

REGULATIONS

FIFA Beach Soccer World Cup
Portugal 2015



FIFA[®]

Fédération Internationale de Football Association

President:	Joseph S. Blatter
Secretary General:	Jérôme Valcke
Address:	FIFA FIFA-Strasse 20 P.O. Box 8044 Zurich Switzerland
Telephone:	+41 (0)43 222 7777
Fax:	+41 (0)43 222 7878
Internet:	FIFA.com

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Address: FIFA-Strasse 20
P.O. Box
8044 Zurich
Switzerland
Telephone: +41 (0)43 222 7777
Fax: +41 (0)43 222 7878
Internet: FIFA.com

2. FIFA Beach Soccer Committee

Chairman: Marco Polo Del Nero
Deputy chairman: Worawi Makudi
Address: FIFA-Strasse 20
P.O. Box
8044 Zurich
Switzerland

3. FIFA Beach Soccer, S.L.

Chairman: Jérôme Valcke
Address: Calle Marc Mir, 3
08770 Sant Sadurní d'Anoia
Barcelona, Spain
Telephone: +34 (0)93 819 1890
Fax: +34 (0)93 891 2085

4. Organising Association: Portuguese Football Association (FPF)

President: Fernando Gomes
General Secretary: Tiago Craveiro
Address: Rua Alexandre Herculano, No. 58
Apartado postal 24013
1250-012 Lisbon
Portugal
Telephone: +351 21/325 2700
Fax: +351 21/325 2780
Internet: www.fpf.pt

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1 FIFA Beach Soccer World Cup

- 1.**
The FIFA Beach Soccer World Cup (“World Cup”) is a FIFA competition embodied in the FIFA Statutes.
- 2.**
The World Cup takes place every two years. As a general rule, every association affiliated to FIFA may participate in the World Cup.
- 3.**
Participation in the World Cup is free of charge.
- 4.**
The World Cup consists of a preliminary competition and a final competition.
- 5.**
Any rights that are not ceded by these Regulations to FIFA Beach Soccer S.L., the Organising Association or any Participating Member Association or to a confederation shall remain with FIFA.
- 6.**
The Regulations for the FIFA Beach Soccer World Cup Portugal 2015 (“Regulations”) regulate the rights, duties and responsibilities of all associations taking part in the FIFA Beach Soccer World Cup Portugal 2015 and of the Organising Association by forming an integral part of the Hosting Agreement (“HA”). The Regulations and all guidelines and circulars issued by FIFA are binding for all parties participating and involved in the preparation, organisation and hosting of the FIFA Beach Soccer World Cup Portugal 2015.
- 7.**
The FIFA Statutes and all FIFA regulations in force shall apply. Any reference in these Regulations to the FIFA Statutes and regulations refers to the Statutes and regulations valid at the time of application.

2 Preliminary competition

1.

The organisation of the preliminary competition in the applicable form is assigned to the confederations in accordance with the FIFA Statutes in their applicable form. The confederations are required to draw up regulations for the preliminary competition with the assistance of FIFA Beach Soccer, S.L. and to submit them to the FIFA general secretariat for approval before the start of the preliminary competition.

2.

On entering the preliminary competition, all associations automatically undertake to:

- a) observe these regulations;
- b) accept that all administrative, disciplinary and refereeing matters related to the preliminary competition shall be dealt with by the respective confederation in compliance with the regulations submitted. FIFA will only intervene in matters involving associations not affiliated to a confederation if a confederation requests FIFA's assistance or in any cases specifically provided for in the FIFA Disciplinary Code;
- c) observe the principles of fair play.

3 FIFA Beach Soccer Committee

1.

The FIFA Beach Soccer Committee, appointed by the FIFA Executive Committee, is the organising committee for the FIFA Beach Soccer World Cup Portugal 2015 (the "FIFA Organising Committee") and is responsible for organising the final competition in accordance with the FIFA Statutes.

2.

The FIFA Organising Committee may, if necessary, appoint a bureau and/or a sub-committee to deal with emergencies. Any decision taken by the bureau or sub-committee shall come into effect immediately but shall be subject to confirmation by the plenary committee at its next meeting.

3.

The responsibilities of the FIFA Organising Committee include, but are not limited to:

- a) supervising general preparations and deciding on the competition format, the draw and the formation of groups;
- b) approving the dates and venue of the matches and determining kick-off times;
- c) approving the choice of stadium and training sites in accordance with the HA and after consultation with the Organising Association;
- d) appointing Match Commissioners;
- e) deciding cases of abandoned matches (cf. Law 7 of the Beach Soccer Laws of the Game) and, if applicable, reporting cases to the FIFA Disciplinary Committee for deliberation;
- f) approving the official football and the stipulated technical material;
- g) acknowledging the choice of WADA-accredited laboratories that will carry out the doping analyses as proposed by the FIFA Anti-Doping Unit;
- h) reporting cases in relation to art. 7 of these Regulations to the FIFA Disciplinary Committee for deliberation;
- i) judging protests and taking appropriate steps to verify their admissibility, with the exception of protests concerning the eligibility of players, which are dealt with by the FIFA Disciplinary Committee (cf. art. 11 par. 3 and art. 15 par. 3 of the Regulations);
- j) replacing associations that have withdrawn from the World Cup;
- k) deciding cases of Participating Member Associations failing to adhere to the time limits and/or the formal requirements for submitting the necessary documents;
- l) deciding on the rescheduling of matches due to extraordinary circumstances;

- m) settling cases of force majeure;
- n) dealing with any other aspect of the World Cup that is not the responsibility of any other body under the terms of these Regulations or the FIFA Statutes.

4.

The decisions taken by the FIFA Organising Committee and/or its bureau/sub-committee are final and binding and not subject to appeal.

4 FIFA Beach Soccer, S.L.

1.

The FIFA Organising Committee has assigned FIFA Beach Soccer, S.L. ("FBSSL") as its official representative to assist and support the Portuguese Football Association in the organisation and delivery of the final competition.

2.

FBSSL shall be subject to the control of FIFA. All FIFA decisions are final.

5 Organising Association

1.

The FIFA Executive Committee has appointed the Portuguese Football Association (the "Organising Association") as the host of the final competition of the FIFA Beach Soccer World Cup 2015.

2.

The Organising Association is responsible for organising, hosting and staging the final competition. It shall set up a Local Organising Committee ("LOC") in accordance with the HA, a special contract regulating the working relationship between FIFA and the Organising Association. The Organising Association and the LOC shall be subject to the control of FIFA. All FIFA decisions are final.

3.

The obligations and responsibilities of the Organising Association with respect to the final competition are stipulated in the HA. They include but shall not be limited to:

- a) ensuring that safety and order is maintained, particularly in and around the stadium, the training sites, hotels and other venues of the World Cup. It shall take adequate measures, including a sufficient number of ground staff and security stewards, to guarantee safety and to prevent and avoid outbreaks of violence;
- b) concluding liability insurance against possible spectator accidents or deaths;
- c) concluding insurance policies in consultation with FIFA to cover all risks relating to the final competition's organisation, in particular, adequate and broad liability insurance in respect of the stadium, local organisation, members of the Organising Association and the LOC, employees, volunteers and any other persons involved in the organisation of the final competition, with the exception of the Delegation Members (cf. art. 6 par. 2g) of the Regulations);

4.

The Organising Association shall discharge FIFA from all responsibility and relinquish any claim against FIFA and the members of its delegation for any damages resulting from any act or omission relating to the organisation and course of the World Cup.

5.

The Organising Association shall ensure that any decision taken by the FIFA Organising Committee relating to its duties and responsibilities is implemented immediately.

6 Participating Member Associations

1.

The associations that qualify for the final competition (the “Participating Member Associations”) agree to comply with and ensure that every Delegation Member (players, coaches, managers, officials, media officers, representatives and guests of a Participating Member Association) complies with these Regulations, the Beach Soccer Laws of the Game, the FIFA Statutes and FIFA’s regulations, in particular the Media Guidelines, the FIFA Media and Marketing Regulations, the FIFA Disciplinary Code, the FIFA Anti-Doping Regulations, the FIFA Code of Ethics and the FIFA Equipment Regulations, as well as with any other FIFA circular letters, regulations, guidelines, directives and/or decisions.

2.

On entering the final competition, the Participating Member Associations automatically undertake to:

- a) comply with the maximum number of players and officials per official delegation as defined in the Technical Rules for the Final Competition (cf. art. 26 par. 6 of the Regulations);
- b) observe these Regulations and ensure that their Delegation Members, in particular but not only its players, also observe these Regulations and the principles of fair play;
- c) accept and obey all decisions taken by the bodies and officials of FIFA and FBSSL under the terms of these Regulations;
- d) participate in all matches of the final competition in which their team is scheduled to take part;
- e) accept all of the arrangements relating to the final competition made by the Organising Association in agreement with FIFA;
- f) accept the usage by FIFA and/or the issue of a sub-licence by FIFA to third parties, as well as the recording and broadcast of the images, names and records of all Delegation Members that may appear in connection with the final competition;

- g) ensure the provision of adequate insurance to cover their Delegation Members and any other persons carrying out duties on their behalf against all risks, including but not limited to injury, accident, disease and travel in consideration of the relevant FIFA rules or regulations (if applicable) (cf. in particular Annexe 1, art. 2 par. 3 of the Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players).

3.

In addition, each Participating Member Association shall be responsible for:

- a) the conduct of its Delegation Members and of any other persons carrying out duties on its behalf throughout the final competition and for the entire duration of their stay in the host country;
- b) paying for incidental costs and expenses incurred by its Delegation Members and any other persons carrying out duties on its behalf during the course of their stay in the host country;
- c) paying for any costs of extending the stay of any Delegation Member or any other persons carrying out duties on its behalf;
- d) applying for visas in good time from the nearest consulate or embassy of the host country, if necessary;
- e) attending all media conferences and any other official media activities organised by FIFA in accordance with FIFA's instructions.

4.

All Participating Member Associations shall confirm their participation by submitting the originals of the official entry form and any other required documentation as communicated by FIFA via the corresponding circular(s), duly signed, to the FIFA general secretariat by the deadline(s) set by FIFA. The timely submission to the FIFA general secretariat of any such documents is of the essence. The deadline shall be deemed as having been met if the relevant documents reach FIFA by the specified deadline. If a Participating Member Association fails to adhere to the time limits and/or fails to meet the formal requirements for submitting the necessary documents, the FIFA Organising Committee shall pass a decision.

5.

All Participating Member Associations shall indemnify, defend and hold FIFA, the Organising Association, the LOC, and all of their officers, directors, employees, representatives, agents, and all other auxiliary persons free and harmless against any and all liabilities, obligations, losses, damages, penalties, claims, actions, fines and expenses (including reasonable legal expenses) of whatsoever kind or nature resulting from, arising out of, or attributable to, any non-compliance with these Regulations by the Participating Member Associations, their Delegation Members, their affiliates and any third parties contracted to the Participating Member Associations.

7**Withdrawal, unplayed matches and abandoned matches****1.**

All Participating Member Associations undertake to play all of their matches until eliminated from the World Cup.

2.

Any Participating Member Association that withdraws from the World Cup no later than 30 days before the first match of the final competition shall be fined at least CHF 15,000 by the FIFA Disciplinary Committee. Any Participating Member Association that withdraws from the World Cup fewer than 30 days before the first match of the final competition shall be fined at least CHF 20,000 by the FIFA Disciplinary Committee.

3.

Depending on the circumstances of the withdrawal, the FIFA Disciplinary Committee may impose additional sanctions, including the suspension of the Participating Member Association concerned from subsequent FIFA competitions.

4.

Any match which is not played or which is abandoned – except in cases of force majeure recognised by the FIFA Organising Committee – may lead to the imposition of sanctions against the relevant associations by the FIFA Disciplinary Committee in accordance with the FIFA Disciplinary Code.

5.

Any Participating Member Association that withdraws or whose behaviour is liable for a match not being played or being abandoned may be ordered by the FIFA Organising Committee to reimburse FIFA, the Organising Association or any other Participating Member Association for any expenses incurred as a result of its behaviour. In such cases, the association concerned may also be ordered by the FIFA Organising Committee to pay compensation for any damages incurred by FIFA, the Organising Association or any other Participating Member Association. The association in question will also forfeit any claim to financial remuneration from FIFA.

6.

If a Participating Member Association withdraws or a match cannot be played or is abandoned as a result of force majeure, the FIFA Organising Committee shall decide on the matter at its sole discretion and take whatever action is deemed necessary.

7.

Further to the above provision, in the case of a match being abandoned as a result of force majeure after it has already kicked off, the following principles will apply:

- a) the match shall recommence at the minute and second at which play was interrupted rather than being replayed in full, and with the same scoreline;
- b) the match shall recommence with the same players on the pitch and substitutes available as when the match was abandoned;
- c) no additional substitutes may be added to the list of players on the team sheet;
- d) a player who was sent off during the abandoned match may not re-enter the match, but may be replaced by another player after a lapse of two minutes (cf. Law 3 of the Beach Soccer Laws of the Game);
- e) any sanctions imposed before the match was abandoned remain valid for the remainder of the match;
- f) the kick-off time, date and location shall be decided by the FIFA Organising Committee.

8 Replacement

If any Participating Member Association withdraws or is excluded from the competition, the FIFA Organising Committee shall decide on the matter at its sole discretion and take whatever action is deemed necessary. The FIFA Organising Committee may in particular decide to replace the association in question with another association.

9 Disciplinary matters

1.

Disciplinary incidents are dealt with in compliance with the FIFA Disciplinary Code in force as well as with all relevant circulars and directives, with which the Participating Member Associations undertake to comply.

2.

FIFA may introduce new disciplinary rules and sanctions for the duration of the World Cup. Such rules shall be communicated to the Participating Member Associations one month before the first match of the final competition at the latest.

3.

The Participating Member Associations and their Delegation Members agree to comply with the Beach Soccer Laws of the Game and with the FIFA Statutes and regulations, in particular the FIFA Disciplinary Code, the FIFA Anti-Doping Regulations, the FIFA Code of Ethics, the FIFA Media and Marketing Regulations and the FIFA Equipment Regulations, as well as with all directives and decisions of FIFA bodies unless these Regulations stipulate otherwise. The players agree to comply with all further FIFA guidelines, circulars and decisions that have any significance regarding the World Cup.

4.

In addition, the players agree notably to:

- a) respect the spirit of fair play and non-violence;
- b) behave accordingly;
- c) refrain from doping as defined by the FIFA Anti-Doping Regulations.

10 Disputes

- 1.** All disputes in connection with the World Cup shall be promptly settled by mediation.
- 2.** In compliance with the FIFA Statutes, Participating Member Associations may not take disputes to an ordinary court of law but to the exclusive jurisdiction of FIFA.
- 3.** The Participating Member Associations acknowledge and accept that, once all stages of appeal have been exhausted at FIFA, their sole recourse shall be to the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) in Lausanne, Switzerland, unless excluded or for final and binding decisions. Any such arbitration proceedings shall be governed by the CAS Code of Sports-related Arbitration.

11 Protests

- 1.** For the purpose of these Regulations, protests are objections of any kind related to events or matters that have a direct effect on matches, including but not limited to the state of the pitch, accessory match equipment, eligibility of players, stadium installations and beach soccer balls.
- 2.** Unless otherwise stipulated in this article, protests shall be submitted in writing to the FIFA Match Commissioner or the FIFA General Coordinator within two hours of the match in question and followed up immediately with a full written report, including a copy of the original protest, to be sent in writing and by registered letter to the FIFA headquarters in the host country within 24 hours of the end of the match, otherwise they will be disregarded.
- 3.** Protests regarding the eligibility of players nominated for matches shall be submitted in writing to the FIFA headquarters in the host country no later than five days before the opening match of the final competition and shall be dealt with by the FIFA Disciplinary Committee.

4.

Protests regarding the state of the pitch, its surroundings, markings or accessory items (e.g. goals, lines, flag posts or beach soccer balls) shall be made in writing to the referee before the start of the match by the head of delegation of the team lodging the protest. If the pitch's playing surface becomes unplayable during a match, the captain of the protesting team shall immediately lodge a protest with the referee in the presence of the captain of the opposing team. The protests shall be confirmed in writing to the FIFA Match Commissioner by the head of the team delegation no later than two hours after the match.

5.

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 resumed, in the presence of the captain of the opposing team. The protest shall be confirmed in writing to the FIFA Match Commissioner or the FIFA General Coordinator by the head of the team delegation no later than two hours after the match.

6.

No protests may be made about the referee's decisions regarding facts connected with play. Such decisions are final and not subject to appeal, unless otherwise stipulated in the FIFA Disciplinary Code.

7.

If an unfounded or irresponsible protest is lodged, the FIFA Disciplinary Committee may impose a fine.

8.

If any of the formal conditions of a protest as set out in these Regulations are not met, such protest shall be disregarded by the competent body. Once the final match of the World Cup has ended, any protests described in this article shall be disregarded.

9.

The FIFA Organising Committee shall pass decisions on any protests lodged, subject to the exceptions stipulated in these Regulations, the FIFA Statutes or any other FIFA regulations.

12 Medical/Doping

1.

In order to prevent players from experiencing sudden cardiac death during matches in the final competition, and to protect players' health, each Participating Member Association shall ensure that its players undergo a pre-competition medical assessment prior to the start of the final competition and inform FIFA accordingly. FIFA will provide all Participating Member Associations with an assessment form.

2.

Failure to comply with the aforementioned provision shall be sanctioned by the FIFA Disciplinary Committee in accordance with the FIFA Disciplinary Code.

3.

Doping is strictly prohibited.

4.

FIFA will inform the Participating Member Associations of the doping control procedures and the list of prohibited substances by means of a circular letter.

5.

The FIFA Disciplinary Code, the FIFA Anti-Doping Regulations and all other relevant FIFA regulations and directives will apply to the World Cup.

13 Financial provisions

1.

Each Participating Member Association shall be responsible for and bear the costs of the following:

- a) board and lodging during the World Cup (in excess of the amounts paid by FIFA or the LOC);
- b) any costs associated with additional members of the association's delegation (in excess of the official delegation as defined in these Regulations);

- c) costs for any additional equipment and/or items not covered by FIFA in the team meeting rooms and/or the team dressing rooms.
- d) costs for any additional menu items other than those agreed between FIFA and the team hotels;
- e) all incidental hotel costs.

2.

The Organising Association shall, in accordance with the HA, organise and bear the costs of the following:

- a) board and lodging for a maximum of 16 Delegation Members of each Participating Member Association. In principle, the Organising Association will provide bedrooms for the players and team officials, one medical treatment room and one meeting room/dining room for each team. These rooms shall be available from four nights prior to the team's first match, until one night (two nights, if an earlier departure is not possible) after the last match of the Participating Member Association concerned. The FIFA Organising Committee may make exceptions in the event of unforeseen circumstances resulting from transport difficulties;
- b) laundry service for the officials and players of each Participating Member Association for the match kits and one set of training kit per day from four nights prior to the team's first match until the day of the last match of the Participating Member Association concerned in the final competition;
- c) all domestic travel (road, rail or air) for each Delegation Member of each Participating Member Association, including their equipment and all related expenses. At a minimum, the LOC shall provide one team bus and one luggage vehicle per team.

3.

FIFA shall bear the costs of international air travel (economy class) for a maximum of 16 Delegation Members of each Participating Member Association from the capital city of the respective Participating Member Association (or, in exceptional cases, upon approval by FIFA, from another city determined by FIFA) to the capital city of the host country, with an airline specified by FIFA.

Depending on the contracts negotiated between FIFA and the airline(s), FIFA will decide on the weight of excess baggage for which FIFA will bear the costs, and will inform the Participating Member Associations accordingly. In the case of transit stops during travel to and/or from the host country, FIFA will, subject to prior approval, bear the costs for the bus transfer from the airport to the hotel and back, as well as accommodation and meals for the Delegation Members. All additional costs and expenses shall be borne by the Participating Member Association concerned.

4.

Any expenses other than those stipulated in these Regulations and explicitly outlined to be borne by FIFA or the Organising Association shall be borne by the relevant Participating Member Association.

14 Number of teams

The FIFA Executive Committee determines the maximum number of teams to take part in the final competition. The number of teams taking part in the 2015 final competition has been fixed at 16, to be apportioned among the confederations as follows:

AFC	3 teams
CAF	2 teams
CONCACAF	2 teams
CONMEBOL	3 teams
OFC	1 team
UEFA	4 teams
Host	Portugal

15 Eligibility of players

1.

Each Participating Member Association shall ensure the following when selecting its representative team for the World Cup:

- a) all players shall hold the nationality of its country and be subject to its jurisdiction;
- b) all players shall be eligible for selection in accordance with the FIFA Statutes, the Regulations Governing the Application of the FIFA Statutes and other relevant FIFA rules and regulations.

2.

The Participating Member Associations are responsible for fielding only eligible players. Failure to do so will lead to the consequences stipulated in the FIFA Disciplinary Code.

3.

Protests regarding the eligibility of players shall be decided by the FIFA Disciplinary Committee in accordance with the FIFA Disciplinary Code (cf. art. 11 par. 3).

16 Draw

1.

The draw for the final competition shall take place at least two months prior to the opening match of the final competition.

2.

The FIFA Organising Committee shall form groups for the final competition by seeding and drawing lots whilst taking sporting and geographic factors into consideration, as far as possible.

3.

The decisions of the FIFA Organising Committee on the group formation and the duration of the final competition are final. In the event of any withdrawals, the FIFA Organising Committee may change the groups in accordance with the provisions in par. 2.

4.

The draw will be organised by the Organising Association with the support of FIFA and FBSSL and will (subject to timing and/or other considerations) be combined with a Team Workshop and other related activities.

17 Competition format

1.

The final competition shall be played in a group stage, followed by two knockout stages, the play-off for third place and the final.

2.

In all stages, if a match is level at the end of normal playing time, extra time shall be played. Extra time shall consist of one period of three minutes. If the score is still level at the end of extra time, kicks from the penalty mark shall be taken to determine the winner, in accordance with the procedure specified in the Beach Soccer Laws of the Game.

18

Group stage

1.

The 16 participating teams will be divided into four groups of four teams.

2.

The teams in the four groups will be designated as follows:

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

4.

The system of play will be the league system, each team playing one match against each of the other teams in the same group, with three points for a win, two points for a win in extra time, one point for a win in a penalty shoot-out, and no points for a defeat.

5.

The ranking of each team in each group will be determined as follows:

- a) greatest number of points obtained in all group matches;

If two or more teams are equal on the basis of the above criterion, their rankings will be determined as follows:

- b) greatest number of points obtained in the group matches between the teams concerned;
- c) greatest goal difference resulting from the group matches between the teams concerned;
- d) greatest number of goals scored in all group matches between the teams concerned;

- e) greatest goal difference in all group matches;
- f) greatest number of goals scored in all group matches;
- g) drawing of lots by the FIFA Organising Committee.

6.

The two teams finishing first and second in each group qualify for the quarter-finals.

7.

Only goals scored during regular time and extra time will be considered under the above resolution criteria.

19 Quarter-finals

The eight teams that qualify from the group stage will contest the quarter-finals as follows:

Winner Group A v. Runner-up B = Winner 1

Winner Group B v. Runner-up A = Winner 2

Winner Group C v. Runner-up D = Winner 3

Winner Group D v. Runner-up C = Winner 4

20 Semi-finals

The four teams that qualify from the quarter-finals will contest the semi-finals as follows:

Winner 1 v. Winner 3

Winner 2 v. Winner 4

21 Final, play-off for third place

1. The winners of the semi-finals qualify for the final.
2. The losers of the semi-finals will contest the play-off for third place.

22 Friendly matches before the competition

1. Each team may play friendly matches in the host country up until five days prior to the opening match of the competition according to the following rules:
 - a) prior approval is given by the host association and FIFA, and the relevant confederations are informed;
 - b) no entrance fee may be charged;
 - c) each team must respect the Media and Marketing Regulations, the Equipment Regulations and any other relevant FIFA regulations or guidelines;
 - d) friendly matches shall not be broadcast;
 - e) the Participating Member Associations are not entitled to TV or marketing rights.
2. FIFA may provide further information on friendly matches by means of a circular letter.

23 Venue, dates, kick-off times for matches and arrival at the venue

1.

The venue, dates and kick-off times of the matches shall be proposed by the Organising Association and be subject to the approval of the FIFA Organising Committee.

2.

The FIFA Organising Committee shall fix the dates and venue of the matches.

3.

Each team participating in the final competition shall arrive at the venue of their first group match at least four days before the team's first match. Only official team hotels under contract with either FIFA or the Organising Association shall be used for the teams' accommodation.

24 Stadium infrastructure and training sites

1.

The Organising Association shall ensure that the stadium and facilities in which the matches take place comply with the FIFA Stadium Safety and Security Regulations and other FIFA guidelines and instructions for international matches in force. The stadium selected for use during the World Cup shall be subject to approval by FIFA. The Organising Association is responsible for safety and order in and around the stadium before, during and after matches.

2.

As a general rule, final competition matches may only be played in an all-seater stadium.

3.

The pitch, accessory equipment and all facilities for each match shall be in optimum condition and comply with the Beach Soccer Laws of the Game and all other relevant regulations. All goals shall be equipped with goal nets. The stadium shall have spare goal posts and nets located in close proximity to the pitch for contingency purposes. The pitch shall have the following dimensions: length 37m, width 28m.

4.

The stadium shall have two scoreboards, each with a clock, as follows:

- one to be placed above one corner of the pitch, facing the main camera;
- one to be placed under the main stand, facing the grandstands.

5.

The use of giant screens must be in compliance with the Guidelines for the Use of Giant Screens at FIFA Matches.

6.

Matches may be played in daylight or under floodlight. Matches played at night may be played only at a venue with floodlighting installations that ensure that the whole pitch is evenly lit according to FIFA specifications. An emergency independent power generator shall also be available in the stadium which, in the event of a power failure, guarantees at least two-thirds of the FIFA-specified intensity of light for the whole pitch and ensures emergency lighting in the whole stadium. The FIFA Organising Committee is entitled to grant exceptions, which are final.

7.

Weather and pitch conditions permitting, teams will be entitled to one 45-minute training session in the stadium on either the day before the match or two days before the match. Training times will be communicated by FIFA. If the pitch is not in good condition or the training session would negatively affect the state of the pitch, FIFA may shorten or cancel the training session and direct the teams only to inspect the pitch.

8.

The teams will be entitled to warm up on the pitch before each match. If the pitch is not in good condition, or if training sessions would negatively affect the state of the pitch for the match, or if the pitch is to be used for ceremonies related to the World Cup, FIFA may shorten or cancel the warm-up session.

9.

Smoking is not allowed in the technical area, in the vicinity of the pitch or within the competition areas such as the dressing rooms.

10.

The Organising Association shall provide training sites for the teams. These training sites shall be in good condition and approved by FIFA at least ten days before the start of the final competition. They shall be situated near the team hotel and made available at least four days before the opening match until one day after the team's last match in the World Cup.

11.

As from four days prior to the first match of the final competition and up to their elimination, the Participating Member Associations shall use only those training sites which have been officially designated for training by FIFA. If a team's preparation site is used as an official training site, par. 13 will apply.

12.

The stadium and all training sites shall not be used for any other matches or events from at least ten days prior to the start of the final competition (or earlier if deemed necessary by FIFA) until the final competition is completed, unless the FIFA Organising Committee gives special permission.

13.

The stadium and all training sites shall be available and free of any and all commercial activities and identifications (e.g. boards and other signage) other than those of FIFA's Commercial Affiliates at least five days prior to the first match of the final competition until one day after completion of the final match.

25 Flags and anthems

1.

During the final competition, the FIFA flag and the flags of the host country and the competing associations shall be flown in the stadium at every match. The FIFA Fair Play flag and the UN flag shall also be hoisted or draped in the stadium, clearly visible from the VIP box.

2.

The FIFA anthem shall be played while the teams are entering the pitch, followed by the national anthems of the two competing teams. The Participating Member Associations shall submit a CD of their national anthem (maximum 90 seconds, no lyrics permitted) to FIFA by the date stipulated in the relevant circular.

26

Player lists and accreditation

Provisional list of players

1.

Each Participating Member Association shall submit a provisional list of 18 players (a minimum of three of whom shall be goalkeepers) to the FIFA general secretariat, accompanied by copies of the birth certificate and passport of each player appearing on the list. Further specifics of the provisional list, and the deadline by which the list shall be submitted to the FIFA general secretariat, will be stipulated in the relevant circular.

2.

Any change requests to the provisional list must be submitted in writing no later than ten days before the final list deadline and are subject to the approval of the FIFA Organising Committee.

Final list of players

3.

The final list of the 12 players (two of whom shall be goalkeepers) selected to participate in the final competition shall be submitted to the FIFA general secretariat, using the official form, at least ten working days before the opening match of the final competition, as stipulated in the relevant circular. The players on the final list must be chosen from the players on the provisional list. The final list shall be accompanied, at a minimum, by the following information:

- Full last name
- All first names
- Popular name
- Name to be placed on shirt
- Number to be placed on shirt
- Number of caps and number of goals
- Position
- Date of birth
- Passport number and expiry date
- Club and country of the club
- Height and weight

4.

Only the 12 players on the final list will be permitted to take part in the final competition. Only the numbers 1 to 12 may be allocated to these players, with number 1 being reserved exclusively for one of the goalkeepers. The numbers on the back of the shirts shall correspond with the numbers indicated on the final list. In the event of a goalkeeper needing to be replaced by another player, each team shall provide a goalkeeper shirt with the player's number displayed on the back of the shirt in order to distinguish this replacement goalkeeper from the other players.

Replacement of injured players

5.

A player listed on the final list may be replaced by a player from the provisional list only in the event of serious injury up until 24 hours before the kick-off of his team's first match. Such replacements must be approved in writing by the FIFA Medical Committee upon receipt and acceptance of a written detailed medical assessment. The FIFA Medical Committee will issue a certificate stating that the injury is sufficiently serious to prevent the player from taking part in the final competition and hand over such certificate to the FIFA Organising Committee for approval. Upon approval, the Participating Member Association shall immediately nominate a replacement and inform the FIFA general secretariat accordingly (including all the specific player information listed in art. 26 par. 3). The replacement player must be assigned the shirt number of the injured player being replaced.

6.

The final list of 12 players will be published by the FIFA general secretariat. This final list of 12 players plus four officials will constitute the official delegation list.

Identity

7.

Before the start of the final competition, every player on the final list must prove his identity, nationality and age by producing his legally valid individual passport with photograph (stating day, month and year of birth) and a copy of his birth certificate. Any player who fails to submit these documents will not be allowed to take part in the final competition.

Accreditation

8.

FIFA shall issue each player and team official with an official accreditation bearing a photograph. Each Participating Member Association will receive 16 accreditations (12 for the listed players and four for their officials).

9.

Only players in possession of valid accreditation may play in the final competition.

10.

The players' and officials' accreditations shall always be available for inspection.

11.

Injured players who are replaced up until 24 hours before the kick-off of their team's first match (cf. art. 26 par. 5) must return their accreditation to FIFA. Accordingly, players who have returned their accreditation shall no longer be considered members of the Participating Member Association's official delegation list.

12.

The Participating Member Associations shall ensure that all accreditation data required by FIFA is submitted by the deadline stipulated by FIFA. Further details will be outlined in a FIFA circular letter.

27

Start list and substitutes' benches

Start list

1.

All 12 players shall be named on the start list for each match (five selected players and seven substitutes).

2.

The numbers on the players' shirts must correspond to the numbers indicated on the start list. The start list shall be signed by the head coach.

3.

Each team is responsible for arriving at the stadium at the latest 75 minutes before the kick-off of the respective match and for providing the completed start list to the FIFA General Coordinator upon arrival.

4.

Each team is responsible for ensuring that the start list is completed properly and submitted on time, and that only the selected players start the match. In the case of any discrepancies, the matter will be submitted to the FIFA Disciplinary Committee.

5.

Any of the five players named on the start list may be replaced by an eligible substitute, but only if they are unable to begin the match due to injury or illness. The FIFA General Coordinator must be officially informed prior to kick-off. Within 24 hours, the team concerned must also provide FIFA with a medical report issued by the team doctor (in one of the four official languages of FIFA).

6.

Further to the above, any injured or ill player who is removed from the start list will no longer be eligible to take part in the match at any time.

7.

Although no longer eligible to play, the injured or ill player who was removed from the start list may be seated on the substitutes' bench, and if so, would then also be eligible for doping control selection.

8.

Only the players who were identified on the official start list submitted to the FIFA General Coordinator, or were confirmed as a warm-up injury/illness replacement player, may start the match. In the case of any discrepancies of players on the pitch at the beginning of a match, the matter will be submitted to the FIFA Disciplinary Committee for a decision.

Substitutes' bench**9.**

No more than 11 people (four officials and seven substitutes) shall be allowed to sit on the substitutes' bench. The names of these officials must be indicated on the "Officials on the Substitutes' Bench" form and provided to the FIFA General Coordinator. A suspended player or official will not be allowed to sit on the substitutes' bench.

10.

The use of any electronic communication equipment and/or systems between and/or amongst players and/or technical staff is not permitted. FIFA will provide more information by means of a circular letter.

28

Team equipment

1.

The Participating Member Associations shall comply with the FIFA Equipment Regulations in force. The display of political, religious, or personal messages or slogans in any language or form by players and officials on their playing or team kits, equipment (including kit bags, beverage containers, medical bags, etc.) or body is prohibited. The similar display of commercial messages and slogans in any language or form by players and officials is not allowed for the duration of their time at any official activity organised by FIFA (including in the stadium for official matches and training sessions, as well as during official media

conferences and mixed-zone activities). Any violations shall be dealt with by the FIFA Disciplinary Committee in accordance with the FIFA Disciplinary Code.

Team colours

2.

Each team shall inform FIFA of two different and contrasting colours (one predominately dark and one predominately light) for its official and reserve team kits (shirt and shorts). In addition, each team shall select two contrasting colours for the goalkeepers. These two goalkeeper kits must be distinctly different and contrasting from each other as well as different and contrasting from the official and reserve team kits. This information shall be sent to FIFA on the team colour form. Only these colours may be worn at the matches.

3.

FIFA will inform the teams of the colours that they shall wear for each match by means of a circular letter and/or at the group and match coordination meetings.

Team kit approval procedures

4.

Each Participating Member Association shall provide FIFA with exact samples of the following equipment, including names and numbers printed on the shirts and shorts in compliance with the FIFA Equipment Regulations:

- a) official and reserve kits (two sets of shirts, shorts);
- b) two sets of the goalkeeper's kit (shirts, shorts);
- c) goalkeeper's gloves and caps;
- d) equipment that will be worn by the players and the technical staff sitting on the bench during the match.

The approval procedure for all such kits and the applicable deadlines will be communicated by circular letter.

5.

During the final competition, all equipment (kits, gloves, bags, medical equipment, etc.) that could be on display in the stadium, the training sites, the hotels or during transfers to, from or within the host country must be approved by FIFA.

Players' names and numbers

6.

Throughout the World Cup, each player shall wear the number assigned to him on the final list. Such number shall be displayed on the front and back of his shirt and on his shorts in accordance with the FIFA Equipment Regulations

7.

The player's last name or popular name (or abbreviation) shall be affixed above the number on the back of the shirt and shall be clearly legible in accordance with the FIFA Equipment Regulations.

Substitution of the goalkeeper

8.

For the substitution of the goalkeeper, as stated in Law 3 of the FIFA Beach Soccer Laws of the Game, each team shall supply goalkeeper shirts with players' numbers. These shirts will be used when another player takes the position of goalkeeper during a match. These extra goalkeeper shirts must be provided in the same two colours as the regular goalkeeper shirts.

Team kit on matchdays

9.

The official and reserve team kits and all goalkeeper kits (including the goalkeeper shirts with players' numbers) shall be taken to every match.

Players' sleeve badges

10.

FIFA shall supply a sufficient number of players' sleeve badges with the official competition logo of the World Cup, which shall be affixed on the right-hand sleeve of each shirt, and the FIFA Fair Play patch, which shall be affixed on the left-hand sleeve. FIFA will issue a circular letter to the Participating Member Associations outlining the instructions for use of the players' sleeve badges.

Footballs

11.

The beach soccer balls used in the final competition shall be selected and exclusively supplied by FIFA. The footballs shall conform with the provisions of the Beach Soccer Laws of the Game and the FIFA Equipment Regulations. They shall bear one of the following three designations: the official "FIFA APPROVED" logo, the official "FIFA INSPECTED" logo or the "INTERNATIONAL MATCHBALL STANDARD" reference.

12.

Each team will receive 12 training balls from FIFA after the official draw and after successful submission of the required team entry and team colours information, as well as an additional 12 training balls upon arrival in the host country. Only these balls delivered by FIFA may be used for training and warm-up sessions in the official stadium and at the official training sites.

Warm-up bibs**13.**

Only warm-up bibs provided by FIFA may be used during official training sessions held at the stadium and for the warm-up of substitute players during the match.

29 Refereeing

1.

The referees and assistant referees (hereinafter referred to collectively as “match officials”) for the final competition shall be appointed for each match by the FIFA Referees Committee. They shall be selected from the FIFA International Refereeing List in force and come from a member association whose team is not playing in the group or match in question. A reserve assistant referee may also be appointed for certain matches.

2.

The match officials shall receive their official refereeing kit and equipment from FIFA. They shall wear and use only this kit and equipment on matchdays.

3.

The match officials shall be provided with training facilities. These training facilities must be in good condition and must be approved by FIFA at least ten days prior to the start of the final competition and shall not be used for any other matches or events from at least ten days prior to the start of the final competition until the final competition is completed.

4.

If the referee or one of the assistant referees is prevented from carrying out his duties, such referee or assistant referee shall be replaced by the third referee. The FIFA Referees Committee shall be informed immediately.

5.

After each match, the lead referee shall complete and sign the official FIFA report form. The referee shall hand it over to the FIFA General Coordinator at the stadium immediately after the match. On the report form, the referee shall note all occurrences of significance, such as misconduct of players leading to caution or expulsion, unsporting behaviour by supporters and/or by officials or any other person acting on behalf of an association at the match and any other incident happening before, during and after the match in as much detail as possible.

6.

The decisions of the FIFA Referees Committee are final and binding and not subject to appeal.

30 Beach Soccer Laws of the Game

All matches shall be played in accordance with the Beach Soccer Laws of the Game in force at the time of the World Cup. In the case of any discrepancy in the interpretation of the translation of the Beach Soccer Laws of the Game, the English version shall be authoritative.

31 Trophy, awards and medals

1.

An official plaque will be presented to each Participating Member Association. Participation certificates will be presented to each member of each official team delegation.

2.

FIFA shall be responsible for the administration of the award ceremony, which shall take place after the final match. The FIFA President, the head of state of the host country or his/her representatives, and the heads of delegation of the teams concerned shall be part of the award ceremony.

3.

A representative of FIFA will present the winner of the World Cup with the trophy.

4.

A diploma will be presented to the associations ranked first, second, third and fourth in the final competition.

5.

Medals will be presented to each of the top three teams in the final competition, i.e. gold medals to the winners, silver medals to the runners-up and bronze medals to the team ranked third. In principle, a maximum of 16 medals will be distributed to the respective teams.

6.

One medal will be presented to each of the match officials who take charge of the play-off for third place and the final.

7.

A fair play contest will be held during the final competition (cf. Appendix). On behalf of the FIFA Organising Committee, the FIFA Technical Study Group will determine the ranking at the end of the final competition.

8.

At the conclusion of the World Cup, the following special awards will be presented:

a) *Fair Play Trophy*

The FIFA Fair Play Trophy, a fair play medal for each Delegation Member, a diploma and a voucher for USD 10,000 worth of beach soccer equipment (to be used for beach soccer development) will be presented to the team finishing first in the fair play contest. The applicable rules are in the fair play contest regulations.

b) *Golden Scorer*

The Golden Scorer will be awarded to the player who scores the most goals in the final competition. If two or more players score the same number of goals, the number of assists (as determined by members of the FIFA Technical Study Group) will be decisive.

If two or more players are still equal after taking into account the number of assists, the total number of matches played in the final competition will be taken into account, with the player playing fewer matches ranked first.

A Silver Scorer and a Bronze Scorer for the second and third highest goalscorers will also be awarded.

c) *Golden Ball*

The Golden Ball will be awarded to the best player in the final competition on the basis of a ranking compiled by the FIFA Technical Study Group. A Silver Ball and a Bronze Ball will be awarded to the second and third best players.

d) *Golden Glove*

The Golden Glove will be awarded to the best goalkeeper in the final competition on the basis of a ranking compiled by the FIFA Technical Study Group.

9.

There are no official awards other than those listed above, unless otherwise decided by the FIFA Organising Committee.

32 Commercial rights

1.

FIFA is the original owner of all of the rights emanating from the World Cup and any other related events under its respective jurisdiction, without any restrictions as to content, time, place and law. These rights include, among others, every kind of financial rights, audiovisual and radio recording, reproduction and broadcasting rights, multimedia rights, marketing and promotional rights and incorporeal rights such as emblems and rights arising under copyright law, whether currently existing or created in the future, subject to any provision as set forth in specific regulations.

2.

FIFA shall issue, at a later date, Media and Marketing Regulations for the final competition specifying these commercial and intellectual property rights. All FIFA members must comply with these Media and Marketing Regulations for the final competition and must ensure that their members, officials, players, delegates and other affiliates also comply with them.

33 Special circumstances

The FIFA Organising Committee shall, in conjunction with the Organising Association, issue any instructions necessitated by special circumstances that may arise in the host country. These instructions shall form an integral part of these Regulations.

34 Matters not provided for

Any matters not provided for in these Regulations and any cases of force majeure shall be decided by the FIFA Organising Committee. All decisions shall be final and binding and not subject to appeal.

35 Languages

In the case of any discrepancy in the interpretation of the English, French, Spanish or German texts of these Regulations, the English text shall be authoritative.

36 Copyright

The copyright of the match schedule drawn up in accordance with the provisions of these Regulations is the property of FIFA.

37 No waiver

Any waiver by FIFA of any breach of these Regulations (including of any document referred to in these Regulations) will not operate as, or be construed to be, a waiver of any other breach of such provision or of any breach of any other provision or a waiver of any right arising out of these Regulations or any other document. Any such waiver shall only be valid if given in writing. Failure by FIFA to insist upon strict adherence to any provision of these Regulations, or any document referred to in these Regulations, on one or more occasions will not be considered to be a waiver of, or deprive FIFA of the right to subsequently insist upon strict adherence to that provision or any other provision of these Regulations, or any document referred to in these Regulations.

38 Enforcement

These Regulations were approved by the FIFA Executive Committee on 25/26 September 2014 and came into force immediately thereafter.

Zurich, September 2014

For the FIFA Executive Committee

President:
Joseph S. Blatter

Secretary General:
Jérôme Valcke

I. General provisions

1.

As part of its campaign to promote fair play, FIFA regularly holds a fair play contest during its championships, based on an appraisal of the teams' conduct by a FIFA delegate such as the Match Commissioner, a member of the Technical Study Group or a member of a standing committee.

2.

The objective of fair play activities is to foster a sporting spirit among players, team officials and spectators, thereby heightening the fans' enjoyment of the game.

3.

At the final whistle of each game, the delegate shall complete the appropriate fair play form after consulting the referee and the referee assessor.

4.

Every match in the final competition shall be taken into account.

5.

The FIFA Organising Committee shall compile and publish the classification at the end of the final competition. Its decision is final.

6.

FIFA will award the team that wins the fair play contest a trophy, a medal for each player and official, and a diploma, all of which the team can keep permanently. The team shall also receive a voucher valued at USD 10,000, which shall be exchanged for a supply of beach soccer equipment to be used exclusively for beach soccer development.

II. Assessment criteria

1.

The assessment form contains six criteria by which the teams' fair play performance shall be judged, stressing the positive aspects rather than negative. As a general rule, maximum points shall only be awarded if the team concerned displays a positive attitude.

2.

Red and yellow cards shall be deducted from a maximum of 10 points:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|----------------|
| – first yellow card: | minus 1 point |
| – second yellow/indirect red card: | minus 3 points |
| – direct red card: | minus 3 points |
| – yellow card & direct red card: | minus 4 points |

Red and yellow cards are the only criteria entailing minus points.

3.

Positive play

Minimum 1 point

Maximum 10 points

The aim of this criterion is to reward attacking and attractive play, and shall take into account such aspects as:

- a) *Positive aspects*
 - attacking rather than defensive tactics;
 - speeding up the game;
 - constantly attempting to score even if the desired result (e.g. qualification) has already been achieved.
- b) *Negative aspects*
 - tactics that rely on rough play;
 - play-acting;
 - time-wasting etc.
- c) As a general rule, positive play is correlated with the number of scoring chances created and the number of goals scored.

4.

Respect towards the opponent

Minimum 1 point

Maximum 5 points

Players are expected to respect the Beach Soccer Laws of the Game, the competition regulations and opponents, etc.

When assessing the players' behaviour towards the opponents, duplication of the judgment for red and yellow cards should be avoided. However, the delegate may take into account the seriousness of the offences punished by cards as well as those overlooked by the referee.

Assessment shall be based on positive attitudes (e.g. helping an injured opponent) rather than on infringements. Behaviour that is basically faultless but does not outwardly show any particularly positive attitude or gesture towards opponents shall be given a mark of 4 rather than 5.

5.

Respect towards the referee/match officials

Minimum 1 point

Maximum 5 points

Players are expected to respect the match officials and the decisions they take.

A positive attitude towards the referee, including acceptance of decisions without protest, shall be rewarded. Behaviour that is basically faultless but does not outwardly show any particularly positive attitude or gesture towards the match officials shall be given a mark of 4 rather than 5.

6.

Behaviour of the team officials

Minimum 1 point

Maximum 5 points

Coaches and other team officials are expected to encourage the sporting, technical, tactical and ethical standards of their team and to direct the players to behave in accordance with the principles of fair play.

Both positive and negative factors in the behaviour of the team officials shall be included in the assessment, such as for instance whether they calm down angry players or how players accept the referee's decisions. Inciting or provoking players shall be rated negatively.

Cooperation with the media shall also be a factor in the assessment. Behaviour that is faultless but does not outwardly show any particularly positive attitude or gesture shall be given a mark of 4 rather than 5.

7.

Behaviour of the crowd

Minimum 1 point

Maximum 5 points

The crowd is considered to be an integral part of a beach soccer match. Fans can contribute to the positive atmosphere of a match by encouraging their team by cheering and singing, etc. in the spirit of fair play.

Spectators are, however, expected to respect the opponents and the referee. They should appreciate the opponents' performance regardless of the result and in no way intimidate or frighten opponents, the referee or the opponents' supporters.

The maximum number of points (5) may only be awarded if all these requirements have been satisfied, especially with regard to creating a positive atmosphere.

This criterion is applicable only if a substantial number of fans of the team concerned are present. If the number of fans is negligible, "n.a." (not applicable) shall be entered under this item.

III. Final assessment

1.

The final assessment of a team is obtained as follows:

- a) the points awarded are added together, e.g. for team A:
 $8 + 7 + 3 + 4 + 5 + 4 = 31$
- b) this total is divided by the maximum number of points possible (40):
 $31 \div 40 = 0.775$
- c) this figure is multiplied by 1,000: $0.775 \times 1,000 = 775$

If, however, the number of fans supporting a certain team is negligible and the "behaviour of the crowd" criterion consequently disregarded ("n.a." – cf. art. II par. 7 of the Fair Play Contest Regulations), the maximum number of points obtainable will be 35.

Thus the final assessment would be attained as follows:

- a) the points awarded are added together, e.g. for team B:
 $7 + 8 + 2 + 5 + 2 = 24$
- b) this total is divided by the maximum number of points possible (35):
 $24 \div 35 = 0.686$
- c) this figure is multiplied by 1,000: $0.686 \times 1,000 = 686$

The overall assessment of a team during the final competition shall be calculated by adding the points attained at each match and dividing this figure by the number of matches played.

2.

Teams that are eliminated after the group stage of the final competition shall be excluded from the fair play contest.

In addition to making the assessment, members of FIFA may give a short oral account of the teams' fair play performance to explain the positive and negative factors, which form the basis of their assessment. The account may also point out any outstanding gestures of fair play from a player, official, referee or any other person. However, no additional points shall be awarded for such gestures.

These Regulations were approved by the FIFA Executive Committee on 25/26 September 2014 and came into force immediately thereafter.

The previous version of these Regulations shall apply mutatis mutandis to any matters that arose before these Regulations came into force.

Zurich, September 2014

For the FIFA Executive Committee

President:
Joseph S. Blatter

Secretary General:
Jérôme Valcke

