctor and Physiotherapist : Medical Qualification (unless already previously submitted to AFC and available in AFCAS)
 - v) Interpreter: Full time employment contract with the club

- c) AFC has a right to ask further documentations for the clarification of the eligibility of the officials other than documentations listed in the Art 41 b) above.

42. Principles for Registration of Officials

- a) The clubs can nominate maximum twelve (12) officials in the registration.
- b) The clubs shall nominate eight (8) officials below who will be entitled for access onto the Field of Play and Team Bench with 'TM 2' designation on the eligibility cards.
 - i. Team Manager
 - ii. Head Coach
 - iii. Assistant Coach 1
 - iv. Assistant Coach 2
 - v. Media Officer
 - vi. Doctor
 - vii. Physiotherapist (or sports trainer, physical trainer or any official with similar function)
 - viii. Interpreter
- c) Additionally, the clubs can nominate four (4) officials who will receive the access to the team's hotel, training ground, official area (except the field of play and team bench). Should the participating team has a Head of Delegation, he must be registered as one of these four (4) officials. Failure to do so will result in the Head of Delegation not receiving access to the team dressing room.
- d) Office bearers (President, Vice President, Treasurer, Members of the Board) of the Club and Member Associations are not eligible to be registered as a TM2 official.
- e) Notwithstanding Art. 42 b) above, if the club does not appoint any of the designated persons or if AFC do not approve of the persons nominated, the number of officials on the bench for the club will reduce proportionately.
- f) If a club does not have an interpreter, his position on the 'Official Delegation' (as TM2 official) can be replaced only by another technical official such as a coach, trainer, medical personal etc.
- g) Each column in the AFC Official Registration Form for the Officials shall be filled up with correct information.

- h) The AFC Secretariat shall carry out a check of the documents listed in Art. 41 b) above immediately after the closure of the registration window. Officials with missing documentations will not be eligible for registration. All eligible Officials will be issued with official eligibility cards authorized by the AFC Competitions Committee. Should the card have been misplaced, the Club shall be required to pay a USD 1,000 (One thousand US Dollars only) production fee for every card lost, to replace it.
- i) It is responsibility of the club to ensure that all original forms and supporting documents in accordance with Art. 41 are sent in good time and reach AFC Secretariat in Kuala Lumpur in Malaysia before the deadline set in Art. 40 a) and b). Proof of submission is not proof of receipt.
- j) Should the AFC Secretariat not receive the original copy of the AFC Official Registration Form with all required document in accordance with Art. 41, the club shall be automatically disqualified from the Competition and be considered to have withdrawn in accordance with Art 28 c).
- k) Team may replace any of its officials at any point of time provided all necessary documents have been submitted as per Art. 41. Further, the Eligibility Card of the replaced official must be returned to the AFC before the Eligibility Card of the new official can be produced. The new official is not considered part of the team's official delegation until he receives his Eligibility card.

Section 4: Logistics & Office Equipment

43. Visa Application

- a) Participating Clubs must apply for visas to all of the countries hosting their away matches not later than one (1) month after the conclusion of the Competition draw or not later than the deadline for preliminary player registration, whichever is later, and must pay their own visa application costs.
- b) If a Participating Club fails to secure a visa in time for their match as a result of non-compliance of Art. 43 a), the Participating Club will be considered to have withdrawn in accordance to Art. 28 c).
- c) The Hosting Club and/or its National Association must guarantee and ensure that visa will be granted to the AFC delegation, officials and players of the visiting club, sponsors, traveling fans and media without any discrimination of gender, race or nationality.
- d) The Hosting Club and/or its National Association should assist broadcasters visiting from overseas in providing them with any documents or approvals they need for visas, accreditations, temporarily importing television equipment and shooting in the host city.
- e) Provided Art. 43 a) has been fulfilled, failure to guarantee and ensure issuance of visa to the AFC delegation, officials and players of the visiting club will result in the Hosting club forfeiting the match. Victory and the resultant three (3) points will be awarded to the opposing team as well as the score of 3-0.

44. Taxes

- a) The Hosting Club and/or its National Association must cover all taxes and/or fees related to any importation and / or exportation of equipment, merchandise and/or goods to be used for the Competition.
- b) The Hosting Club and/or its National Association is required to cover the cost of any advertising taxes and/or fees or similar taxes at the stadia and/or within the Venue.

45. Arrival & Departure, Travel Arrangements and Accommodation

- a) Each Club taking part in the Competition shall arrive in the team hotel reserved for it in the Host Club's country at least two (2) days before their match in the Competition and leave the day after completion of its match, unless otherwise approved by AFC.
- b) All Clubs shall pay for their own airfares (international and domestic airfares) from the Club's home venue to the venue of the match and vice-versa.
- c) Participating Clubs are required to purchase published-fare air tickets (full fare air tickets) for its delegation to and from the Host Country to allow for potential changes in the departure dates.
- d) Tickets must be endorsable and date changes must be allowed with or without any penalties. AFC will not be responsible for any penalties incurred for date changes.
- e) Participating Clubs shall undertake not to play in any other commercially driven matches when traveling to and from the venue of the Competition.

46. Accommodation, Local Hospitality, Meals and Refreshments

- a) Only official hotels approved by AFC shall be used for accommodation.
- b) The Hosting Club must provide, at its own cost, the following to the visiting Club two (2) days before, on, and the day after the match:
 - i. Accommodation, in a five star hotel (A Four star hotel is acceptable if a five star hotel is not available in the venue.) approved by AFC, for the Team's Official Delegation as per Art. 29, not exceeding twenty-five (25) persons. [Nine (9) double rooms, seven (7) single rooms].
 - ii. One (1) empty room shall be set aside for each Team at the Team's hotel for the purposes of medical treatment or storage
 - iii. One (1) briefing room shall be set aside for each Team at the Team's hotel equipped with whiteboard, DVD player and TV.

- iv. Suitable meals three times a day in buffet style of sufficient quantity and an additional light meal on match days in a dedicated dining area for Team's Official Delegation as per Art. 29.
 - v. A minimum of three (3) litres of water per person per day for Team's Official Delegation as per Art. 29, ice and refreshments for the teams at the hotel.
 - vi. A minimum of three (3) litres of water per person per day for Team's Official Delegation as per Art. 29, ice and refreshments for the teams per training session and per match.
 - vii. Laundry but no dry cleaning or pressing for playing and training outfits (one (1) Jersey, one (1) short, and one (1) pair of socks.) plus a shirt and a pair of trousers daily for Team's Official Delegation as per Art. 29.
 - viii. Ensure that the visiting club's officials and players (Team's Official Delegation) are accompanied by officials of the Host Association during arrival and departure to facilitate transport, immigration, customs and checking-in matters.
 - ix. Liaison Officers proficient in English and the language of the participating Clubs.
- c) The Participating Club shall pay for incidental expenses incurred by its delegation members during the course of their stay in the country of the Hosting Club and for any costs incurred by additional members of the delegation other than those mentioned in these Regulations. The visiting club shall pay for any costs of extending their stay (beyond the dates stipulated in Art. 46 b) above).
- d) The Hosting Club must provide, at its own cost, the following to the referees, assistant referees, fourth official, the AFC Match Commissioner, the Referees Assessor and any other AFC Match Officials appointed by AFC for the Competition, from the moment they arrive at the Competition Venue until one (1) day after the Competition:

- i. Accommodation in a five star hotel (a four star hotel, if a five star hotel is not available in the venue) (different from the teams, unless otherwise approved by AFC)
 - ii. Suitable meals three times a day in buffet style of sufficient quantity and an additional light meal on match days
 - iii. A minimum of three (3) litres of water per person per day, ice and refreshments at the hotel and at the Stadium during the match.
 - iv. A minimum of three (3) litres of water per person per day, ice and refreshments during each of the training sessions of the referees.
 - v. Laundry, but no dry cleaning, or pressing, for one training outfit (one jersey, one shorts and one socks) plus a shirt and a pair of trousers daily for the Referee assessor, Referee, Assistant Referees, Fourth Official
 - vi. Reasonable laundry (including pressing) for not more than five (5) pieces of clothing daily and dry cleaning (including pressing) for one (1) jacket and one (1) pair of trousers/skirt once every two (2) days for all other AFC Match Officials
 - vii. Ensure that the AFC Match Commissioner, Referee assessor, the referees group and any other AFC Officials are accompanied by officials of the Hosting Club and its Member Association during arrival and departure to facilitate transport, immigration, customs and checking-in matters.
 - viii. Liaison Officers proficient in English
- e) The Hosting Club shall assist AFC's Commercial Affiliates to secure accommodation, on the same terms and conditions as are available to AFC, on reasonably sufficient quantity of hotel accommodation in first class hotels in the Venues, transportation services from the hotel accommodation and the centre of each Venue and, if applicable, air transportation to and between Venues.
- f) Failure to provide any of these provisions of Art. 46 b) & d) will result in the forfeiture of the Match Subsidies (if any) due to the Hosting club.

47. Local Land Transportation

- a) The Hosting Club must provide, at its own cost, the following to the visiting Clubs two (2) days before, on, and the day after the match:
 - i. One (1) bus and one (1) sedan car for training, matches, transfers to and from the airport of the Venue and official functions
 - ii. One (1) luggage truck must be provided during airport transfers and on match days.
- b) The Hosting Club and its Member Association must provide, at its own cost, the following to the referees, assistant referees, fourth official, the AFC Match Commissioner, the Referees Assessor and any other AFC Match Officials appointed by AFC for the Competition, from the moment they arrive at the Competition Venue until one (1) day after the Competition for the purposes of training, matches, airport transfers and official functions:
 - i. One (1) sedan car each for the AFC Match Commissioner
 - ii. One (1) sedan car for the Venue Manager
 - iii. One (1) van for the Referee Assessors, Referee, Assistant Referees and Fourth Official.
 - iv. Additional internal transportation must be provided if there are other AFC appointed Match Officials.
- c) Failure to provide any of these provisions of Art. 47 a) & b) will result in the forfeiture of the Match Subsidies (if any) due to the Hosting Club.

48. Tournament Secretariat, Facilities for AFC Delegation

- a) The Hosting Club must ensure that the following are provided, at its own cost, to the AFC Delegation upon their arrival to the Venue, until one (1) day after the match.
 - i. One (1) office at the official's hotel equipped with facilities as follows:
 - A) 1 central telephone unit with internal and external lines allowing calls to be transferred between offices

- B) One (1) IDD line for telephone and fax machine and its consumables such as but not limited to paper, toner and cartridges
 - C) One (1) desktops or laptop with the following specifications (minimum): Pentium 4, 512 MB RAM, connected to the Internet via ADSL/Cable, 15-inch monitor, Window 2000/XP Pro, Microsoft Office 2000 and above, Adobe Reader version 7.0. Operating languages for the software must be in English.
 - D) One (1) printer and its consumables such as but not limited to paper, toner and cartridges.
 - E) One (1) photocopying machine and its consumables such as but not limited to paper, toner and cartridges
 - F) One (1) staff proficient in English and use of computers
 - G) Broadband internet connections (ADSL/Cable) for all offices
 - ii. One (1) meeting room, equipped with whiteboard and a LCD projector, at the team's hotel to accommodate at least twenty (20) persons, one day prior to the Competition for purposes of the Team Manager's Meeting.
 - iii. No less than five (5) activated mobile phone sim card/line, with value.
 - iv. At least a minimum of six (6) walkie-talkie at the Stadium on Match day
 - v. At least two (2) substitution boards at the Stadium on Match day
 - vi. One (1) television with live feed of the match to be located at the seating area of the AFC Match Commissioner
 - vii. One (1) secure storage room at all times at the Stadium for Competition equipment and supplies
- b) Failure to provide any of the provisions of **Articles 48 a)** will result in the forfeiture of the match subsidies (If any) due to the Hosting club.

49. Audio/Video Recording of the Matches

- a) The Hosting Club shall provide, at its own cost, Digital Video Disc/s (DVD) of each match of the Competition played in its territory to the AFC Match Commissioner immediately after the Match.
- b) Failure provide the provisions of Articles 49 a) will result in the forfeiture of the match subsidies (If any) due to the Hosting club.

Section 6: Media

50. General

- a) The Hosting Association is responsible to ensure all media requirements and facilities, as stated in the AFC Stadia Regulations, are met at its own cost.
- b) The Participating clubs and Hosting Association must link the competition website (www.the-afc.com) to its own website respectively upon qualification for or entry to the Competition.

51. Media Accreditation

- a) The Hosting Club must implement a media accreditation programme as instructed by AFC to control and manage access to the Stadiums.
- b) Where required, the WSG will be responsible for the production of media bibs for photographers, TV and ENG crews under supervision by AFC. The Club will be responsible for their distribution before and collection after the match.
- c) All reasonable security measures must be put in place, at the cost of the Hosting Club, to protect the commentary area, camera positions and the equipment of the broadcasters.

52. Media Access areas

- a) No representatives of the written press or radio journalists are allowed on the field of play or the area between the boundaries of the field and the spectators.
- b) Only those accredited photographers, TV cameramen of the host broadcaster and the main visiting broadcaster and the personnel required to operate the electronic television cameras of the host broadcaster are allowed in the area between the boundaries of the field of play and the spectators, where they will carry out their work in the specific locations assigned to them.
- c) The team dressing-rooms are strictly off limits to representatives of the media before, during and after the match.
- d) The Hosting Association shall ensure that AFC, the Host Broadcaster and all Broadcast Affiliates have free access to the Stadia from three days

prior to match day until one day after the match, in order to access the technical issues of each and to assemble and construct the relevant infrastructure required for the execution of the Broadcast Rights.

- e) The Hosting Association is responsible for ensuring that AFC's Broadcast Rights are protected and that no broadcaster and/or video or ENG camera crews are allowed access to the stadium without the prior written permission of AFC.

53. Open training session

- a) During the two (2) days preceding the match, the Official Training Sessions must be opened to the media. Should the clubs wish to close its Official Training Session to the media, it shall open for at least the first fifteen (15) minutes of the training. If the Official Training is to be held at the match stadium, the areas accessible by the media shall be the same areas available to them on match day, and the access to such areas must be security controlled.

54. Press Conferences

- a) The Hosting Club must organize a pre-match press conference to be conducted under supervision of Local Media Officer one day prior to each match of the Competition. A qualified interpreter at the pre-match press conference shall be provided by the Hosting Club.
- b) The Head Coaches of participating Clubs and one (1) starting player from each Club are obliged to attend and participate in a pre-match press conference to be held at least one day before the match. The participating Club Media Officer must ensure the attendance of the Head Coach and one starting player.
- c) A post-match conference must be conducted at the stadium and commence no later than 15 minutes after the final whistle. Both Clubs are obliged to make their Head Coach available and an interpreter for the visiting club must provided by the Hosting Club.
- d) Non-compliance with Art. a), b) and c) will result in disciplinary action which may include a fine of a minimum of US \$1,000 and the Head Coach may be subject to a ban from the dressing room and/or the substitutes' bench.

55. Mixed Zone

- a) After the match, a mixed zone must be set-up by the Hosting Club for the media. The Mixed Zone will be in operation fifteen minutes after the end of a game.
- b) Team officials and coaching staff of the Hosting/Visiting club shall be required to enter the Mixed Zone on their way to from the team dressing room to the club team bus at the end of the match. Speaking to the media in the mixed zone is not compulsory. However, it is strongly advised that players and coaches give brief interviews to the media, who will be separated from the coaches and players by barriers. Players and Officials who do not fulfill this Article will be subject to disciplinary action including fines.

56. Interviews

- a) If requested by AFC and/or WSG, both clubs should have their Head Coach and one player available for the day before each match and/or the match day for an interview of up to ten (10) minutes, to be recorded by the main TV rights-holding broadcaster (or local TV rights-holding broadcaster) in the territory of the relevant club, for the purpose of continental news-exchange distribution to all Competition Right holders.
- b) Players and officials of participating clubs are not permitted to give interviews during the match on the field of play or in its immediate vicinity. However, the AFC Media Officer or LOC Media Officer, may designate an area between the substitutes' benches and dressing rooms in which "flash" interviews for the host television broadcaster only, including the visiting TV rights-holding broadcaster if there is, can take place at the end of the match. Players and officials violating this Article will be subject to disciplinary measures.
- c) For the 'flash' interviews, the Head Coach and at least one (1) key player from both participating clubs must be available for at least the host broadcaster and the visiting TV rights-holding broadcaster. All players and the Head Coach of each group must be briefed by their respective Team Media Officer prior to the match so they are aware of their responsibilities in this regard.
- d) In the final minutes of the game, the Host Broadcaster or other broadcaster representatives shall inform the Local Media Officer of the players who are selected for the flash interview.

- e) All interview locations should be assigned by the Local Media Officer and the Hosting Club.

Section 7: Equipment / Kit

57. AFC Equipment Regulations

- a) The Participating Clubs must comply with the AFC Equipment Regulations governing the AFC Competitions.
- b) The AFC Equipment Regulations are in force from the time the Team's Official Delegation arrive at a Controlled Access Area until the time the Team's Official Delegation depart from such areas.

58. Kit Approval Procedure

- a) The Equipment Regulations require the Participating Club to submit to AFC, for AFC's approval, one sample of all kit which the AFC Equipment Regulations cover. At the same time, the participating Club shall submit also to AFC, for AFC's approval, one sample of all other apparel to be worn by their Team's Official Delegation within the Controlled Access Areas during the Competition Period, namely all clothing, apparel and equipment worn underneath, or in replacement of, official team kit, including any "celebratory" apparel.
- b) The Participating Club shall submit to the AFC Secretariat the above-mentioned equipment by latest twelve (12) weeks prior to the start of the Competition. If any equipment submitted infringes any of the AFC Equipment Regulations and/or these Regulations, AFC will require the Participating Teams to take corrective action and resubmit to AFC the corrected equipment. In addition, Participating Clubs may be required to present samples at the Club workshop.
- c) All items to be used by a Participating Club within the Controlled Access Areas during the Competition period shall be subjected to AFC's approval in accordance with the procedure set forth by AFC.
- d) The AFC Match Commissioner, the AFC Venue Manager, and/or the AFC Marketing Manager has/have the right and duty to check kit items at the match venue and are entitled to send such items to the AFC Headquarters for further control after the match.

59. Responsibility

- a) AFC takes final decisions regarding the approval of kits and other items mentioned in the AFC Equipment Regulations. AFC declines all responsibility and authority in the event of conflicts arising from

contract between a club and its sponsor(s) on account of the advertising provisions of the AFC Equipment Regulations. The clubs agree to hold AFC harmless from any and all damages which may arise from decisions regarding kits.

SECTION 8: TICKETING

60. Policy

- a) Ticketing, including production, distribution and sales, shall be the responsibility of the Club. AFC and/or AFC's Marketing Partner will provide a ticket design to the Club. The Club shall ensure that printed tickets include, where available, seat numbering and/or serial numbering. All tickets shall incorporate only those logos and marks of the Competition and the official Commercial Affiliates and Broadcast Affiliates as submitted to the Club as part of the ticket design.
- b) Ticketing policy for the Final match of the Competition will be determined by AFC Competitions Committee.

61. Terms and Conditions

- a) The AFC Secretariat and the AFC Competitions Committee will, in collaboration with the Participating Clubs, issue special ticketing terms and conditions which will apply to all ticket holders, including but not limited to Member associations, and which must be communicated to all relevant parties.

62. Complimentary Tickets

- a) The Hosting Club shall set aside ten (10) complimentary tickets for the visiting Club.
- b) The Hosting Association will provide AFC with the following complimentary ticket allocation at least 1 month prior to the Competition:
 - i. 50% of the Tribune d'Honneur for each match
 - ii. 60 VIP for each match or match day
 - iii. 490 1st Best Category Non-VIP tickets for each match or match day
 - iv. 500 2nd Best Category Non-VIP tickets for each match or match day
 - v. Up to 250 Complimentary Tickets to any official functions and special hospitality facilities at the Stadia subject to the capacity of each respective function.

Note:

- "Best Category" means the best tickets available in the best category seats entitling the ticket holder to sit in the sector immediately adjacent to the VIP area whether in or directly opposite Area to the main stand.
 - All tickets shall be provided in a continuous blocks of tickets.
 - The Hosting Club and/or its National Association shall ensure that AFC can purchase tickets at face value and on an individual Match-by-Match basis, for itself and for the Commercial Affiliates.
- c) For the Final match of the Competition, AFC is entitled to request for additional tickets and will be communicated to the Hosting Club and/or its National Association when required.

63. Purchasable Tickets

- a) The Hosting Club and its National Association must make at least 8% of the net saleable capacity of their Stadium available exclusively to supporters of the visiting Clubs, for the matches they feature in, in a segregated, safe area to be determined by the Hosting Club and its National Association. The visiting Clubs must declare the number of seats required (up to 8% of the net saleable capacity) by two weeks before the match day. The visiting Club is responsible for the cost of all seats declared.
- b) Participating Clubs shall be entitled to purchase an agreed number of tickets, i.e. up to 200 top or second-category tickets, or a combination thereof, for their VIPs, supporters, sponsors, etc. The price of tickets for supporters of the Clubs may not exceed the price of tickets of a comparable quality that are sold to supporters of the hosting Club.
- c) The Hosting Clubs will provide AFC's Marketing Partner with the opportunity to buy tickets at face value and on an individual Match-by-Match basis, for itself and for the Commercial Affiliates. The number of tickets required shall be communicated to the Hosting Club at least two (2) weeks before the match concerned.

Section 9: Medical & Doping Control

64. Medical Facilities and Treatment

- a) Participating Clubs must pay for any and all costs of hospitalization, surgical operation and specialized investigative procedures for all members of its delegation.
- b) The Hosting Club and its National Association must provide, at its own cost, the following to the visiting Clubs from two (2) days before the match day until one (1) day after the Match and to the AFC Delegation from the moment they arrive to the Venue until one (1) day after the Match:
 - i. Medical treatment, including hospital facilities for injuries and emergencies related to the match, sustained/occurring during their stay in the host country. The treatment must cover basic/primary medical care as listed below:
 - Outpatient treatment
 - Minor surgeries (suturing, etc.)
 - Radiological Investigation
 - Emergency Treatment
- c) Failure to provide any of these provisions of Art. 64 a) & b) will result in the forfeiture of the Match Subsidies (if any) due to the Hosting club.

65. Medical Personnel

- a) The Hosting club and its National Association must provide, at its own cost, the following medical personnel on match day at the Stadium where the match is organized:
 - i. On-Pitch Medical Services:
 - On pitch Medical Officer trained in Emergency Medicine
 - 8 trained stretcher bearers in good physical condition
 - two Ambulances equipped with emergency kits
 - ii. Doping control personnel:
 - One Doping Assistant (Medical Officer)
 - Four (4) Doping Stewards
 - One Security Officer

66. Doping Control

- a) Every Participating Clubs and their National Associations shall pledge to comply with the Doping Control Regulations for the Competition by signing the Declaration of Agreement sent to the Participating Clubs and their Member Associations with the entry form.
- b) The AFC Competitions Committee reserves the right to carry out:
 - i. Random doping tests during the Competition;
 - ii. Doping tests at all matches and training sessions and at any time prior to and during the entire Competition;
 - iii. Urine tests or urine and blood tests
- c) Only the AFC Competitions Committee may decide at which laboratories (among those accredited by the World Ant-Doping Agency - WADA) and by whom the analyses shall be carried out.
- d) Every player in a team, including substitutes and injured players sitting on the bench, is liable to undergo doping tests.
- e) In the event of an anti-doping rule violation the matter shall be referred to the AFC Disciplinary Committee in accordance with the AFC Disciplinary Code.
- f) Any official who encourages or incites a player, either intentionally or through negligence, to commit an anti-doping rule violation shall be referred to the AFC Disciplinary Committee in accordance with the AFC Disciplinary Code.
- g) The current version of the Doping Control Regulations for AFC Competitions and out of Competition, and the AFC Disciplinary Code apply to this Competition.

SECTION 10: DISCIPLINARY LAWS AND PROCEDURES

67. Disciplinary measures and appeals

- a) Disciplinary measures and appeals are dealt with in compliance with the current AFC Statutes, AFC Disciplinary Code, AFC Code of Ethics and the relevant AFC circular(s).
- b) The AFC Secretariat may initiate investigations should it suspect and / or is aware of any violations of current AFC Statutes, AFC Disciplinary Code, AFC Code of Ethics and the relevant AFC Circular(s).
- c) The AFC Disciplinary Committee may impose the disciplinary measures for any violations of current AFC Statutes, AFC Disciplinary Code, AFC Code of Ethics and the relevant AFC Circular(s).

68. Players and Officials cautioned or dismissed from the field of play

- a) A player who receives two (2) cautions (yellow cards) during a stage of the Competition shall automatically be suspended from the match following the match in which he received the second caution. If the player receives the second caution during the Team's last match in the Competitions, the suspension will be carried forward as indicated in the AFC Disciplinary Code.
- b) Single (1) yellow cards received in the preliminary stage of the Competition in accordance with Art. 21 a) will not be carried forward to the Knock-out stage of the Competition.
- c) A player and/or official who received a red card during the Competition shall automatically be suspended from the match following the match in which he received the red card. If the player and/or official received the red card in his Club's last match in the Competition, the suspension for the red card the suspension will be carried forward as indicated in the AFC Disciplinary Code.
- d) Any player or official who receives a red card during the Competition shall remain suspended from further play until his/her case has been decided by the AFC Disciplinary Committee.
- e) A suspended player and official shall not be allowed on the substitution bench and technical area.

- f) Each Club and its National Association shall bear the responsibility of monitoring the cautions and/or suspensions received by its players and officials and to ensure that all players and officials registered and/or fielded during the competition are eligible to play.

69. Violence by players and/or officials

- a) Any player or official reported for indiscipline or violent conduct anywhere in the stadium including but not limited to the field of play, the changing rooms, at the training sites and in the hotels by the referee or the Match Commissioner shall be dealt with by the AFC Disciplinary Committee in accordance with these Regulations, the AFC Statutes, Disciplinary Code and Code of Ethics.

70. Protest

- a) Subject to the following provisions, protests are objections of any kind to occurrences that have a direct effect on matches organized in the Competition (state and marking of the pitch, accessory, match equipment, eligibility of players, stadium installations, footballs, etc.) and any matters related to breach of these Regulations.
- b) Unless otherwise stipulated in this article, protests shall first be submitted in writing to the AFC Match Commissioner within two (2) hours of the match by the club concerned and followed up immediately with a full written report, including a copy of the original protest, to be sent in writing to the AFC General Secretariat accompanied by a fee of US\$ 500 (US dollars five hundred only). The plaintiff Club and its Member Association shall confirm the protest by registered letter, to be sent to the AFC Secretariat no later than two (2) days after the match in question.
- c) Protests against any incidents that occur during the course of a match shall be made to the referee by the team captain immediately after the disputed incident and before play has been resumed. The protests shall be confirmed in writing to the AFC Match Commissioner by the head of the team delegation no later than two (2) hours after the match.
- d) No protests may be made against the referee's decisions regarding facts connected with play, such decisions being final.
- e) If an unfounded or irresponsible protest is lodged, the Disciplinary Committee may impose a fine and the protest fee of US\$ 500 (US dollars five hundred only) will be forfeited.

- f) Once the final match of the Competition has ended, any protests described in this article shall be disregarded.

71. Arbitration

- a) Pursuant to AFC Statutes, Clubs and their Member Associations, officials or players are forbidden from taking disputes to a civil court but may only submit them to the appropriate body of AFC in accordance with the applicable procedure.
- b) Any disputes involving AFC, Club, Member Associations, confederations, leagues, clubs, players, officials and licensed agents in connection with the Competition shall be promptly settled by negotiation at first instance.
- c) If after exhausting all previous stages of appeal available and no solution can be reached, or a formal appeal is envisaged, the issue shall be exclusively resolved under the auspices of the arbitration chamber set forth in the AFC Statutes, namely Football Chamber of the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) with headquarters in Lausanne. The Code of Sports-related Arbitration of the CAS and all the relevant CAS Regulations shall apply. The language of arbitration is English.

SECTION 11: ADMINISTRATION

72. Financial Provisions

- a) The Participating Clubs shall settle costs among themselves as indicated in these Regulations.
- b) AFC shall pay for the following:
 - i. International travel costs (by air: domestic and continental in economy class; rail/sleeper in first class) and the daily allowances, as fixed by AFC, for referees, assistant referees, fourth officials, match commissioner, referee assessor and other AFC delegation
 - ii. doping control expenses;
 - iii. the costs of insurance taken out by AFC to cover its own risks, which may include any of the following:
 - Third-party liability insurance
 - Insurance against liability for pecuniary loss
 - Accident insurance
 - Legal expenses insurance
 - Travel luggage insurance
 - Spectator insurance
 - Electronic equipment insurance
 - Robbery insurance
 - Fidelity insurance
 - Cup insurance
 - Event cancellation insurance
 - Medical Insurance
- c) Each Club retains its receipts from the sale of match tickets, except for the Final match of the Competition.

73. Subsidy

- a) For every away match in the Group Stage of the Competition, each club will receive a travel subsidy of US\$20,000. The subsidies are paid in three (3) installments after match days 2, 4, and 6, provided the club has met its obligations under the relevant articles of these regulations.
- b) The travel subsidy for the Clubs will be sent directly to their respective participating Member Associations unless otherwise directed by the Member Associations concerned.

74. Awards

- a) For the Competition, the following Player Awards and Team Award will be presented:
 - i. The Abdullah Al Dabal Most Valuable Player (MVP) of the Competition Award
 - ii. Top Goal Scorer for the AFC Cup 2009
 - iii. AFC Fair Play Award for the AFC Cup 2009
 - iv. Commemorative medals for Referees
- b) The Abdullah Al Dabal MVP of the Competition is given to the player who have a major influence on the individual matches, and the Competition overall.
- c) The Top Goal Scorer award is given to a player who has scored the most number of goals in the Competition. This is calculated based on the number of goals scored by an individual player from the group stage to the final.
- d) The AFC Fair Play Award is calculated is awarded to the team who has collected the most Fair Play points from the group stage to the final.
- e) There are no official awards other than those listed above, unless otherwise decided by the AFC Competitions Committee.

75. Trophy and Medals

- a) A challenge trophy donated by AFC is presented to the winner of the Competition for six (6) months. AFC may request for the return of the trophy at an earlier date. The trophy is presented at the venue of the Final match. AFC is responsible for engraving the trophy with the name of the winning Club. The trophy will remain the property of AFC. The champion Club will be awarded a scaled-down replica of the trophy by AFC as its permanent possession.
- b) The champion Club shall be responsible for the loss, or any damage to the trophy and shall return it in perfect condition when requested to do so by AFC. The AFC will retain a proportion of the prize money which may be forfeited, in whole or in part, to cover the cost of reparation work required when the trophy is returned.

- c) The champion Club may have a copy of the trophy made, provided the copy is clearly marked as a replica and does not exceed 4/5 (four fifths) of the size of the original).
- d) If for any reason, the competition should cease to be held, the trophy shall be returned to the AFC Secretariat.
- e) AFC will also be responsible for awarding the following medals:
 - i. Thirty-seven (37) gold medals to the champion Club;
 - ii. Thirty-nine (37) silver medals to the runner-up Club;
- f) Additional medals may not be produced;

76. Prize Money, Performance Bonus & Participation Fees

- a) AFC will pay the following in prize money:
 - i. Champion: US\$ 350,000 (US Dollars Three Hundred Fifty Thousand Only)
 - ii. Runner-up: US\$ 250,000 (US Dollars Two Hundred Fifty Thousand Only)
- b) The prize money for the Clubs will be sent directly to their respective participating Member Associations unless otherwise directed by the Member Associations concerned.

77. Prize Presentation Ceremony

- a) A prize presentation ceremony, managed and controlled by AFC and coordinated with its partners including the Hosting Club, its National Association and AFC's Marketing Partner, will be held immediately after the Final match of the Competition to award the Trophy and Medals as stipulated in Art. 74.
- b) The teams and individuals that qualify to receive the Awards, Trophy and Medals are required to attend the prize presentation ceremony. Clubs may be represented by all their registered members (18 players and 7 officials) for the final match awarding ceremony. Other Club Members, Officials, Players, or Staff cannot participate in the prize presentation.

78. Protocol

- a) The AFC Protocol Guidelines for AFC Champions League will apply for all the matches in the Competition.

79. Special Provisions

- a) Any disputes arising from the application of these Regulations shall be settled by the jurisdiction of AFC and, if subsequently necessary and AFC's decision is not final, by the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS, Avenue de L'Elysse 28, 1006 Lausanne) in Switzerland.
- b) The AFC Competitions Committee shall, in conjunction with the Hosting Association, issue any instructions necessitated by special circumstances which might arise in the country hosting matches of the Competition. These instructions shall form an integral part of these Regulations.

80. Intellectual Property Rights

- a) AFC is the exclusive owner of all intellectual property rights of the Competition, including any current or future rights of AFC's name, logos, brands, medals and trophies. Any use of the aforementioned rights requires the prior written consent of AFC, and must always conform to AFC's instructions and guidelines on correct usage.

81. Matters not provided for

- a) Matters not provided for in these Regulations and cases of force majeure shall be decided by the AFC Competitions Committee, whose decisions are final.

82. Ratification

- a) These regulations were ratified by the AFC Executive Committee in November 26, 2008 and came into force immediately.

For the AFC Executive Committee
President:
Mohamed Bin Hammam
Kuala Lumpur, November 26 2008

General Secretary:
Dato' Sri Paul Mony Samuel

APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1: AFC CALENDAR OF MEN'S FOOTBALL

Please download from <http://www.the-afc.com/eng/events/index.jsp.html>

APPENDIX 2: Determining the Ranking in a group using Fair Play criteria

As provided for in Art. 22 g) ii. G) of this Competition Regulation, the “Fewer score calculated according to the number of yellow and red cards received in the group matches” will be calculated as follows:

Each team will receive points for receiving red and yellow cards as indicated below:

- i. Each yellow card (1 point)
- ii. Each red card as a consequence of two yellow cards (3 points)
- iii. Each direct red card (3 points)
- iv. Each yellow card followed by a direct red card (4 points)

The team receiving the least number of points will be ranked the highest.

APPENDIX 3: Registration of Naturalized Players: Documents to be provided to AFC

Documents to be submitted for registration of naturalized player who has **NOT YET** participated in a match (either in full or in part) in an official competition of any category or any type of football.

No.	Documents	Attached (please tick)
1.	Registration form for naturalized player, including passport photo	
2.	Letter from the Member Association of the player's previous nationality stating that the player concerned has never played (either in full or in part) for any representative teams of the Member Association in an official competition of any category or any type of football.	
3.	Letter from the player himself stating he has never played for any representative teams of any Member Association (either in full or in part) in an official competition of any category or any type of football.	
4.	Clear copy of player's passport	
5.	Clear copy of player's national ID card	
6.	Must provide either one of the following evidence:	
a)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Birth certificate or passport of father/mother of the player showing he/she was born on the territory of the relevant Association ... AND 	
OR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Documents proving that the father/mother is indeed the biological father/mother of the player ... 	
	OR	
b)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Birth certificate or passport of grandfather/ grandmother showing he/she was born on the territory of the relevant Association ... AND 	
OR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Documents proving that the grandfather/ grandmother is indeed the biological grandfather/grandmother of the player 	
	OR	
c)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Letter from the relevant ministry that the player has lived continuously on the territory of the relevant Association for at least five (5) years after the age of 18 years old. 	

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