

TOURNAMENT REGULATIONS

ASEAN CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP 2024/25

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DEFINITIONS

Accommodation	Any location approved by the AFF which provides accommodation to the AFF Delegation, Team Official Delegations, AFF Commercial Rights Partner, and Commercial Affiliates.
Accreditation Card	Any physical item which is issued by the AFF and/or Hosting MA which provides the recipient the right to access a Controlled Access Area (or part thereof) where the Controlled Access Area is under the control of the AFF or the Hosting MA.
Advertising Rights	The right to promote brands and/or corporate names and/or products and/ or services at and/or in relation to the Competition by whatever means available, whether existing now or to be developed in the future, whether at the Stadiums or Facility Areas or within the Controlled Access Areas, by instadium/ out-stadium perimeter signage and other advertising, digital signage and screens, closed circuit television, equipment usage or other methods and through printed matter (including digitally delivered printed matter) such as programmes, posters, letterheads, press releases, newsletters and Tickets, and subject to any AFF regulations, the right to display such advertising on the clothing or footwear worn, or on any equipment used, carried or transported by officials (including for the avoidance of doubt by Match Officials), medical and security staff, ball crew, player escorts, flag bearers and/or photographers. The display of the name and/or logo of the bona fide supplier of clothing on the uniform strip of officials is also included. For the avoidance of doubt, advertising on the strip of Participating Players is excluded, other than where it is the trademark of the bona fide manufacturer and is in accordance with any FIFA and/or AFF regulations. Similarly, branding on any equipment, goods and/or services used in connection with the

	Competition, save where supplied by a Commercial Affiliate, may only include customary branding of the bona fide manufacturer.
AFC	Asian Football Confederation
AFC Club Competitions Ranking	A technical ranking which ranks each Member Association based on its Clubs' sporting results in the AFC Champions League and AFC Cup.
AFF	Asean Football Federation
AFF Commercial Rights Partner	The entity appointed by the AFF for the sale of Commercial Rights (or any part thereof) and the provision of services in relation thereto.
AFF Delegation	i) AFF staff members; ii) Match Officials; iii) other officials appointed by the AFF; iv) AFF Committee members; and v) AFF guests.
AFF Marks	All design marks, slogans, designations, names, logos, insignia, emblems or devices (in any application) owned and/or controlled by the AFF (in any language) relating to the AFF itself but excluding the Competition Marks.
Broadcast Partner	Any entity, including the Host Broadcaster, which has been granted the Media Rights (or any part thereof) to the Competition.
Champion	The Participating Club that wins the Finals of the Competition.
Clean Stadium	A Stadium or Official Training Site whether inside, in the airspace above or the outer perimeter, delivered to the AFF at a prescribed time, that is free from: (i) any advertising and commercial signage of any kind, whether on any Stadium infrastructure, staff uniforms, accreditations, fences, equipment or elsewhere;

	(ii) third-party agreements relating to the use and operation of the Stadium (or part thereof); (iii) encumbrances that may affect the use and exploitation of Commercial Rights; and/or (iv) Stadium or venue naming rights.
Club	A professional club or an amateur club which participates in Leagues or competitions under the auspices of a Football Association.
Commercial Affiliate	Any entity which has been granted the right to exercise and exploit the Commercial Rights (or any part thereof) in respect to the Competition.
Commercial Rights	Advertising Rights, Concession Rights, Hospitality Rights, Image Rights, Media Rights, Merchandise Rights, Promotional Rights, Sponsorship Rights, Travel and Tour Rights and any other rights of a commercial nature relating to the Competition.
Competition Data	Any and all information related to the Competition, including fixture lists, Image Rights, information and/or statistics about the Participating Teams, information and/or statistics about the Participating Players' and/or Participating Officials' participation and/or performance in the Competition, Match analysis, Referee decisions and any other information in relation to the Competition.
Competition Marks	All design marks, slogans, designations, names, logos, insignia, emblems, mascots or devices (in any application) owned and/or controlled by the AFF (in any language) relating to the Competition.
Complimentary Tickets	Tickets which are supplied by the Host Club, without charge, including invitation (VVIP) and car park pass to the AFF and its Commercial Rights

	Partner – SPORTFIVE in the following manner: <u>AFF:</u> (i) 25 x VIP (Corporate Box) (ii) 50 x 1st Best (iii) 50 x 2nd Best (iv) 5 x VIP Car Park stickers <u>SPORTFIVE:</u> (i) 25 x VIP (Corporate Box) (ii) 100 x 1st Best (iii) 100 x 2nd Best (iv) 5 Car Park stickers The number of Complimentary Tickets as mentioned hereinabove, may vary at the sole discretion of the AFF, keeping in mind the stadium capacity of each Host Club.
Concession Rights	Sampling, vending, display and other distribution methods and payment methods connected therewith for and of products or services, including pourage rights at the Stadiums and Facility Areas.
Controlled Access Area	any Stadium; any Official Training Site; any official hotel (public areas being excepted), subject to and to the extent agreed in any executed hotel agreement; any official exclusion zone encircling an Stadium on a Match day; any official parking area, accreditation centre, international broadcast compound, and/or hospitality area; the venue of any Official Function; any official AFF fan park; Facility Areas; and/or any other location and/or facility designated by the AFF as a Controlled Access Area, associated to

	the Competition to which access is permitted only to those in possession of an Accreditation Card, Ticket, and/or other officially-sanctioned entry permit.
Competition Marks	All design marks, slogans, designations, names, logos, insignia, emblems, mascots or devices (in any application) owned and/or controlled by the AFF (in any language) relating to the Competition.
Extra Time	Two (2) equal periods of additional time which shall be played in accordance with these Regulations should there be no winner at the conclusion of a Match.
Facility Areas	The location of Official Functions, ceremonies, press centres, Ticket offices, Competition hotels, media areas (including without limitation areas used for viewing of any public exhibition), sponsor village areas (including without imitation “AFF fan park” areas, and areas used for the activation of the Commercial Rights), official hospitality areas (including without limitation areas used for the exploitation of the Hospitality Rights), and information centres controlled by or on behalf of the AFF and used in connection with the Competition whether at the \ Stadium or elsewhere at the Venues.
FIFA	The Fédération Internationale de Football Association.
Final	The final two (2) Matches of the Competition which determine the Champion.
Football Association	The controlling body for football within a country or territory recognised by the AFF.
Force Majeure	Any event affecting the performance of any provision of these Regulations arising from or attributable to acts, events, omissions or accidents which are beyond the reasonable control of a party. This shall include, without limitation, abnormally inclement weather, flood, lightning, storm, fire,

	explosion, earthquake, structural damage, power supplies shortage/failure, war, terrorist action, military operations, riot, crowd disorder, strike, lock-outs or other industrial action, or civil commotion, epidemic or pandemic.
Group Stage	The second stage of the Competition held in accordance with these Regulations.
Hospitality Rights	The opportunity to offer and sell hospitality and entertainment services at the Venues or within the Controlled Access Areas in combination with the Tickets whether such facilities are in boxes, marquees or otherwise, but excluding those non-commercial functions and facilities reserved for the AFF and/or Organising Association officials and its guests not forming part of the Commercial Rights.
Host Broadcaster	The party appointed to ensure and provide the production of broadcast signals of the Matches and other events of the Competition, and the provision of all related services in accordance with the Media Rights granted to it.
Host City	Any city and/or identifiable metropolitan area in which any Match is staged.
Host Club	A Participating Club which is approved by the AFF to organise, host and stage Matches in the Competition in collaboration with the respective Hosting MA.
Hosting Member Association	A Member Association which is approved by the AFF to organise, host and stage Matches in the Competition.
Image Rights	The right to use still and/or moving images and/or representations of Participating Teams, Participating Players, Participating Officials, Match Officials and other officials and persons forming part of the Competition.

International Competition	An international football competition organised by the AFF and/or the AFC in conjunction with other continental football confederations and/or by FIFA in conjunction with other continental football confederations.
Kicks from the Penalty Mark	“Kicks from the Penalty Mark” as described in the Futsal Laws of the Game.
Knockout Stage	The third stage of the Competition held in accordance with these Regulations.
Laws of the Game	The laws of association football issued by the IFAB.
League	A professional league and/or amateur league which consists of a combination of Clubs within the territory of a Football Association and which is subordinate to and under the authority of that Football Association.
Match	A football match in its entirety (including a replayed and/or deferred football match, Extra Time and Kicks from the Penalty Mark) which takes place as part of the Competition in accordance with the Match Schedule. For the avoidance of doubt, a match formally commences when the Stadium is officially opened to spectators and formally concludes when the Stadium is officially closed to spectators, if spectators are allowed for such matches.
Match Contribution	The contributions made to a Participating Club for its participation in a Match comprising one (1) or more of the following: (i) Travel contribution; and/or (ii) Participation fee
Match Officials	Any individual appointed to officiate a Match in the Competition in the role of the Referee, Second Referee, Third Referee, Timekeeper, and any other match official stipulated in the Laws of the Game.

Match Schedule	The official schedule which sets out, without limitation, the dates and times on which Matches will be played, the Stadiums at which the Matches will be played, and the names of the Participating Teams.
Media	Any individual granted a media Accreditation Card by the AFF.
Media Rights	The right and licence to produce, edit, and/or transmit, for intelligible reception throughout the world in any language and in any format, and on any platform including film, fixed media, digital media, games, internet, public exhibition, radio, mobile, and television, a visual, audio-visual, and/or audio signal and/or image or recording (including without limitation the basic feed, multi feeds, additional feeds, audio feeds, a feed incorporating Competition Data, world feed and unilateral feeds) of the Competition, and all interview activities and action during and forming part of the Competition including Official Functions and the Image Rights by any and all means of transmission distribution, exhibition and reception, now existing or hereinafter developed including but not limited to analogue, digital, satellite cable and interactive communication systems, on a live, delayed, and unlimited repeat basis, in full or in part (including without limitation by way of clips and/or highlights and/or support programmes and/or magazine shows and/or news access), and all rights to exploit any and all commercial opportunities (including for example broadcast sponsorship and commercial airtime opportunities) arising from and/or in connection with such rights.
Member Association	A football association which is a member of the AFF. The term “MA” is the abbreviation of this term and shall be construed accordingly.

Merchandise Rights	The right granted to Commercial Affiliates for the use and exploitation of the Competition Marks and/or official designation in the manufacture, packaging, distribution and sale of goods and services of all kinds, including items of equipment (e.g. futsal balls), clothing, coins, medals, games (electronic or otherwise), other collectibles and Premiums related to the Competition.
Neutral Venue	Any Stadium utilised for a Match which is not the regular home Stadium or Venue utilised by the Participating Club designated as the Host Club, unless expressly authorised by the AFF. The designation of a Stadium as a Neutral Venue must be expressly authorised by the AFF in accordance with these Regulations.
Official Function	Any event which is officially organised or sanctioned by the AFF in connection with the Competition. For the avoidance of doubt, this expressly includes, without limitation, all Matches and/or events held at Official Training Sites, the opening ceremony, the closing ceremony, any AFF gala dinner, lunch, or banquet, cultural events, official press conferences, official draws, workshops and launch events.
Official Training Site	Any site designated by the Hosting MA and approved by the AFF for use by the Participating Teams throughout the Competition for training purposes.
Participating Club	A Club which is approved by the AFF to participate in the Competition.
Participating Officials	Any official who is registered to participate in the Competition.
Participating Players	Any player who is registered to participate in the Competition.

Pitch	The area described in Law 1 of the Football Laws of the Game issued by FIFA.
Premiums	Any promotional items (including packaging, labelling and/or containers thereof) which incorporate a mark and/or logo of the AFF and/or the Competition, and which may only be distributed free of charge or as prizes.
Promotional Rights	Any advertising and/or promotions which are carried out in connection with the Competition, Competition Marks, or other rights/opportunities granted by the AFF.
Propreitary Interests	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.
Play-off Stage	The first stage of the Competition in accordance with these Regulations.
Sponsorship Rights	The right, in any and all media, throughout the world, and in all languages, to promote an association between the Competition and certain products, services, and/or brands, and shall include (by way of illustration only) the exclusive right to exercise rights of association with the Competition, including without limitation the right to: use an official designation; use the AFF Marks and/or applicable Competition Marks on branded products and/or product packaging (including Premiums, and in relation to the Competition Marks only on items for retail sale) and/or advertising; receive commercial programme Tickets; and

	receive broadcast sponsorship opportunities in connection with broadcasts of a Match or Official Function.
Stadium	Any stadium at which a Match is played. For the avoidance of doubt, this includes: (i) the entire premises (to the extent that a valid Accreditation Card or Ticket is required in order to gain access) of a stadium facility inside the outer stadium perimeter fence and (on Match days and any day on which any official training takes place within the stadium), the aerial space above such stadium premises; (ii) parking facilities; (iii) VIP and hospitality areas (including any hospitality village); (iv) concession areas; (v) commercial display areas; (vi) buildings; (vii) the Field of Play; (viii) the Media tribune; (ix) any broadcast compound; (x) the stadium media centre; (xi) the press conference room; (xii) the mixed zone; (xiii) any stands; and (xiv) any areas beneath the stands.
Teams	Any representative team affiliated to a Participating Member Association.
Team Official Delegation	The final-registered delegation of a Participating Team for the duration of the relevant stage of the Competition subject to the limits set out in these Regulations.
Ticket	A pass providing access to a venue for the purpose of attending either a Match, official training, or Official Function.
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 Stadium or a Venue. Ticketing shall include the management of the operation necessary for the production, sale,

	distribution, delivery and payment of the Tickets of the Competition.
Travel and Tour Rights	The right to organise and/or sub-licence official travel and tour activities in relation to the Competition, which travel and tour activities shall, for the avoidance of doubt, include the provision of Tickets to a Match and/or Official Function of the Competition.
Venue	The geographical city within the Hosting MA's jurisdiction including immediate surrounding area in which an Stadium is located.

For the purposes of these Regulations, and provided the context so permits:

- (i) the singular shall include the plural and vice-versa;
- (ii) the feminine gender shall include the masculine and vice-versa;
- (iii) reference to natural persons shall include any legal person or corporation;
- (iv) references to the AFF shall include its successors and permitted assigns, and where the context requires, the AFF Committees;
- (v) reference to the AFF Commercial Rights Partner or Commercial Affiliates shall include where advised by the AFF, their successors and permitted assigns; and
- (vi) all defined terms, unless otherwise stated herein shall bear the same meaning as ascribed in the AFF Statutes, unless the context indicates otherwise.

SECTION 1: GENERAL PROVISIONS

1. ASEAN Club Championship 2024/25

- 1.1. The AFF Club Championship (the “Competition”) is a first of its kind championship organised by and under the aegis of the Asean Football Federation (the “AFF”). The AFF shall stage the Club Championship annually, with the first edition being held between 2024-2025, in accordance with these AFF Club Championship 2024/25 Tournament Regulations (these “Regulations”).
- 1.2. These Regulations govern the rights, duties, and responsibilities of the AFF, the Participating Clubs (as well as their Member Associations), Hosting MA, Participating Players and Participating Officials taking part in the Competition.
- 1.3. These Regulations and all related directives, decisions, guidelines, and circulars issued by the AFF shall be binding upon all parties participating and involved in the preparation, organisation, and hosting of Matches in the Competition.
- 1.4. The AFF Hosting Obligations form an integral part and shall be read in conjunction with these Regulations. The AFF Hosting Obligations shall be binding upon all parties participating and involved in the preparation, organisation, and hosting of the Competition. Failure to adhere to any matter set out in the Hosting Obligations may lead to the imposition of sanctions as set out in the AFF Disciplinary and Ethics Code. In the event of any discrepancy between these Regulations and the Hosting Obligations, these Regulations shall prevail to the extent of the inconsistency, subject to any emergent decisions taken by the AFF keeping the health and safety of all stakeholders as top priority.
- 1.5. Any rights and Proprietary Interests associated with the Competition that are not granted by these Regulations and/or specific agreements to any Member Association and/or any Participating Club shall vest in the AFF.
- 1.6. Any reference to the AFF Statutes and to the AFF and FIFA regulations refer to those valid at the time of application.
- 1.7. The Hosting MA along with its respective Participating Club under the aegis of the AFF Competitions Committee shall be responsible for organising the Competition in accordance with these Regulations and the AFF Statutes. The AFF General Secretariat shall provide necessary administrative work in support of the AFF Competitions Committee.

- 1.8. All capitalised terms used in these Regulations shall have the meaning ascribed to it in the relevant AFF/AFC/FIFA regulations and/or the AFF Statutes.

2. The AFF

- 2.1. The responsibilities of the AFF shall include, but are not limited to:
 - 2.2.1. supervising general preparations and deciding on the Competition format, the draws, and the entries to the Competition;
 - 2.2.2. determining the Match Schedule (cf. Article 11);
 - 2.2.3. approving Stadiums for the Competition after consultation with the Participating Clubs and their Member Associations (cf. Article 14);
 - 2.2.4. appointing Match Officials and AFF Delegation for each Match;
 - 2.2.5. choosing and/or approving the official football and stipulated technical material;
 - 2.2.6. reporting cases where appropriate to the AFF Disciplinary and Ethics Committee (cf. Article 59);
 - 2.2.7. replacing Participating Clubs that have withdrawn from the Competition (cf. Article 5);
 - 2.2.8. dealing with cases of cancelled Matches or abandoned Matches (cf. Articles 12 and 13);
 - 2.2.9. dealing with cases of Force Majeure (cf. Article 69);
 - 2.2.10. providing insurance coverage (or reimbursement thereof) for the AFF Delegation appointed to any Match from the time of their departure from their home Member Association to their departure from the Venue (cf. Article 50); and
 - 2.2.11. dealing with any other aspect of the Competition that is not the responsibility of any other body pursuant to these Regulations or the AFF Statutes (cf. Article 70).
- 2.2. All decisions made by the AFF Competitions Committee and/or AFF General Secretariat in relation to the Competition are final and binding and not appealable.
- 2.3. All decisions made by the AFF Disciplinary and Ethics Committee in relation to the Competition are subject to the operation of the AFF Disciplinary and Ethics Code.

3. Participating Clubs and Member Associations

- 3.1. The principal obligations and responsibilities of each Participating Club and its Member Association are stipulated in the Participating Team Obligations (“PTO”) as per Annexure A of these Regulations, these Regulations, the AFF Statutes, and all other AFF regulations, directives, guidelines and circulars.
 - 3.1.1. Each Participating Club that has qualified for the Competition must submit in writing to the AFF that they have read and understood the provisions of these Regulations especially those in the PTO.
 - 3.1.2. Failure to submit a written acknowledgement as mentioned in Article 3.1.1. hereinabove, shall result in the non-participation of the relevant Participating Club.
- 3.2. Each Participating Club shall ensure as a condition of its participation in the Competition that every member of its Team Official Delegation for each Match is aware of and agrees to comply with the PTO.
- 3.3. Each Participating Club shall undertake to:
 - 3.3.1. observe all obligations set out in the PTO, these Regulations, the AFF Statutes, and all other AFF regulations, directives, guidelines and circulars, and applicable national and supra-national laws;
 - 3.3.2. comply with the Laws of the Game;
 - 3.3.3. accept that all the administrative, disciplinary and refereeing matters connected with the Competition shall be settled by the AFF in compliance with these Regulations;
 - 3.3.4. field its strongest team throughout the Competition;
 - 3.3.5. observe the principles of fair play;
 - 3.3.6. ensure the good conduct of its Team Official Delegation and of any person carrying out duties on its behalf throughout the Competition, which includes but is not limited to their arrival on the territory of any Hosting MA until their departure;
 - 3.3.7. as Host Club, make the appropriate arrangements for the staging of Matches in conjunction with its Member Association and the AFF General Secretariat in accordance with these Regulations and any instructions from the AFF;
 - 3.3.8. accept all arrangements made by any Host Club and/or Hosting MA in agreement with the AFF;

- 3.3.9. ensure that its Participating Players and Participating Officials attend and participate in all official activities and events, including without limitation any team arrival meeting, match coordination meeting, press conference, and other media and marketing activities in accordance with the instructions issued by the AFF;
 - 3.3.10. failure to attend and/or fully participate in any official activity or event shall result in the Participating Club being fined at least USD10,000 (United States Dollars Ten Thousand); and
 - 3.3.11. the AFF Disciplinary and Ethics Committee may issue further sanctions at its discretion.
 - 3.3.12. provide to the AFF, free of charge, prior to the Competition, any photographs, audio/visual materials and/or information regarding the Participating Club, Participating Players and/or Participating Officials including without limitation statistics and historical information and any further information as requested by the AFF;
 - 3.3.13. link the official URL for the Competition, if any, on its official website; and
 - 3.3.14. not establish any digital, media or social media platform in connection with the Competition without the involvement and express written approval of the AFF.
- 3.4. Each Participating Club and its Member Association shall, at their own expense, be solely responsible throughout the Competition for:
- 3.4.1. the insurance coverage for:
 - a. its Team Official Delegation which shall include without limitation hospital and surgical insurance, travel insurance, and sports equipment insurance for all Matches;
 - b. its approved Stadium. A release of liability must be signed and returned to the AFF at least thirty (30) days before the start of the Competition. If such an indemnification is not received in due time, the Host Club agrees that the necessary insurance coverage may be concluded by the AFF and expensed to the Host Club;
 - 3.4.2. all other necessary insurance policies, which must provide an appropriate guaranteed sum for injury and damage to persons, objects, and property, and correspond with the specific circumstances of the Participating Club. Such policies must

- cover all risks connected with the organising, hosting, and staging of Matches in the Competition, exempt the AFF from all claims and liabilities, and name the AFF as a co-insured. The AFF must be notified of all insurance policies and may request copies of any and all policies at its discretion;
- 3.4.3. payment of incidental expenses and for any costs incurred by its Team Official Delegation (cf. Article 51);
 - 3.4.4. payment of any costs of extending the stay of any member of its Team Official Delegation in any Hosting MA (cf. Article 51);
 - 3.4.5. obtaining visas to enter the territory of any Hosting MA. This includes all costs related to the visa application process;
 - 3.4.6. payment of all taxes, fees, duties and any other costs related to the importation and/or exportation of equipment, merchandise and/or goods to be used for the Competition; and
 - 3.4.7. guaranteeing safety and security at its Stadium (cf. Articles 14 and 47).
- 3.5. Each Participating Club and/or its Member Association shall indemnify, defend, and hold the AFF and all of its officers, directors, employees, representatives, agents, subsidiaries, local organising committees 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 Club and/or its Member Association, its Team Official Delegation, its affiliates and any third-parties contracted to the Participating Club and/or its Member Association.
- 3.6. The Member Association of the Host Club is responsible for nominating a Local General Coordinator, a Local Media Officer and a Local Safety and Security Officer for each Match that is played within its territory and shall submit the nomination to the AFF for the AFF's approval (together with the Venue information) in accordance with the deadline(s) notified by the AFF. Should a Match be played at a Neutral Venue, the Member Association of the Host Club shall still be held accountable for the relevant nomination, and this must be done in collaboration with the Member Association on whose territory the Match is played.

- 3.7. Each Participating Club shall arrive at the Venue for an away Match at least two (2) days before the Match and depart from the Venue no later than one (1) day after the Match.
- 3.7.1. Should an Away Club wish to arrive at the Venue only one (1) day before the relevant Match, it shall submit a request via an official letter to the AFF with valid reasons and arrival flight itinerary details at least seven (7) days prior to the Match for the AFF's approval (to be accepted at its sole discretion).
- 3.7.2. Should the AFF accept such a request, the late arrival of the relevant Club shall not interrupt the timing of Official Functions and/or the participation of the relevant Participating Club in Official Functions.
- 3.7.3. The requirements and timings set out in Article 3.7 shall also apply to any Host Club which is hosting a home Match at a Neutral Venue.
- 3.7.4. Participating Clubs shall not play in any non-official matches when travelling to and from the Venue of an away Match.
- 3.8. It is acknowledged that one or more Participating Clubs may qualify directly for one or more International Competitions as a result of their performance in the Competition. Where applicable, each such Participating Club undertakes to participate in the relevant International Competition(s).
- 3.9. Participating Clubs are not authorised to represent the AFF or the Competition without the prior written approval of the AFF.
- 3.10. Each Participating Club and its Member Association shall ensure that any decision made by the AFF relating to its duties and responsibilities is enforced immediately.

4. Entry

- 4.1. To be eligible to participate in the Competition, Clubs must meet the requirements set out by the AFF, in the AFF Club Championship Entry Manual 2024/25 (the "Entry Manual").
- 4.2. All decisions regarding entry to the Competition are subject to the provisions set out in the Entry Manual and the jurisdiction of the AFF.
- 4.3. Eligible Clubs must provide their written acknowledgement to these Regulations and the PTO and submit it to the AFF in accordance with Article 3 to confirm their entry into the Competition.

- 4.3.1. The name and logo of a Participating Club shall be the same as the name and logo submitted to the AFF General Secretariat for the purposes of complying with the club licensing criteria set out in the Entry Manual.
- 4.3.2. The name and/or logo of a Participating Club shall not directly refer to the name and/or logo of any third-party entity, whether or not that third-party entity is a commercial partner or sponsor of the Participating Club.
- 4.3.3. The AFF may grant an exception to Article 4.3.2 if one (1) of the following requirements are met:
 - a. the name of the Participating Club is a pre-existing name with long- term use. The third-party entity must have been directly involved in the creation of the Participating Club itself (by financial or other means); or
 - b. the Participating Club previously competed in an AFF competition utilising the name.
- 4.4. Participating Clubs are not permitted to change their name after the first Match in the Competition has been played.

5. [Withdrawal from the Competition](#)

- 5.1. All Participating Clubs undertake that they shall play all their Matches in the Competition until elimination.
- 5.2. Without limitation, any Participating Club that (for any reason):
 - 5.2.1. informs the AFF in writing that it does not intend to or is unable to report to a Venue and/or for a Match;
 - 5.2.2. fails to report to a Venue and/or for a Match;
 - 5.2.3. refuses or fails to continue a Match;
 - 5.2.4. leaves the Stadium prior to the completion of a Match;
 - 5.2.5. is excluded, suspended or banned by any competent body from participating in the Competition (or any stage of the Competition) at any time after the draw for the Competition (or stage, as appropriate); or
 - 5.2.6. is excluded, suspended or banned by any competent body from participating in any Match in the Competition at any time after the relevant Match has been scheduled, shall be considered to have withdrawn from the Competition.

- 5.3. Subject to Articles 5.5 to 5.8, the AFF Competitions Committee shall be responsible for making the necessary decisions where a Participating Club withdraws from the Competition, whether before or after commencement of the Competition (as applicable), and shall be entitled to take any action it considers appropriate in such circumstances, including without limitation regarding whether or not to change the technical regulations (cf. Section 4) and/ or the competition system (cf. Article 6) and, where applicable, the means of effecting such change(s).
- 5.4. The AFF Competitions Committee shall be responsible for determining events of Force Majeure in connection with any withdrawal and shall, subject to Articles 5.5 to 5.8, be entitled to take any action it considers appropriate in such circumstances. Any Participating Club that wishes to put forward a case of Force Majeure for the consideration of the AFF Competitions Committee must do so in writing (with supporting evidence) no later than thirty (30) days after the date of its withdrawal. The AFF General Secretariat may put forward cases of Force Majeure for the consideration of the AFF Competitions Committee at any time at its discretion.
- 5.5. In the event that a Participating Club withdraws from the Competition, whether before or after commencement of the Competition (as applicable), the Competition shall continue with the remaining Participating Clubs and Matches without any replacement.
For the avoidance of doubt, this Article 5.5 shall apply in all instances and is applicable even in cases of Force Majeure determined by the AFF Competitions Committee. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the AFF General Secretariat may, at its discretion, put forward a request to replace the relevant Participating Club and, where applicable, the means of effecting such replacement, for the consideration of the AFF Competitions Committee, in which case the AFF Competitions Committee shall be entitled to take a decision on the matter.
- 5.6. Any Participating Club that withdraws from the Competition after it has commenced shall have all its Matches cancelled and considered null and void. All points and goals in those Matches shall not be taken into consideration when determining the final rankings in a group pursuant to Article 8.3. For the avoidance of doubt, this Article 5.6 shall apply in all instances and is applicable even in cases of Force Majeure determined by the AFF Competitions Committee.

- 5.7. Any Participating Club that has been considered to have withdrawn from the Competition whether before or after commencement of the Competition (as applicable), shall be:
- 5.7.1. disqualified from participating in the next two (2) seasons of AFF club competitions; and
 - 5.7.2. where relevant, disqualified from participating in any tournament organised under Article 3.8, if qualification has been attained.
- This Article 5.7 is not applicable in cases of Force Majeure determined by the AFF Competitions Committee but shall apply in all other instances.
- 5.8. Where any Participating Club fails to comply with Article 5.1 and withdraws from the Competition at any stage, the case shall be referred to the AFF Disciplinary and Ethics Committee.
- In this regard, any Participating Club that withdraws from the Competition:
- 5.8.1. before it has commenced, shall be fined, a maximum of USD300,000 (United States Dollars Three Hundred Thousand) by the AFF Council, and ;
 - 5.8.2. after it has commenced, shall be fined, a maximum of USD 500, 000 (United States Dollars Five Hundred and Fifty Thousand) by the AFF Council.
- 5.9. In addition, in all instances, the AFF Disciplinary and Ethics Committee shall order the relevant Participating Club to return to the AFF any subsidy that has been paid in support of its participation in the Competition (or, if not yet paid, to forfeit its right to that subsidy) and to pay compensation for any and all damages or losses suffered by, where applicable, the other Participating Clubs, the AFF, the AFF Commercial Rights Partner, Commercial Affiliates and the Organising Associations. The amount of compensation shall be determined by the AFF Disciplinary and Ethics Committee. This Article 5.10 is not applicable in cases of Force Majeure determined by the AFF Competitions Committee, but shall apply in all other instances.
- 5.10. All decisions of the AFF Competitions Committee under Articles 5.3 to 5.5 shall be final and binding and not appealable.

SECTION 2: COMPETITION SYSTEM AND MATCH SCHEDULE

6. Competition System

- 6.1. The Competition shall consist of three (3) stages:
 - 6.1.1. the Play-off Stage;
 - 6.1.2. the Group Stage; and
 - 6.1.3. the Knock-outs Stage.
- 6.2. Participating Clubs shall belong to the ASEAN region, comprising of countries namely Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Timor-Leste and Vietnam.
 - 6.2.1. The AFF General Secretariat may decide to exceptionally depart from this system, taking into account sporting, geographic, and economic factors.
- 6.3. The number of slots allocated to the Clubs of eligible Member Associations for the first edition of the Competition are as follows:
 - 6.3.1. PLAY-OFF STAGE
 - a. One Participating Club each from the AFF Member Associations securing bottom-five rank in the then-current FIFA Rankings.
 - b. The Participating Club as mentioned hereinabove, shall be the winners of the National League season within the respective Member Association.
 - 6.3.2. GROUP STAGE

This stage shall have a total of twelve (12) teams:

 - a. Two (2) Participating Clubs each from the Member Associations of the following:
 - i) Indonesia
 - ii) Malaysia
 - iii) Thailand
 - iv) Vietnam, and;
 - b. One Participating Club each from the top two (2) AFF Member Associations in the then-current FIFA Ranking not included in Article 6.3.2 a., hereinabove, and;

- c. Two Participating Clubs, being the winner and runner-up of the Play-off Stage mentioned in Article 6.3.1 hereinabove.
 - d. The Participating Clubs for AFF MAs mentioned in Article 6.3.2 a. shall be (i) the winners of the National League season and (ii) the winners of the National Cup knock-out competition each.
 - e. The Participating Club for AFF MAs mentioned in Article 6.3.2 b. shall be the winners of the National League season.
 - f. Failure to send Participating Clubs as mentioned in Articles 6.3.2 d. and e. may result in reduced financial contributions as mentioned in Articles 53 and 54 of Section 11: Financial Provisions of these Regulations.
- 6.4. Depending on the number of entries, or in the case of withdrawal or suspension of any Participating Clubs, the AFF Competitions Committee may change the competition system and/or technical rules. Such decisions are final and binding and not appealable.

7. Qualifying Stage

- 7.1. The Play-off Stage of the first edition of the Competition shall consist of one (1) Participating Club each from eligible Member Associations as mentioned in Article 6.3., hereinabove, in a Home & Away knockout format.
- 7.2. At the conclusion of the Play-off Stage:
 - 7.2.1. The winner and runner-up of the Play-off Stage will advance to the Group Stage; and
 - 7.2.2. the losers shall be eliminated from the Competition.

8. Group Stage

- 8.1. The Group Stage shall consist of twelve (12) Participating Clubs, drawn into two (2) groups of six (6) teams each, with each group Match played in a Home & Away league format.
 - 8.1.1. Participating Clubs from the same Member Association shall not be drawn in the same group.

- 8.2. Participating Clubs shall play one (1) home and one (1) away Match against each Participating Club within its group in accordance with the Match Schedule.
- 8.3. The ranking in each group shall be determined in descending order as follows:
- 8.3.1. higher number of points obtained in all group Matches;
 - 8.3.2. if two (2) or more Participating Clubs are equal on points, the following criteria are applied to determine the ranking (in descending order):

Head-to-Head Criteria

- 8.3.3. higher number of points obtained in the group Matches played among the Participating Clubs in question;
- 8.3.4. superior goal difference from the group Matches played among the Participating Clubs in question;
- 8.3.5. higher number of goals scored in the group Matches played among the Participating Clubs in question;

Tiebreaker

- 8.3.6. if, after having applied the Head-to-Head criteria, two (2) or more Participating Clubs still have an equal ranking, the Head-to-Head criteria shall be reapplied exclusively to the Matches between the Participating Clubs in question to determine their final rankings. If this procedure does not lead to a decision, the Group Results Criteria shall apply;

Group Results Criteria

- 8.3.7. superior goal difference from all group Matches played;
- 8.3.8. higher number of goals scored from all group Matches played;
- 8.3.9. Kicks from the Penalty Mark if only two (2) Participating Clubs still have an equal ranking and have played their last group Match against each other;
- 8.3.10. the lower score calculated according to the number of yellow and red cards received in the group Matches (Appendix 1 of these Regulations); or
- 8.3.11. the Participating Club from the Member Association with the higher AFC Club Competitions Ranking. For the avoidance of doubt, AFC Club Competitions Ranking will be used only for the first edition of the Competition whereafter, the AFF Club Competitions Ranking shall come into force.

- 8.4. Should the competition system require the best-ranked Participating Clubs from among more than two (2) different groups to advance, the rankings shall be determined by the method set out in Appendix 2 of the Regulations.
- 8.5. At the conclusion of the Group Stage:
- 8.6. the top two (2) Participating Clubs in each group, shall qualify for the Knockout Stage; and all other Participating Clubs shall be eliminated from the Competition.

9. Knockout Stage

- 9.1. The Knockout Stage shall consist of the Semi Finals, and Finals, with each round played in a home and away knockout format. For each round of the Knockout Stage, Participating Clubs shall play one (1) home and one (1) away Match in accordance with the Match Schedule.
- 9.2. The top two respective teams from each of the 2 groups in the Group Stage shall qualify to the Semi Finals with the first leg of each pairing hosted by the Runners-up of Group 1 and Group 2 respectively. The Semi Finals shall be scheduled as follows:

SF1 (first leg):	Runner-up Group A vs Winner Group B
SF1 (second leg):	Winner Group B vs. Runner-up Group A
SF2 (first leg):	Runner- up Group B vs Winner Group A
SF2 (second leg):	Winner Group A vs. Runner-up Group B

For the avoidance of any doubt, the above does not represent the chronological order in which the Matches will be played.

- 9.3. The two (2) winners of the Semi Finals shall play in the Finals.

10. Extra Time and Kicks from the Penalty Mark

- 10.1. If no winner is determined at the end of normal playing time in any Match in the second Match of any tie in the Knockout Stage, Extra Time comprising two (2) periods of fifteen (15) minutes each shall be played.

- 10.2. Extra Time shall be played after an interval of five (5) minutes at the end of normal playing time. A short drink break (which should not exceed one [1] minute) is permitted at the interval of half-time in Extra Time.
- 10.3. One (1) additional substitute and one (1) additional substitution opportunity may be used when a Match goes into Extra Time (whether or not the Participating Club has already used the full number of permitted substitutes and opportunities).
- 10.4. If no winner is determined at the end of Extra Time, Kicks from the Penalty Mark shall be taken in accordance with the Laws of the Game and the provisions of this Regulation.

11. Match Schedule

- 11.1. All Matches shall be played in accordance with the AFF Competitions Calendar. The dates are final and binding and not appealable.
- 11.2. The AFF shall propose the kick-off times to the Participating Clubs. Should a Participating Club wish to change the kick-off time, it must submit a valid reason in writing to the AFF for its approval.
- 11.3. Where necessary for sporting reasons and taking into consideration the time zones and/or Stadium availability, matches in the same group of the Group Stage may be played simultaneously.
- 11.4. All kick-off times shall be determined by the AFF General Secretariat, taking into consideration sporting, organisational (including safety and security), marketing and broadcasting matters.
- 11.5. The Match Schedule shall be determined following the official draws for the relevant stages of the Competition. The date and format of the official draws shall be determined by the AFF General Secretariat.
- 11.6. The AFF General Secretariat retains final discretion to amend the Match Schedule at any time.

12. Cancellation of Matches

- 12.1. For any Match which is cancelled as a result of Force Majeure, the AFF Competitions Committee shall decide on the matter at its sole discretion and take whatever action is deemed necessary.
- 12.1.1. Decisions made pursuant to Article 12.1 are final and binding and not appealable.
- 12.2. Any Match which is cancelled, except in cases of Force Majeure recognised by the AFF Competitions Committee, may lead to the

imposition of sanctions by the AFF Disciplinary and Ethics Committee against the relevant party that caused the cancellation in accordance with the AFF Disciplinary and Ethics Code.

12.3. If a Match cannot commence for any reason, the following procedure shall be followed:

12.3.1. the Match must be delayed for a minimum of thirty (30) minutes. During this delay, the referee may decide that the Match can commence prior to the completion of the delay;

12.3.2. following the first delay, either:

12.3.2.1 an additional delay of thirty (30) minutes shall occur if at the discretion of the referee this second delay may allow the Match to commence; or

12.3.2.1 the Match is declared cancelled by the referee.

12.3.3. Following two (2) delays of thirty (30) minutes, the referee must declare the Match cancelled.

13. Abandonment of Matches

13.1. For any Match which is abandoned as a result of Force Majeure, the AFF Competitions Committee shall decide on the matter at its sole discretion and take whatever action is deemed necessary.

13.1.1. Decisions made pursuant to Article 13.1 are final and binding and not appealable.

13.2. Any Match which is abandoned, except in cases of Force Majeure recognised by the AFF Competitions Committee, may lead to the imposition of sanctions by the AFF Disciplinary and Ethics Committee against the relevant party that caused the abandonment in accordance with the AFF Disciplinary and Ethics Code.

13.3. If at any stage of a Match, if a Participating Team is only able to field fewer than seven (7) players, the Match shall be abandoned, and Article 13.6 shall apply.

13.4. If a Match is stopped by the referee for any other reason except for when the Field of Play is deemed unfit for play or for any other issues which are not in line with the Laws of the Game, the following procedure shall be followed:

13.4.1. the Match is stopped for thirty (30) minutes. During this stoppage, the referee may decide that the Match can commence or resume prior to the completion of the stoppage;

- 13.4.2. subsequent to the first stoppage, either:
 - 13.4.2.1. as additional stoppage of thirty (30) minutes shall occur if at the discretion of the referee this second stoppage may allow the Match to be resumed; or
 - 13.4.2.2. the Match is declared abandoned by the referee;
- 13.4.3. following two (2) stoppages of thirty (30) minutes, the referee must declare the Match abandoned.
- 13.5. Should the AFF determine that an abandoned Match should be rescheduled and completed, the following principles shall apply:
 - 13.5.1. the Match shall recommence with the same score at the minute at which play was interrupted rather than being replayed in full;
 - 13.5.2. the Match shall recommence with the same Participating Players on the Field of Play and same substitutes at the time it was initially abandoned;
 - 13.5.3. no additional substitutes may be added to the Player Selection List or Match Start List;
 - 13.5.4. the Participating Teams may only make the number of substitutions to which they were still entitled when the Match was abandoned;
 - 13.5.5. any Participating Player sent off during the abandoned Match cannot be replaced;
 - 13.5.6. any sanction imposed before the Match was abandoned remain valid for the remainder of the rescheduled Match;
 - 13.5.7. the kick-off time, date and Stadium of the re-scheduled Match shall be decided by the AFF; and
 - 13.5.8. any other matters not set out above shall be decided by the AFF at its sole discretion.
- 13.6. If a Match is stopped by the referee before the end of normal playing time or during any Extra Time as a result of a Participating Team being able to only field fewer than seven (7) Participating Players, the Match shall be declared abandoned and the Participating Team who is able to field more than seven (7) Participating Players shall be declared the winner by the score 3-0, or the score at the time of abandonment, whichever is higher.

14. Stadiums

14.1. Each Participating Club shall nominate the Stadium to be utilised for its home Matches when entering the Competition. All Stadiums must comply with the AFF Stadium Regulations and all other applicable AFF regulations. The AFF General Secretariat makes the final decision to approve any Stadium to host Matches in the Competition and may carry out inspections at any time before and during the Competition to check whether the requirements are met. All costs related to the inspection shall be borne by the relevant Participating Club.

14.1.1. The Stadium nominated shall be the normal home stadium of the Participating Club for matches in its League, unless otherwise instructed by the AFF.

14.1.2. The AFF reserves the right to refuse the nomination of a Stadium and require a Participating Club to play its Matches in a different Stadium within the same Venue or territory of its Member Association, or alternatively at a Neutral Venue in accordance with Articles 14.3 and 14.4 of these Regulations.

14.2. Each Participating Club must play their home Matches in the one and only Stadium approved by the AFF throughout the Competition. A Participating Club cannot change its Stadium during the Competition unless it is forced to do so due to circumstances beyond its control.

14.3. Should a Participating Club wish to change its Stadium during the Competition, it must provide evidence to the AFF, including without limitation photographs, other visual evidence, and letters from the relevant authorities as to why the Stadium is unable to host Matches, at least thirty (30) days prior to its next home Match.

14.3.1. Only upon receipt of the evidence shall the AFF make a decision on whether the Participating Club may nominate a new Stadium for its home Matches. Such Stadium must comply with the AFC /AFF Stadium Regulations and all other applicable AFF regulations.

14.3.2. The AFF shall decide whether to approve the newly nominated Stadium. Should the AFF be required to conduct an inspection, all costs shall be borne by the Participating Club and/or its Member Association.

- 14.3.3. Should the newly nominated Stadium not be approved by the AFF, or should a Participating Club be unable to play home Matches in its one and only Stadium approved by the AFF and not nominate a new Stadium, the AFF General Secretariat shall select an alternate Stadium in accordance with Article 14.1.2 hereinabove.
- 14.4. Participating Clubs who are required to play home Matches at a Neutral Venue shall comply with the matters set out in these Regulations.
- 14.5. If the AFF deems, for whatever reason, that a Stadium is unable to stage a Match or Matches, the relevant Participating Club shall propose an alternate Stadium. Should the Participating Club not propose an acceptable alternate Stadium by a deadline set by the AFF, the AFF General Secretariat may select a Neutral Venue to stage a Match or Matches.
- 14.5.1. The Participating Club concerned is responsible for all Match arrangements for the staging of the Match or Matches, including all costs as set out in these Regulations. This includes Matches played at a Neutral Venue.
- 14.5.2. Should the Participating Club not propose an acceptable alternate Stadium within any deadline set by the AFF and/or refuse to partake in Matches at the proposed Neutral Venue selected by the AFF General Secretariat, it shall be considered to have withdrawn from the Competition and be subject to Article 5 of these Regulations.
- 14.5.3. The AFF General Secretariat makes all final decisions pursuant to Article 14.4.
- 14.6. For any Match played at a Neutral Venue, the Host Club must organise and stage the Match:
- 14.6.1. in accordance with these Regulations;
- 14.6.2. in accordance with any instructions of the AFF;
- 14.6.3. in cooperation with the Member Association on whose territory the Match shall be played; and
- 14.6.4. in cooperation with the local authorities.
- 14.7. Host Clubs shall ensure that no football matches and/or any other events or activities are held at any Stadium during the period starting at least two (2) days prior to each Match (other than in relation to the Finals, where such period shall be determined by the AFF) until one (1) day after

the Match, unless prior written permission has been obtained from the AFF. The Stadium shall be delivered to the AFF for its exclusive use during this period.

14.7.1. A Host Club that fails to comply with Article 14.6 shall be fined at least USD10,000 (United States Dollars Ten Thousand).

14.7.2. The AFF Disciplinary and Ethics Committee may impose further sanctions at its discretion.

14.8. Each Match of the Finals shall be played in a Stadium approved by the AFF with a minimum capacity of forty thousand (40,000) spectators. The AFF may grant an exception to the stipulated capacity in cases of particular hardship and/or upon reasoned request. The Venue shall be decided by the AFF taking into consideration all logistical factors, including without limitation, accommodation and transportation.

15. Field of Play

15.1. If a Host Club considers the Field of Play unfit for a Match, it shall immediately inform the AFF, the Away Club and the Match Officials before their departure to the Venue.

15.1.1. A Participating Club that fails to comply with Article 15.1 shall be liable for all costs incurred for the travel, board and lodging expenses of the parties involved.

15.2. The AFF Match Commissioner and Match Officials will inspect each Stadium prior to the Match and ensure that all arrangements are in accordance with the Laws of the Game. If the conditions of the Field of Play including the dimension of the goal and field are not in accordance with the Laws of the Game, the AFF Match Commissioner shall issue instructions to the Host Club to ensure rectification.

15.2.1. If, in the opinion of the Referee, the instructions issued pursuant to Article 15.2 are not complied with by the start of the Match, the Host Club shall forfeit the Match in accordance with the AFF Disciplinary and Ethics Code.

16. Official Training Sites

16.1. Each Participating Club shall nominate the Official Training Sites to be utilised for its home Matches when entering the Competition. The AFF General Secretariat makes the final decision to approve any Official Training Site and may carry out inspections at any time before and

during the Competition to check whether the requirements are met. All costs related to the inspection shall be borne by the relevant Participating Club.

16.1.1. The AFF reserves the right to refuse the nomination of an Official Training Site and require a Participating Club to nominate an alternate Official Training Site.

16.1.2. Official Training Sites shall be situated no more than thirty (30) minutes or thirty (30) kilometres, whichever is lesser, away from the Accommodation of the Away Club, unless otherwise approved by the AFF.

16.2. Official Training Sites shall contain a fully-equipped training field prepared to match-condition.

16.2.1. A Host Club that fails to comply with Article 16.2 shall be fined at least USD10,000 (United States Dollars Ten Thousand).

16.2.2. The AFF Disciplinary and Ethics Committee may impose further sanctions at its discretion.

16.3. Official Training Sites shall be made available at least two (2) days prior to each Match until the commencement of the Match. They shall not be used for any other purpose during this period, unless prior written permission has been obtained from the AFF.

16.3.1. A Host Club that fails to comply with Article 16.3 shall be fined at least USD10,000 (United States Dollars Ten Thousand).

16.3.2. The AFF Disciplinary and Ethics Committee may impose further sanctions at its discretion.

16.4. Participating Clubs must strictly follow the official training schedule decided in the match coordination meeting one (1) day prior to the Match. Should both Participating Clubs wish to train at the same time, the Away Club shall be given priority.

SECTION 4: TECHNICAL REGULATIONS

17. Laws of the Game

- 17.1. All Matches shall be played in accordance with the Laws of the Game. In the case of any discrepancy in the interpretation of the Laws of the Game, the English version shall prevail.
- 17.2. Each Match shall last ninety (90) minutes, comprising two (2) periods of forty-five (45) minutes each, with a half-time interval of fifteen (15) minutes.
- 17.3. Five (5) of the substitutes listed on the 'Match Start List' may take part in the Match and each Participating Club shall have three (3) substitution opportunities in accordance with the Laws of the Game. Any Participating Player who has been substituted may take no further part in that Match.
- 17.4. The AFF may, at its discretion, decide to use football technologies in any Match or Matches in the Competition or in the Competition as a whole (including Goal-Line Technology [GLT], a Video Assistant Referee [VAR] system or Electronic Performance and Tracking Systems [EPTS]) in accordance with the Laws of the Game.

18. Refereeing

- 18.1. If the Referee is prevented from carrying out his/her duties, such Referee shall be replaced by the Fourth Official. The same applies for either of the Assistant Referees if a Reserve Assistant Referee is not appointed.
- 18.2. A Video Assistant Referee (VAR) may assist the Referee to make a decision using replay footage in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Laws of the Game in force at the time of the Competition.

19. Team Bench and Technical Area

- 19.1. A maximum of twelve (12) Participating Players and a maximum of eleven (11) Participating Officials are permitted to sit on the team bench during a Match, provided they are in possession of the appropriate Accreditation Card.
- 19.2. The Host Club shall ensure to secure a minimum of twenty-one (21) Team Technical Seats for each Participating Club's additional Participating Players and Participating Officials who will not be seated on the team bench. For the avoidance of doubt, only up to twelve (12) Participating Players and nine (9) Participating Officials from each Participating Club

who are duly registered for the Competition are permitted to sit on the Team Technical Seats, and they must be in possession of the appropriate Accreditation Card.

20. Footballs

20.1. Play-offs Stage

20.1.1. The footballs used in the Play-offs Stage shall be selected and supplied by each Host Club. The Host Club shall supply the Away Club with the same football for its training throughout the period of its stay.

20.1.2. Participating Clubs shall solely utilise the training footballs provided by the Host Club for the official training and warming-up purposes.

20.2. Group Stage and Knockout Stage

20.2.1. The footballs used in the Group Stage and Knockout Stage shall be selected and supplied by the AFF.

20.2.2. Each Participating Club entering the Group Stage shall receive twenty (20) footballs for training prior to the Group Stage.

20.2.3. Participating Clubs shall solely utilise the twenty (20) training footballs provided by the AFF for training and warming-up purposes. Away Clubs are required to utilise the footballs as provided in accordance with Article 20.4 hereinbelow, during away Matches.

20.2.4. Host Club/ Hosting MA shall receive footballs for each Match it hosts, and these Match balls must only be used for the Match(es).

20.2.5. Each Member Association and/or its Participating Club(s) are responsible for any taxes and/or fees pertaining to the customs clearance of footballs delivered to the Member Association and when travelling for their away Matches.

21. Equipment

21.1. The AFF has the sole authority to approve the equipment (including kit) in accordance with Appendix 3 - Equipment Regulations of these Regulations.

21.2. Each Participating Club shall indemnify the AFF and hold the AFF harmless from any and all damages in the event that a conflict arises as

a result of any endorsement deal existing between itself and its sponsor(s) which contravenes the aforesaid AFF Equipment Regulations.

SECTION 5: TEAM OFFICIAL DELEGATION

22. Team Official Delegation

- 22.1. All Participating Players and Participating Officials of a Team Official Delegation will be issued with Accreditation Cards authorised by the AFF General Secretariat. Each Participating Club shall produce the Accreditation Cards for its Participating Players and Participating Officials using the materials provided by the AFF.
- 22.2. Each Participating Club shall ensure that no person in its Team Official Delegation or otherwise affiliated to it, enters or is present on its team bus, in its team dressing room, on the Field of Play, or in any other Controlled Access Area without being in physical possession of the necessary Accreditation Card which has been validly issued to such person.
- 22.3. For each Match in the Competition, Participating Clubs shall register a Team Official Delegation comprising a maximum of twenty-three (23) Participating Players and up to eleven (11) Participating Officials.
- 22.3.1. Each Participating Club may nominate an additional nine (9) Participating Officials as part of its Team Official Delegation, who shall receive the same Accreditation Card as the eleven (11) Participating Officials referred to above.
- 22.3.2. All costs related to the additional nine (9) Participating Officials shall be borne by the relevant Participating Club.

23. Registration Windows

- 23.1. There are two (2) registration windows for the Competition. The registration windows shall open on the dates communicated by the AFF. The applicability of each registration window and the relevant closing dates are as follows:
- 23.1.1. Registration Window 1: This registration window applies only to Participating Clubs which enter the Competition at the Play-off Stage. It shall close fifteen (15) days prior to the relevant Participating Club's first Match in the Competition.
- 23.1.2. Registration Window 2: This registration window applies only to Participating Clubs which enter the Competition at the Group Stage (having not participated in the Play-off Stage). It shall close

thirty (30) days prior to the relevant Participating Club's first Match in the Competition.

23.2. Participating Players and Participating Officials registered pursuant to the replacement provisions contained in Articles 28, 29, and/or 31 of these Regulations, are considered to have been registered during the same registration window covered by those replacement provisions.

24. Eligibility of Players

24.1. Each Participating Club shall ensure that all players:

24.1.1. are duly registered with the AFF pursuant to these Regulations;
and

24.1.2. are duly registered by the Participating Club with its Member Association pursuant to its transfer rules and those set out in the FIFA Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players.

24.2. Individuals who meet the criteria set out in Article 24.1 are eligible to participate in the Competition, subject to the provisions of the AFF Disciplinary and Ethics Code.

24.3. Each Participating Club shall ensure to submit authentic documents for registration of its Participating Players.

24.4. The approval of the registration of a Participating Player by the AFF General Secretariat does not mean that the Participating Player is eligible to participate in the Competition. Each Participating Club is responsible for fielding only eligible Participating Players in a Match. Failure to do so shall lead to the consequences stipulated in the AFF Disciplinary and Ethics Code.

24.5. A Participating Player shall be deemed ineligible, without limitation, if:

24.5.1. there is a violation of Article 24.1; or

24.5.2. he participates in a Match contrary to a decision of the AFF Disciplinary and Ethics Committee, these Regulations, or the operation of the AFF Disciplinary and Ethics Code; or

24.5.3. the AFF determines that any document submitted during registration is falsified or forged.

25. Registration of Players

25.1. There are two (2) stages of registration for the players in the Competition:

- 25.1.1. Registration Windows 1 and 2: each Participating Club must submit a squad of a minimum of eighteen (18) and a maximum of forty-five (45) players; and
- 25.1.2. Player Selection List: each Participating Club must submit a 'Player Selection List' prior to each Match which identifies the starting eleven (11) and up to twelve (12) substitutes comprising individuals registered in the relevant registration window.
- 25.2. Should the AFF not receive all required documents by the stipulated deadlines for Registration Windows 1 and 2, the Participating Club concerned shall be considered to have withdrawn from the Competition prior to its commencement and be subject to Article 5 of these Regulations.

26. Documents for Registration of Players

26.1. Participating Players must be registered with the AFF by sending the documentations listed hereinbelow via written communication, to the registered e-mail id of the AFF i.e., gensec@aseanfootball.org with CC to noraini.taha@aseanfootball.org:

26.1.1. A colour copy of a valid passport, containing the full name, passport number, place of birth, date of birth, date of issue, date of expiry and nationality of the relevant individuals. Group passports are not permitted;

26.1.2. A colour copy of a national identification card;

26.1.3. One (1) passport – size colour photo [taken within six (6) months];

26.1.4. A copy of a birth certificate (where requested by the AFF);

26.1.5. A copy of a valid contract, entered into between the Participating Player and his Club, which contains the contract period and shall be in accordance with the FIFA Regulations on the Statys and Transfer of Players (“RSTP”);

26.1.6. (for players who transferred internationally) a copy of the International Transfer Certificate (ITC) or evidence to demonstrate that an ITC has been issued in accordance with the FIFA RSTP. An ITC may be submitted after the close of the relevant registration window and the Participating Player will only be considered eligible in accordance with the specific provisions set out in these Regulations.

26.2. Where original documents are not in English, the original document and a certified English translation shall be provided by the Participating Club and/or the relevant Member Association.

26.3. The AFF reserves the right to request additional documents in all cases.

27. Player Status

27.1. Subject to Articles 24.1, 27.2, 28.2 and 29.2, there shall be no limit on the number of foreign Participating Players that each Participating Club may register during Registration Windows 1 and 2, however, each Participating Club may only select up to six (6) foreign Participating Players in the Player Selection List. In case more than five (5) foreign Participating Players are selected in the Player Selection List, then at

least one (1) of these foreign Participating Players must hold the nationality of a Member Association.

27.2. A stateless Participating Player registered by a Participating Club shall be treated as a foreign Participating Player not holding the nationality of a Member Association unless it can be proven (to the AFF's satisfaction, at its sole discretion) that:

27.2.1. such Participating Player has validly participated in a match for a representative team of the Member Association to which the relevant Participating Club is affiliated (the "Local MA") in an official competition of any category or any type of football, in which case he shall be treated as a local Participating Player; or

27.2.2. such Participating Player has validly participated in a match for a representative team of another Member Association which is not the Local MA in an official competition of any category or any type of football, in which case he shall be treated as a Participating Player holding the nationality of a Member Association.

27.3. Any Participating Player who has acquired a new nationality of a Member Association (e.g. through naturalisation) and wishes to participate in the Competition utilising that nationality must demonstrate, at least, one of the following:

27.3.1. that the nationality was acquired more than five (5) years before the date of the Participating Player's registration for the Competition; or

27.3.2. that he is eligible to participate for the representative team of the relevant Member Association in accordance with the FIFA Regulations Governing the Application of the Statutes.

27.4. Any Participating Player who is eligible to represent more than one (1) Football Association on account of his nationality of one (1) country and wishes to participate in the Competition utilising the nationality of a Member Association must demonstrate one (1) of the following:

27.4.1. that he has participated in an official competition for a representative team of the relevant Member Association; or

27.4.2. that he is eligible to participate for a representative team of the relevant Member Association in accordance with the FIFA Regulations Governing the Application of the Statutes.

- 27.5. Any Participating Player who does not meet the relevant requirements stipulated above shall not be eligible to take part in the Competition utilising that nationality.
- 27.6. A Participating Player cannot change his nationality of registration for the duration of the Competition.
- 27.7. A Participating Player shall only be registered to one (1) Participating Club per registration window.
- 27.8. A Participating Player shall not be eligible to represent more than one (1) Participating Club per stage of the Competition. A Participating Player that has been fielded by a Participating Club in a stage of the Competition cannot be registered for another Participating Club in that same stage.
- 27.9. If a violation of Article 27.7 or Article 27.8 occurs:
- 27.9.1. the Participating Player may be sanctioned with a ban on participating in a minimum of one (1) future season of AFF club competitions, unless he can demonstrate that extenuating circumstances existed;
 - 27.9.2. the Participating Club shall forfeit any Match in which the Participating Player has been fielded in accordance with the AFF Disciplinary and Ethics Code;
 - 27.9.3. the Participating Club may be considered to have withdrawn from the Competition and be subject to Article 5 of these Regulations, at the discretion of the AFF; and
 - 27.9.4. the AFF Disciplinary and Ethics Committee may impose further sanctions at its discretion.
- 27.10. For the purposes of the contract of a Participating Player, his date of registration with a Participating Club shall be:
- 27.10.1. For Participating Players who transferred internationally to the Participating Club: the date of issuance of the International Transfer Certificate (“ITC”) or the date of provisional registration with the Participating Club’s Member Association pursuant to the FIFA Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players, submitted in accordance with Article 26 of these Regulations; and
 - 27.10.2. For Participating Players who transferred domestically to the Participating Club or are ‘homegrown’ players: the official date of the contract submitted in accordance with Article 26 of these Regulations.

27.11. An ITC or proof of the provisional registration shall only be accepted after the close of a registration window where:

27.11.1. the Participating Club entered into a valid contract with the player prior to the close of the registration window and submitted this to the AFF; and

27.11.2. Registration Window 1 or 2: a copy of the ITC or evidence to demonstrate that an ITC has been issued or proof of the provisional registration in accordance with the FIFA Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players is submitted to the AFF no later than seven (7) days prior to its first Match in the relevant stage of the Competition.

28. Registration Window 1

28.1. Each Participating Club shall submit its registration of Participating Players and supporting documents in accordance with Article 26 of these Regulations.

28.2. Each Participating Club shall submit a registration of a minimum of eighteen (18) and a maximum of forty-five (45) Participating Players.

28.2.1. Each Participating Club must register a minimum of three (3) goalkeepers in its registration.

28.2.2. Participating Players must be allocated a playing number from 1 to 99. Playing number 1 shall be reserved for a goalkeeper. Each Participating Player shall wear the same playing number allocated in his first registration during all Matches in the Competition. Participating Players registered as replacements (cf. Article 28.4) may only be allocated a new playing number.

28.3. If a Participating Club fails to register a minimum of eighteen (18) Participating Players by the stipulated deadline, it shall be considered to have withdrawn from the Competition prior to its commencement and be subject to Article 5 of these Regulations.

28.4. Once the registration of Participating Players has been received by the AFF and after the stipulated deadline has passed, Participating Clubs may:

28.4.1. Play-offs Stage

no later than seven (7) days prior to their first Match in the Competition, replace or add up to eight (8) Participating Players for any reason provided that the maximum number of registered players is not exceeded; and

28.4.2. Group Stage (if qualified)

no later than seven (7) days prior to MD1 of the Group Stage, replace or add up to eight (8) Participating Players for any reason provided that the maximum number of registered players is not exceeded.

28.5. Notwithstanding the foregoing replacement provisions (cf. Articles 28.4.1 and 28.4.2), if at any time during the Play-offs Stage and/or Group Stage, two (2) or more Participating Players who are registered as goalkeepers suffer long-term injuries or illness, the relevant Participating Club may request to replace one (1) or more of these goalkeeper(s) by registering one (1) or more new Participating Players as goalkeepers (as appropriate).

28.5.1. An injury or illness shall be considered long-term for the purposes of this Article if it will or can reasonably be expected to last for thirty (30) days or longer (as from the date of the request).

28.5.2. A medical report, in English, must be submitted to the AFF detailing the extent of the injury or illness by the relevant Participating Player(s) before any replacement(s) can be approved by the AFF.

28.5.3. Any replacement must be requested no later than twenty-four (24) hours before the kick-off time of the Participating Club's next Match.

28.5.4. The AFF shall decide on any replacement(s) at its sole discretion, and any such decisions shall be final and binding and not appealable.

28.5.5. Incidents involving the provision of false or misleading evidence or information to the AFF in connection with any replacement under this Article (as regards the provision of medical reports or otherwise) may be referred to the AFF Disciplinary and Ethics Committee.

28.5.6. For the avoidance of doubt, once a Participating Player has been replaced, such player cannot be re-registered in the Competition (including as a replacement).

28.6. Participating Players registered pursuant to the replacement provisions set out in Article 28 shall only be eligible to participate in the Competition after receiving their Accreditation Cards.

29. Registration Window 2

29.1. Each Participating Club shall submit its registration of Participating Players and supporting documents in accordance with Article 26 of these Regulations.

29.2. Each Participating Club shall submit a registration of a minimum of eighteen (18) and a maximum of forty-five (45) Participating Players.

29.2.1. Each Participating Club must register a minimum of three (3) goalkeepers in its registration.

29.2.2. Participating Players must be allocated a playing number from 1 to 99. Playing number 1 shall be reserved for a goalkeeper. Each Participating Player shall wear the same playing number allocated in his first registration during all Matches in the Competition. Participating Players registered as replacements (cf. Article 29.4) may only be allocated a new playing number.

29.3. If a Participating Club fails to register the minimum eighteen (18) Participating Players by the stipulated deadline, it shall be considered to have withdrawn from the Competition prior to its commencement and be subject to Article 5 of these Regulations.

29.4. Once the registration of Participating Players has been received by the AFF and after the stipulated deadline has passed, Participating Clubs may:

29.4.1. Group Stage

no later than seven (7) days prior to MD1 of the Group Stage, replace or add up to eight (8) Participating Players for any reason provided that the maximum number of registered players is not exceeded.

29.4.2. Knock-out Stage

No later than seven (7) days prior to their first match of the Knock-out Stage, replace or add up to eight (8) Participating Players for any reason provided that the maximum number of registered players is not exceeded.

29.5. Notwithstanding the foregoing replacement provision (cf. Article 29.4.1), if at any time during the Group Stage, two (2) or more Participating

Players who are registered as goalkeepers suffer long-term injuries or illness, the relevant Participating Club may request to replace one (1) or more of these goalkeeper(s) by registering one (1) or more new Participating Players as goalkeepers (as appropriate). The provisions of Articles 28.5.1 to 28.5.6 shall apply equally to registration window 2.

29.6. Participating Players registered pursuant to the replacement provisions set out in this Article 29 shall only be eligible to participate in the Competition after receiving their Accreditation Cards.

30. Player Selection List

30.1. Each Participating Club shall mark the starting eleven (11), including the team captain and up to twelve (12) substitutes, on the 'Player Selection List'.

30.1.1. Each Participating Club may register up to six (6) foreign Participating Players. In case more than five (5) foreign Participating Players are registered, then at least one (1) of these foreign Participating Players must hold the nationality of an AFF Member Association.

30.1.2. Each Participating Clubs shall identify at least two (2) players as goalkeepers on its 'Player Selection List'.

30.2. Each Participating Club must hand its 'Player Selection List' signed by the Head Coach or the Team Manager, together with the 'Officials on the Substitution Bench' form with the names of the eleven (11) Participating Officials who shall be entitled to sit on the team bench, to the AFF Match Commissioner at least ninety (90) minutes prior to the commencement of each Match.

31. Registration of Officials

31.1. Each Participating Club shall submit its registration of Participating Officials and the supporting documents in accordance with Article 32 of these Regulations, by the deadline provided by the AFF for the relevant registration window.

31.2. Each Participating Club shall submit a registration of a minimum of two (2) and a maximum of twenty (20) Participating Officials.

31.3. Each Participating Club must include the following three (3) Participating Officials in the registration list:

31.3.1. Head Coach;

- 31.3.2. Team Doctor; and
- 31.3.3. Team Manager (who shall also act as the Team Media Officer in case there is no dedicated Team Media Officer).
- 31.4. Up to eleven (11) Participating Officials may sit on the team bench for each Match. The following three (3) Participating Officials must be registered on the 'Officials on the Substitution Bench' form:
 - 31.4.1. Head Coach;
 - 31.4.2. Team Doctor; and
 - 31.4.3. Team Manager.
- 31.5. Each Participating Club is entitled to register up to two (2) 'Video Analysts' who shall be the only members of a Team Official Delegation entitled to record Matches in the relevant stage of the Competition using only one (1) lightweight amateur camera each. This recording shall be strictly for technical purposes and should not interfere with Match operations or be utilised by any Broadcast Partner or otherwise distributed and/or used for any commercial purposes.
- 31.6. The Team Manager and/or Team Media Officer (as applicable) of each Participating Club shall be responsible for coordinating all Participating Club and media-related matters with the AFF. They shall work in a full-time, exclusive capacity from two (2) days prior to each Match until one (1) day after the Match. They shall participate in all Official Functions related to Matches in the Competition, including without limitation the match coordination meeting and all press conferences.
- 31.7. Should the Participating Club nominate less than eleven (11) Participating Officials on the 'Officials on the Substitution Bench' form, or the AFF does not approve the registration of any person(s) nominated, the number of Participating Officials permitted on the team bench shall reduce proportionately.
- 31.8. Should the AFF not receive all required documents by the stipulated deadline, the Participating Club shall be considered to have withdrawn from the Competition prior to its commencement and be subject to Article 5 of these Regulations.
- 31.9. Once the registration of Participating Officials has been received by the AFF and after the stipulated deadline has passed, Participating Clubs may replace any of the listed Participating Officials at any stage with twenty-four (24) hours' notice to the AFF by submitting the documents set out in Article 32 of these Regulations. Such Participating Officials

registered as replacements shall only be eligible to participate in the Competition after receiving their Accreditation Card.

32. Documents for Registration of Officials

32.1. Participating Officials must be registered as per the provisions of these Regulations with the following supporting documents:

32.1.1. A colour copy of a valid passport, containing the full name, passport number, place of birth, date of birth, date of issue, date of expiry and nationality of the relevant individuals. Group passports are not permitted;

32.1.2. A colour copy of a national identification card;

32.1.3. One (1) passport – size colour photo [taken within six (6) months];

32.1.4. Evidence of their qualification based upon their function:

32.1.4.1 Head Coach, Assistant Coach, Fitness Coach and Goalkeeper Coach: as set out in Appendix 15 of the AFC Competition Operations Manual (Edition 2023);

32.1.4.2 Team Doctor: relevant medical qualification.

32.1.5. Where original documents are not in English, the original document and a certified English translation shall be provided.

32.1.6. The AFF reserves the right to request additional documents in all cases.

33. Media Access

- 33.1. Each Host Club and its Member Association shall ensure that the AFF, AFF Commercial Rights Partners, Commercial Affiliates, the Host Broadcaster, and all Broadcast Partners have free access to the Stadium from two (2) days prior to each Match in the Stadium until one (1) day after the Match in the Stadium to allow for the resolution of any technical issues and for the assembly and/or disassembly of the relevant infrastructure required to execute the Media Rights.
- 33.2. All Participating Clubs including the Host Club and each of their Member Associations shall ensure that the provisions of Appendix 4 are adhered to promptly.

34. Press Conferences

- 34.1. The Host Club is responsible for the organisation of a pre-Match press conference to be conducted under the supervision of the Local Media Officer at least one (1) day prior to each Match it hosts in the Competition.
- 34.2. The Head Coach and a minimum of one (1) of the key Participating Players of each Participating Club must attend a pre-Match press conference for each Match in which they participate. The AFF shall decide the final timing of the pre-Match press conference in the absence of an agreement on timing by the Participating Clubs.
- 34.3. The Head Coach of each Participating Club and the Player of the Match must attend a post- Match press conference for each Match in which they participate, commencing no later than fifteen (15) minutes after the Match. Where additional awards are granted, the winner of such awards must also attend the post-Match press conference, if requested by the AFF.
- 34.4. Each Participating Club is responsible for the language interpretation and translation of its Participating Players and Participating Officials into English. Interpretation and translation into the local language (if applicable) shall be the responsibility of the Host Club.
- 34.5. Any individual who fails to attend an obligatory press conference shall be fined at least USD10,000 (United States Dollars Ten Thousand). The relevant Participating Club shall also be held liable for any failure to attend a press conference in accordance with Article 3.3.9. of these

Regulations. The AFF Disciplinary and Ethics Committee may impose further sanctions at its discretion.

35. Mixed Zone

- 35.1. All Participating Players of each Participating Club shall pass through the mixed zone on their way from their team dressing room to their bus after each Match. The Head Coach shall be required to pass through the mixed zone on the way from the team dressing room to the bus after each Match only in the event that there is no post-Match press conference held after the Match.
- 35.2. Any individual who fails to pass through the mixed zone shall be fined at least USD10,000 (United States Dollars Ten Thousand). The relevant Participating Club may also be held liable for any failure to pass through the mixed zone in accordance with Article 3.3.9. of these Regulations. The AFF Disciplinary and Ethics Committee may impose further sanctions at its discretion.

36. Interviews

- 36.1. If requested by the AFF, Participating Clubs shall make their Head Coach and selected Participating Players available for an interview of up to ten (10) minutes, to be recorded by the Host Broadcaster or any other Broadcast Partner, any Commercial Affiliate and/or the AFF. All interview locations shall be designated by the Local Media Officer or AFF Match Commissioner.
- 36.1.1. For the Play-offs Stage and Group Stage, any such interview shall be conducted one (1) day prior to the Match.
- 36.1.2. For the Knockout Stage, any such interview shall be conducted one (1) or two (2) days prior to the Match.
- 36.2. If requested by the AFF, Participating Clubs shall make their Head Coach available on Match Day for an interview of not more than ninety (90) seconds at their point of arrival at the Stadium for the Match.
- 36.3. Any individual who fails to conduct an interview when requested shall be fined at least USD10,000 (United States Dollars Ten Thousand). The relevant Participating Club may also be held liable for any failure to conduct an interview when requested in accordance with Article 3.3.9. of these Regulations. The AFF Disciplinary and Ethics Committee may impose further sanctions at its discretion.

37. Flash Interviews

- 37.1. Participating Players and Participating Officials are not permitted to give interviews at the Stadium without the express permission of the AFF.
- 37.2. The Local Media Officer may designate an area for multilateral and unilateral flash interviews to be conducted by the Host Broadcaster and the Broadcast Partners (as applicable) following each Match.
- 37.3. If requested by the AFF, a maximum of three (3) Participating Players and/or one (1) Participating Official from each Participating Club shall participate in a 'flash interview' following each Match.
- 37.4. Any individual who fails to conduct a 'flash interview' when requested shall be fined at least USD10,000 (United States Dollars Ten Thousand). The relevant Participating Club may also be held liable for any failure to conduct a 'flash interview' when requested in accordance with Article 3.3.9. of these Regulations. The AFF Disciplinary and Ethics Committee may impose further sanctions at its discretion.

38. Recording of Matches

- 38.1. Immediately after each Match, the relevant Host Club shall provide four (4) copies of the full Match recording to the AFF Match Commissioner.
- 38.2. Any Host Club that fails to comply with Article 38.1 shall be fined at least USD3,000 (United States Dollars Three Thousand). The AFF Disciplinary and Ethics Committee may impose further sanctions at its discretion.

SECTION 7: TICKETING

39. General Requirements

- 39.1. Tickets, electronic or hard copy, shall include seat numbering and serial numbering, and only include AFF Marks, Competition Marks, and/or marks of Commercial Affiliates approved by the AFF, unless express prior written approval for a deviation has been provided by the AFF.
- 39.2. The AFF reserves the right at its sole discretion to substitute the seating area or the gate entrance identified on a Ticket with another, if deemed appropriate for security or technical reasons.
- 39.3. The Host Club and its Member Association must ensure that access to the Stadium is granted to the AFF Delegation, Away Club Team Official Delegation, AFF Commercial Rights Partner, Commercial Affiliates, Media and travelling supporters without any discrimination.
- 39.4. The AFF General Secretariat shall determine the Ticketing policy. For the avoidance of any doubt, the revenue generated from ticket sales shall be solely for the benefit of the Host Club, in accordance with the Commercial Rights Agreement and/or the Hosting Obligations or such other similar agreement(s) signed between the AFF and such Host Club.

40. Terms and Conditions

- 40.1. Unless otherwise advised by the AFF in writing, each Host Club shall be responsible at its own cost for the production, distribution, and sales of all Tickets. Such matters are subject to the approval of the AFF. The AFF shall provide a Ticket template design to all Participating Clubs.
- 40.2. The AFF shall, in collaboration with each Host Club and/or Hosting MA, issue special Ticketing terms and conditions which are applicable to all Ticket holders.
- 40.3. The AFF may change the terms and conditions and shall advise the Host Club on any requirements relating to Ticket production, distribution and/or sales.

41. Complimentary Tickets

- 41.1. Each Host Club shall provide Complimentary Tickets to the AFF and/or AFF Commercial Rights Partner for each Match in the Competition, in accordance with the following deadlines:
 - 41.1.1. Play-offs Stage: by latest seven (7) days before the Match;

- 41.1.2. Group Stage: by latest thirty (30) days before the Match;
- 41.1.3. Knockouts Stage: by latest ten (10) days before the Match.
- 41.1.4. All Complimentary Tickets shall be provided in a continuous block.
- 41.2. For the avoidance of doubt, where necessary (e.g. in circumstances where the relevant Away Club has not been determined by the deadline set out in Article 41.1 of these Regulations), a Host Club may provide Complimentary Tickets to the AFF, AFF Commercial Rights Partner and/or Commercial Affiliates which identify the Away Club using generic terms (e.g. "Winner of Play-off Stage 2").
- 41.3. In the event that a Participating Club qualifies for any stage of the Competition and the time period between the confirmation of such qualification and the scheduled home Match in the relevant stage is less than the deadlines set out in Articles 41.1.3 to 41.1.7 hereinbelow, such Participating Club must provide the AFF, AFF Commercial Rights Partner and/or Commercial Affiliates with the relevant Complimentary Tickets for the home Match no later than seven (7) days after the confirmation of its qualification.
- 41.4. The AFF reserves all Ticketing rights relating to the Finals. The AFF is entitled to request any additional Tickets, the number of which shall be communicated to the Host Club and/or its Member Association at the appropriate time.
- 41.5. Each Host Club shall provide the following to the Away Club no later than at the match coordination meeting (which shall take place no later than one [1] day prior to the Match):
 - 41.5.1. two (2) VVIP complimentary Tickets;
 - 41.5.2. five (5) VIP complimentary Tickets; and
 - 41.5.3. twenty (20) complimentary Tickets of the next-best category (as determined by the AFF).

42. Purchasable Tickets

- 42.1. Each Host Club and/or its Member Association must make at least five percent (5%) of the net saleable capacity of the Stadium available exclusively to the supporters of the Away Club in a segregated, safe area to be determined by the Host Club and the AFF General Secretariat.
- 42.2. The number of Tickets to be purchased must be declared to the Host Club no later than two (2) weeks prior to the Match with full payment by

the Away Club to the Host Club. The Away Club is responsible for all Tickets purchased, even if the Tickets are not utilised. The price of the Tickets shall not exceed the price of comparable Tickets that are sold to the supporters of the Host Club.

- 42.3. Each Host Club shall provide the AFF Commercial Rights Partner with the opportunity to buy Tickets at face value for each Match as instructed by the AFF. The number of Tickets to be purchased must be declared at a time to be mutually agreed between the AFF Commercial Rights Partner and the Host Club.
- 42.4. The AFF shall be able to purchase Tickets at face value and on an individual Match basis from each Host Club for itself and its Commercial Affiliates.
- 42.5. The revenue received from selling of Tickets as mentioned in this Section 7 of these Regulations shall be solely for the benefit of the respective Host Clubs.

43. Commercial Rights

43.1. The AFF is the owner of all the Commercial Rights emanating from the Competition as well as from any other related events under its jurisdiction, without any restrictions as to content, time, place and law. The AFF may grant the Host Clubs the Commercial Rights, in whole or in part, in accordance with the rules, regulations and policies which govern the rights, duties, and responsibilities of all parties regarding the Commercial Rights.

43.2. Each Host Club and its Member Association shall use its best efforts/endeavours in seeking political and administrative support from all local, regional and national governmental authorities to ensure the effective exploitation and protection of the Commercial Rights (including through the implementation of government guarantees and tabling of supplementary legislation).

43.3. Each Host Club and its Member Association shall appoint a reasonable number of personnel to assist the AFF in the implementation and enforcement of its rights.

44. Clean Stadium

44.1. Except where instructed or communicated by the AFF, the Host Club and its Member Association shall deliver the Stadium and Official Training Site as a Clean Stadium two (2) days before each Match or official training at the Official Training Site until the completion of the Match.

45. Advertising and Branding

45.1. Except where stipulated otherwise by the AFF, each Host Club and its Member Association shall ensure that all relevant approvals are secured and unrestricted access for the placement and publishing of advertising or branding of the Competition shall be available to the AFF two (2) days before each Match at the Stadium or official training at the Official Training Site.

46. General Principles

- 46.1. All matters relating to safety and security shall be undertaken in compliance with the AFC Stadium Regulations and AFC Safety and Security Regulations.
- 46.2. Each Host Club and its Member Association shall, in cooperation with the relevant government authorities and/or Stadium owners, devise, plan, and implement adequate security and safety measures for the Competition at all Controlled Access Areas within the Venue and other relevant locations to protect all relevant persons, including without limitation the AFF Delegation, Team Official Delegations, AFF Commercial Rights Partner, Commercial Affiliates, Media, spectators, all goods brought in by the AFF, Team Official Delegations, AFF Commercial Rights Partner and Commercial Affiliates.
- 46.3. Each Host Club and its Member Association shall issue a detailed security plan in the form of a binding agreement with, without limitation, the management of the Stadium, Official Training Site(s) and the Accommodation of the AFF Delegation and Team Official Delegations. This security plan shall be based upon the principles set out in the AFC Stadium Regulations and AFC Safety and Security Regulations.
- 46.4. Each Host Club and its Member Association shall discharge the AFF and hold it harmless from all responsibility and relinquish any claim against the AFF and the members of its delegation for any damages resulting from any act or omission relating to the organisation of the Competition to the exclusion of damages caused by the AFF or the members of its delegation acting with intent or gross negligence.

47. Pre-Competition Medical Assessment

47.1. Each Participating Club and its Member Association shall ensure that each Participating Player undergoes a Pre-Competition Medical Assessment (“PCMA”) at least thirty (30) days prior to its first Match of the Competition.

47.1.1. Participating Players that have undertaken a PCMA for a FIFA, AFC and/ any other AFF competition may provide the AFF with the physician and player’s declaration form originally provided to FIFA/ AFC or the AFF, provided that the PCMA was conducted within one (1) year of the Competition.

47.1.2. The AFF shall provide all Participating Clubs and its Member Association with the PCMA form setting out the necessary matters to be tested, which shall include testing to prevent players from experiencing sudden cardiac death during any Match.

47.1.3. Each Participating Club and its Member Association must submit to the AFF by latest ten (10) days prior to the first Match of the Competition the following signed documents:

- a. ‘Member Association Declaration of Agreement to the PCMA’; and
- b. for each Participating Player, the ‘Player and Examining Physician Declaration for PCMA’.

47.1.4. Any player for whom the required documents are not provided is not eligible to be registered for the Competition.

48. Facilities and Personnel

48.1. Each Host Club shall provide a medical room and doping control room fully equipped with all items stipulated in the AFC Competition Operations Manual (Edn. 2023).

48.2. A Host Club shall be fined:

48.2.1. at least USD20,000 (United States Dollars Twenty Thousand) for failing to fully equip the medical room; or

48.2.2. at least USD10,000 (United States Dollars Ten Thousand) for failing to fully equip the doping control room; or

- 48.2.3. at least USD40,000 (United States Dollars Forty Thousand) for failing to fully equip both rooms.
- 48.2.4. The AFF Disciplinary and Ethics Committee may impose further sanctions at its discretion.
- 48.3. Each Host Club shall provide all medical personnel and doping control personnel stipulated in the AFC Competitions Operations Manual (Edn. 2023).
- 48.4. A Host Club shall be fined:
 - 48.4.1. at least USD10,000 (United States Dollars Ten Thousand) for failing to provide all required doping control personnel; or
 - 48.4.2. at least USD20,000 (United States Dollars Twenty Thousand) for failing to provide all required medical personnel.
 - 48.4.3. The AFF Disciplinary and Ethics Committee may impose further sanctions at its discretion.

49. Anti-Doping

- 49.1. Doping is strictly prohibited. The AFC Anti-Doping Regulations, the AFF Disciplinary and Ethics Code, and all relevant AFC and/or AFF directives in relation to anti-doping are applicable to the Competition.
- 49.2. The AFF shall inform each Host Club and its Member Association by means of a circular of the doping control procedure for the Competition.

SECTION 11: FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

50. Responsibilities

- 50.1. Any financial payments to be made by the AFF in accordance with these Regulations shall be subject to all applicable laws, regulations, orders, by-laws and international sanctions.
- 50.2. The following conditions shall apply during the official period of two (2) days prior to each Match until one (1) day after the Match:
 - 50.2.1. the Host Club shall provide the Away Club with a liaison officer for the Away Club's entire stay at the Venue;
 - 50.2.2. subject to the relevant national law and policies, where requested by the AFF or the AFF Match Commissioner, a police escort shall be provided by the Host Club to the Team Official Delegation of the Away Club for its travel to training, Matches, Official Functions, and airport transfers;
 - 50.2.3. the Participating Clubs are not permitted to stay at the same hotel or at the hotel chosen for the AFF Delegation;
 - 50.2.4. details of the logistical arrangements relating to a Match (including the matters set out above) shall be notified to the AFF by the relevant Participating Clubs in advance of the Match; and
 - 50.2.5. any disputes arising regarding the financial provisions under this Article 50 shall be resolved amongst the relevant Participating Clubs and/or their Member Associations and AFF Commercial Rights Partner directly, but may be submitted to the AFF Competitions Committee for a final decision.
- 50.3. For the avoidance of any doubt, the AFF Commercial Rights Partner – SPORTFIVE shall be responsible for all travel and lodging expenses, including but not limited to international and domestic travel costs and accommodation with full board of the Participating Clubs for the Competition.

51. Accommodation, Meals and Refreshments

- 51.1. From their arrival at the Venue until one (1) day after the Match or until the day required by the AFF, each Host Club must provide at its own cost, for the AFF Delegation:
 - 51.1.1. a Club official or representative of the Host Club should be assigned to coordinate airport reception, immigration and

customs, airport transfers, domestic transportation and Accommodation for all Match Officials and the members of the AFF Delegation; and

51.1.2. liaison officers proficient in English.

51.2. The following arrangements for the AFF Delegation shall be the responsibility of the AFF Commercial Rights Partner – SPORTFIVE:

51.2.1. Accommodation in an international five-star hotel different from the Team Official Delegations unless approved by the AFF (or an international four-star hotel if there are no international five-star hotels at the Venue);

51.2.2. three (3) meals per day (international buffet style) and one (1) additional light meal on Match Day;

51.2.3. minimum six (6) litres of water per person per day, as well as ice and refreshments, at the Accommodation, Referee training, and the Stadium;

51.2.4. daily laundry services (but no dry cleaning or pressing) of eight (8) pieces per person per day for the Match Officials (except for the Referee Assessor who shall be subject to Article 51.2.5); and

51.2.5. daily laundry services (but no dry cleaning or pressing) of six (6) pieces per person per day and dry cleaning of two (2) pieces per person on alternate days for the other members of the AFF Delegation.

52. Domestic Transportation

52.1. From their arrival at the Venue until one (1) day after the Match or until the day required by the AFF, each Host Club must provide at its own cost, for the AFF Delegation:

52.1.1. one (1) sedan for the AFF Match Commissioner;

52.1.2. one (1) multipurpose vehicle with a minimum of seven (7) seats for the Match Officials; and

52.1.3. additional vehicles upon request of the AFF General Secretariat for other officials appointed by the AFF.

53. Prize Money

53.1. The AFF will pay the following prize money:

53.1.1. Champion : USD 400,000 (United States Dollars Four Hundred Thousand); and

53.1.2. Runner-Up : USD 200,000 (United States Dollars Two Hundred Thousand).

53.2. For the avoidance of doubt, should any Participating Member Association withdraw from the Competition prior to the commencement of the Competition and/or any Participating Club fails to field eligible clubs as per Article 6.3 of these Regulations, then the prize money as mentioned in Article 53.1 hereinabove, may be appropriately adjusted for all Participating Clubs, at the sole discretion of the AFF.

53.3. The decision made as per Article 53.2 hereinabove shall be final, binding and not appealable.

54. Match Contribution

54.1. The Match Contribution for Participating Clubs shall be made up of one (1) or more of the following:

54.1.1. travel contribution;

54.1.2. participation fee; and

54.1.3. stadium enhancement fee.

54.2. Match Contributions shall be sent directly to the respective Member Association or the Participating Club(s), unless otherwise directed by the Member Association or decided by the AFF at its discretion.

54.3. All Match Contributions (including any prize money) shall be withheld should a Participating Club have any outstanding payment to be made to the AFF or another Participating Club (and/or its Member Association) and/or any unfulfilled financial obligations under the relevant Articles of these Regulations until the payment is made in full.

54.4. Travel Contribution

54.4.1. For each Match of the relevant stage of the Competition, the Away Club(s) shall be provided with travel tickets and local travel pre-booked by the AFF Commercial Rights Partner - SPORTFIVE. Such provisions shall be advised to the Participating Clubs by the AFF in due course.

54.5. Participating Fee

For each Match in the Group Stage and Semi Finals, the following participation fee shall be paid:

54.5.1. For the losing teams in the Play-off Stage: USD 25,000 (United States Dollars Twenty Five Thousand) per match, in the manner as prescribed by the AFF in due course.

54.5.2. for each Participating Club in the Group Stage: USD 25,000 (United States Dollars Twenty Five Thousand) per match, in the manner as prescribed by the AFF in due course.

54.5.3. For the losing teams in the Semi-Finals: USD 50,000 (United States Dollars Fifty Thousand) per match, in the manner as prescribed by the AFF in due course.

54.6. Stadium Enhancement Fee

For each Participating Club deemed eligible for the Group Stage of the Competition, a stadium enhancement fees shall be paid amounting to USD 50,000 (United States Dollars Fifty Thousand Dollars) in the manner as prescribed by the AFF in due course.

54.7. For the avoidance of doubt, should any Participating Member Association withdraw from the Competition prior to the commencement of the Competition and/or any Participating Club fails to field eligible clubs as mentioned in Article 6.3 of these Regulations, then the participation fee and stadium enhancement fee as mentioned in Articles 54.5 and 54.6 hereinabove, may be appropriately adjusted for all Participating Clubs at the sole discretion of the AFF.

54.8. The decision made as per Article 54.7 hereinabove shall be final, binding and not appealable.

55. [Disciplinary Action](#)

55.1. A Host Club that fails to provide for any of the matters set out in Articles 50 to 52 of these Regulations shall forfeit its Match Contribution. In the event that the Host Club did not receive a Match Contribution for the particular Match, the Host Club shall be fined accordingly.

55.2. The AFF Disciplinary and Ethics Committee may impose further sanctions at its discretion.

SECTION 12: AWARDS

56. Trophy, Awards and Medals

- 56.1. The original trophy of the Competition shall be presented as a formality to the Champion during the prize presentation ceremony after the Finals. Following the conclusion of the ceremony, the original trophy shall be returned to the AFF and remain in the possession of the AFF at all times. The Champion shall subsequently be awarded a replica by the AFF for its permanent possession.
- 56.2. The replica trophy awarded to the Champion must remain within its control at all times and must not leave the region or territory of its Member Association without the prior written consent of the AFF. The Champion must not permit the replica trophy to be used in any context where a third-party (including without limitation, their sponsors and other commercial partners) is granted visibility or in any other way which could lead to an association between any third-party and the trophy and/or the Competition. The AFF may issue additional trophy guidelines which the Champion must comply with from time to time.
- 56.3. The following awards of the Competition shall be presented:
- 56.3.1. Player of the Match (for each Match);
 - 56.3.2. Most Valuable Player;
 - 56.3.3. Top Goal Scorer; and
 - 56.3.4. AFF Fair Play Award.
- 56.4. Goals scored in the Play-off Stage are not taken into account for determining the Top Goal Scorer.
- 56.5. The AFF shall award the following medals:
- 56.5.1. Fifty-five (55) medals to the Champion; and
 - 56.5.2. Fifty-five (55) medals to the runner-up.
- 56.6. Additional medals may be produced upon request and at the cost of the requesting Participating Club.
- 56.7. The AFF Competitions Committee may decide to introduce additional awards.

57. Prize Presentation Ceremony

- 57.1. A prize presentation ceremony, managed and controlled by the AFF and coordinated with the Host Club, its Member Association, and the AFF Commercial Rights Partner, shall be held immediately after the final

Match of the Competition to present the trophy, awards and medals listed in Article 56 of these Regulations.

- 57.2. The Participating Players and Participating Clubs that qualify to receive the trophy, awards and medals are required to attend the relevant prize presentation ceremony. Relevant Participating Clubs shall be represented by the twenty-three (23) Participating Players and eleven (11) Participating Officials registered in the Team Official Delegation for the final Match of the Competition. No other officials, players, or staff of the Participating Clubs may participate in the prize presentation ceremony.

SECTION 13: DISCIPLINARY

58. Disciplinary Measures

- 58.1. All disciplinary measures in relation to the Competition shall be undertaken in accordance with the current AFF Statutes, AFF Disciplinary and Ethics Code, and all relevant AFF regulations and circulars.
- 58.2. The AFF may introduce new disciplinary rules and sanctions for the duration of the Competition. Such rules shall be communicated to the Participating Clubs and their Member Associations thirty (30) days before the first Match of the Competition at the latest.
- 58.3. Only Participating Players and Participating Officials may serve Match suspensions in the Competition. For the avoidance of doubt, this requires the registration of the relevant individual within a registration window in accordance with the deadlines set out in these Regulations.
- 58.4. All Participating Players agree to:
- 58.4.1. comply with the provisions of the AFF Disciplinary and Ethics Code, in particular by respecting the spirit and principles of fair play, not engaging in violent behaviour, respecting the authority of the Match Officials, not making bets in connection with any Match and not engaging in any activities linked to the manipulation of Matches; and
 - 58.4.2. refrain from doping and comply with the provisions of the AFC Anti-Doping Regulations.

59. Good Conduct

- 59.1. Each Participating Club is liable for the improper conduct of:
- 59.1.1. any member of its Team Official Delegation; and/or
 - 59.1.2. any person affiliated to it and/or carrying out duties on its behalf throughout the Competition.
- 59.2. For any violation of Article 59.1, the AFF Disciplinary and Ethics Committee may issue any sanction listed in the AFF Disciplinary and Ethics Code.

60. Administrative Procedure

60.1. Subject to the AFF Disciplinary and Ethics Code, for any offence set out in these Regulations with a listed minimum fine, where it is the first such offence committed by a party:

- 60.1.1. the AFF, after completing its investigation but prior to opening disciplinary proceedings, may write to the party and make an offer to compound the offence and reduce the listed fine by twenty percent (20%) should the party admit to the offence;
- 60.1.2. if the offence is admitted, the AFF shall submit the compounded offence to the Chairperson of the AFF Disciplinary and Ethics Committee for approval;
- 60.1.3. should the party deny the offence, the AFF shall open disciplinary proceedings;
- 60.1.4. upon approval of the Chairperson of the AFF Disciplinary and Ethics Committee, the sanction shall be notified and applied administratively by the AFF;
- 60.1.5. should the Chairperson of the AFF Disciplinary and Ethics Committee not approve the compounded offence, the AFF shall open disciplinary proceedings;
- 60.1.6. by agreeing to compound the offence, the party waives its right to request a motivated decision or appeal the sanction issued; and
- 60.1.7. any sanction issued administratively comes into force immediately upon notification in accordance with the AFF Disciplinary and Ethics Code.

61. Cautions and Expulsions

61.1. All matters relating to cautions and/or expulsions, including the carrying forward of cautions between stages of the Competition, shall be undertaken in accordance with the AFF Disciplinary and Ethics Code except where expressly set out below.

- 61.1.1. Subject to Article 61.1.2 to Article 61.1.5, if a Participating Player receives a caution in three (3) separate Matches in the Competition, he is automatically suspended from the next Match in the Competition.
- 61.1.2. Any Participating Player or Participating Official who completes the Play-offs Stage having received one (1) or two (2) caution(s) in

separate matches shall not carry- over the caution(s) to the Group Stage.

61.1.3. Any Participating Player or Participating Official who completes the Group Stage having received one (1) or two (2) caution(s) in separate matches shall not carry- over the caution(s) to the Knockout Stage.

61.1.4. Any Participating Player or Participating Official who completes the Semi Finals having received one (1) or two (2) caution(s) in separate matches shall not carry- over the caution(s) to the Finals.

62. Protest

62.1. For the purpose of these Regulations, a protest is an objection of any kind related to any event and/or matter that has a direct effect on a Match.

62.2. Unless otherwise stipulated in these Regulations, to be considered valid, a protest must be:

62.2.1. submitted in writing (using the appropriate Protest Form issued by the AFF General Secretariat) to the AFF Match Commissioner for the relevant Match within two (2) hours of the end of the relevant Match;

62.2.2. followed up with a full written report (including a copy of the original Protest Form) which must be sent to the AFF General Secretariat within twenty-four (24) hours of the end of the relevant Match; and

62.2.3. accompanied by a non-refundable fee of USD1,000 (non-inclusive of any bank charges) which must be transmitted to the bank account nominated by the AFF General Secretariat within twenty-four (24) hours of the end of the relevant Match.

62.3. No protest shall be lodged relating to the Referee's decisions regarding facts connected with play. Such decisions are final and binding and not subject to appeal, unless otherwise stipulated in the AFF Disciplinary and Ethics Code. The same applies to any potential issue concerning the use and/or operation of any goal-line technology (GLT) and/or video assistant referee (VAR) system.

62.4. If any of the formal requirements set out in Article 62.2 hereinabove, are not met, the relevant protest shall be disregarded. The AFF General

Secretariat decides whether or not such formal requirements have been met. Such decisions are final and binding and not appealable.

- 62.5. Subject to Article 62.4 hereinabove, and any other exceptions set out in these Regulations, the AFF Disciplinary and Ethics Code, the AFF Statutes and/or any other applicable AFF regulation, the AFF Disciplinary and Ethics Committee shall make decisions on protests. Should the AFF Disciplinary and Ethics Committee determine that a protest is unfounded or irresponsible, it may impose a fine. The AFF Disciplinary and Ethics Committee may transfer a protest to the AFF Competitions Committee for its decision if it is deemed to be purely operational in nature.

63. Arbitration

- 63.1. Any dispute in connection with the Competition shall be promptly settled by negotiation.
- 63.2. In compliance with the AFF Statutes, Participating Clubs, Member Associations, Participating Players and Participating Officials are prohibited from initiating disputes in an ordinary court of law and must submit to the exclusive jurisdiction of the AFF.
- 63.3. Participating Clubs, Member Associations, Participating Players and Participating Officials acknowledge and accept that, once all internal channels have been exhausted at the AFF, their sole recourse shall be the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS). The Code of Sports- related Arbitration shall be applicable. The language of arbitration shall be English. Any hearing, if required, shall take place at the CAS Alternate Hearing Centre in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

SECTION 14: CLOSING PROVISIONS

64. Finals

64.1. The Finals shall be organised and managed by the AFF in collaboration with the AFF Commercial Rights Partner, the Host Club and its Member Association, including without limitation:

64.1.1. Tickets and Ticketing in accordance with Articles 39.4 and 41.5;

64.1.2. protocol;

64.1.3. Match organisation;

64.1.4. commercial operations; and

64.1.5. media operations.

64.2. Any additional events planned before, during and after the Finals by a Participating Club shall be communicated at least seven (7) days prior to the relevant Match and be approved by the AFF.

65. Special Instructions

65.1. The AFF and/or AFF Competitions Committee (as appropriate) shall, in conjunction with the Hosting MAs, issue any instructions necessitated by special circumstances which might arise in the organisation of Matches.

65.2. These instructions shall form an integral part of these Regulations.

66. Decisions

66.1. All decisions made in accordance with these Regulations, except where expressly identified otherwise, are final and binding and not appealable in accordance with the AFF Statutes.

67. Amendments

67.1. The AFF reserves the right to make amendments to any part of these Regulations for any reason whatsoever. Such amendments shall be duly communicated in due course.

68. Force Majeure

68.1. The AFF Competitions Committee is the only body capable of declaring a Force Majeure event.

69. Matters Not Provided For

69.1. Matters not provided for in these Regulations shall be decided by the AFF Competitions Committee. Such decisions are final and binding and not appealable.

70. Implementing Provisions

70.1. The AFF General Secretariat is entrusted with the operational management of the Competition and is therefore entitled to make decisions and adopt the detailed provisions necessary for implementing these Regulations.

71. Enforcement

71.1. These Regulations were ratified by the AFF Council on [*enter date of ratification*] and came into force immediately.

For the AFF Council

AFF General Secretary

AFF President

Appendix 1: Ranking In A Group Based On Yellow And Red Cards

1. Each Team shall be awarded points for receiving red and yellow cards as indicated below:
 - 1.1. per yellow card: one (1) point;
 - 1.2. per red card (as a consequence of two yellow cards): three (3) points;
 - 1.3. per red card (direct): three (3) points; and
 - 1.4. per yellow card followed by a red card (direct): four (4) points.

For the avoidance of doubt, only one of the above points shall be applied to a Participating Player in each Match.
2. The Team receiving the least number of points shall be ranked highest. The remaining Teams shall be ranked in descending order.

Appendix 2: Determining the Overall Best Second-Placed Team from Different Groups

Scenario 1

1. Should all groups consist of the same number of Teams, the overall best second-placed Team from among different groups shall be determined in descending order as follows:
 - 1.1. higher number of points obtained in all group Matches;
 - 1.2. superior goal difference from all group Matches;
 - 1.3. higher number of goals scored from all group Matches;
 - 1.4. the lower score calculated according to the number of yellow and red cards received in the group Matches in accordance with Appendix 1; or
 - 1.5. drawing of lots.

Group A	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	Pts
Team A	3	2	1	0	3	0	3	7
Team B	3	2	0	1	6	3	3	6
Team C	3	0	2	1	0	3	-3	2
Team D	3	0	1	2	2	5	-3	1

Group B	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	Pts
Team E	3	3	0	0	4	0	4	9
Team F	3	2	0	1	5	3	2	6
Team G	3	1	0	2	4	4	0	3
Team H	3	0	0	3	1	7	-6	0

- a) Team B and Team F are the second-placed Teams from each group.
- b) Both Teams have six (6) points, therefore, criteria 1.1 does not determine the overall best second-placed Team. Team B has a goal difference of +3 whereas Team F has a goal difference of +2. Applying criteria 1.2, Team B is ranked as the best second-placed Team.

Scenario 2

2. Should the groups consist of different numbers of Teams, the Teams in each group will have played a different number of Matches in total. In order to ensure equality, all Teams shall be compared across the same number of Matches, the number of which shall be decided by the AFF Tournament

Committee. In principle, the results between the relevant Teams and the bottom-placed Team in the relevant group shall be considered null and void. In such case, the best-ranked Team from among different groups shall be determined in descending order as follows:

- 2.1. higher number of points obtained in Matches identified by the AFF;
- 2.2. superior goal difference from the Matches identified by the AFF;
- 2.3. higher number of goals scored from the Matches identified by the AFF;
- 2.4. the lower score calculated according to the number of yellow and red cards received in the group Matches in accordance with Appendix 1; or
- 2.5. drawing of lots drawing of lots

Group A	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	Pts
Team A	3	2	1	0	3	0	3	7
Team B	3	2	0	1	6	3	3	6
Team C	3	0	2	1	0	3	-3	2
Team D	3	0	1	2	2	5	-3	1

Group B	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	Pts
Team E	4	3	1	0	14	1	13	10
Team F	4	3	0	1	5	2	3	9
Team G	4	1	2	1	5	5	0	5
Team H	4	0	2	2	2	9	-7	2
Team I	4	0	1	3	2	11	-9	1

- a) Team B and Team F are the second-placed Teams from each group.
- b) Groups A and B have played a different number of matches. In order to identify the overall best second-placed Team, the number of matches shall be equalised.
- c) The number of matches to be identified shall be equal to that played in Group A (i.e., the group with the lower number of matches per Team). Accordingly, the number of matches played in Group B shall be reduced to three (3) matches per Team. In principle, the match between Team F and Team I, who is the bottom-placed Team in the group, will be considered null and void
- d) Assuming Team F won the match against Team I, 3-0, we will have a new calculation for Team F:

Group B	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	Pts
Team F	3	2	0	1	2	2	0	6

- e) After applying criteria 2.1, both Team B and Team F are equal, having accrued six (6) points. Team B has a goal difference of +3 and Team F has a goal difference of 0, and after applying criteria 2.2, Team B is identified as the overall best second-placed Team.

In operating the procedure set out in Scenario 2, the points or rankings of the other Teams in the same group shall not be affected. Any new calculation is solely for the purpose of determining the overall best second-placed Team among the groups.

Appendix 3: Equipment Regulations

1. Playing Equipment
 - 1.1. Each item of the Playing Equipment must be worn identically by all Participating Players of the same Team and must be manufactured identically by the same Manufacturer. Different components of Playing Equipment may be produced by different Manufacturers.
 - 1.2. In accordance with Law 4 of the Laws of the Game, the inside of all Playing Equipment(s) must comply with the Laws of the Game and may be freely used by the Participating MA provided that under any prevailing conditions, such as weather and light, no detrimental effect is caused to the identical visible appearance and clear distinction of the Participating Players.
 - 1.3. Subject to the approval of the AFF, Playing Equipment may contain special performance or comparable tools to support the performance of Participating Players. Any such tool integrated into Playing Equipment must not affect the identical visible appearance of the Playing Equipment of all Participating Players of the same Team, including:
 - 1.3.1. being transparent or the identical colour as the respective part of the Playing Equipment associated with the performance tool;
 - 1.3.2. not being designed or used in a manner limiting the ability of all Participating Players, Match Officials, spectators and media to clearly distinguish the opposing Teams irrespective of the prevailing conditions, such as weather and light;
 - 1.3.3. not bearing any identifications associated with any Participating Team or Manufacturer; and
 - 1.3.4. not being used as a Decorative Element.
 - 1.4. Playing Equipment shall be composed of structural sections which are combined in order to make up a full shirt, pair of shorts or socks, such as sleeves, shirt collar, leg of shorts or top edges of a sock. Any such structural section may be determined by a change of fabric (e.g., cotton or polyester) and/or technique (e.g., woven).
 - 1.5. No structural section of the Playing Equipment or material used for numbers, Player names, badges or to identify the Participating MA, the Manufacturer or any third party, may be made of reflective material or change colour or appearance due to any external influence, including pressure, light or water.
2. Colours
 - 2.1. Teams must declare the first and second colours (second colour must be completely different from the Team's first colour) of their respective Teams and they are obliged to use these colours for all their Matches. To avoid clash of colours, colours to be worn by Teams for Matches shall be determined at the Team Managers' Meeting.

First Choice Kit

Team 1



Team 2



Team 3



Second Choice Kit



- 2.2. The choice of colours for the Official Kit and Reserve Kit must be registered on the relevant forms issued by the AFF upon entry in the Competition.
- 2.3. No item of Kit worn by an outfield Player or goalkeeper shall contain more than four (4) colours. Colours used in identifications of any Participating MA, Manufacturer Identification and/or other marks or insignia are not deemed a colour of the Playing Equipment. Furthermore, one (1) colour must be clearly predominant on the shirt, shorts and socks.
- 2.4. With the sole exception of vertically or horizontally striped and chequered shirts using two (2) colours equally in a non-dominant manner, in the event that three (3) or four (4) colours are used on the surface of any Playing

Equipment, one (1) of the colours used must be clearly predominant and the remaining colours on the same item of Playing Equipment must be clearly minor. The predominant colour must be visible to the same extent on the back and front of the item of Playing Equipment. In the event of vertically or horizontally striped or chequered shirts using two (2) colours equally in a non-predominant manner, the third or fourth colour on the surface of the shirt shall be used in a manner not affecting the predominant visual impression of the two (2) colours used as stripes and checkers and one (1) of these two (2) colours must be predominant on the shorts or socks.

- 2.5. The main (predominant) colour must be visible to the same extent on the back and front of the Kit item in question.
- 2.6. Notwithstanding clause 2.2 of this Appendix 3 of these Regulations, a fifth Colour may be used for numbering and naming purposes. The colours used for numbering and naming purposes shall be the same for all outfield Players of the same Team.
- 2.7. Both the Official Kit and Reserve Kit shall be taken to every Match of the relevant Competition.
- 2.8. The colours of the Official Kit must be noticeably different from and contrasting to the colours of the Reserve Kit. Teams may be requested to mix the Official Kit and Reserve Kit for Matches in order to create a visible contrast with the other Team and must comply with any such instruction from the Match Commissioner.
- 2.9. The colours worn by the goalkeeper must be noticeably different from those worn by the outfield Players of his own Team. Furthermore, the goalkeeper colours for a Match must contrast to the Playing Equipment worn by the opposing Team and the Match Officials. The Playing Equipment of all goalkeepers of the same Team must be identical.
- 2.10. All Goalkeepers registered in a Team Delegation must wear the same jersey colours declared to the AFF upon entry to the Competition. Goalkeepers are not entitled to personal colours.
- 2.11. Each Team shall wear its Official Kit as declared on the relevant forms issued by the AFF upon entry into the Competition during Matches. If in the opinion of the referee or Match Commissioner, the colours of the Teams might cause confusion or prove unsuitable for television broadcast, the host Team shall wear its Official Kit while the visiting Team will wear either its Reserve Kit or a combination of both as instructed by the referee or Match Commissioner.
- 2.12. Undershorts/tights must be the same colour as the main colour of the shorts or the lowest part of the shorts.
- 2.13. The AFF will decide on Match colours for all Matches.
- 2.14. To change its registered colours, a Participating MA or Teams submits a written request to the AFF at least seven (7) days before the respective Match together with a sample of the amended Equipment.

3. Numbers

- 3.1. A number must appear on the back (centred) of all shirts used as Playing Equipment. The number must be between 25 cm (twenty-five centimetres) and 35 cm (thirty-five centimetres) in height, clearly legible and positioned in the centre back of the shirt. The stroke width of the number must be between 3 cm (three centimetres) and 5 cm (five centimetres). The number must be entirely visible when the shirt is tucked into the shorts.



- 3.2. Numbers should range from 1 – 99 in figures universally used, with the first goalkeeper's number being 1.
- 3.3. The number must also be displayed on the front of each shirt in any position at chest level. The number must be between 10 cm (ten centimetres) and 15 cm (fifteen centimetres) in height, clearly legible and be the same colour as the number on the back of the shirt.

- 3.4. The number must also appear on the front of the shorts positioned on either leg. The number must be between 10 cm (ten centimetres) and 15 cm (fifteen centimetres) in height and clearly legible.
- 3.5. Based on the principle of light and dark contrast of used colours and irrespective of the prevailing conditions, such as weather and light, the colour used for any number appearing on Playing Equipment must be clearly legible and distinguishable from a distance for all Players, Match Officials, spectators and media from the colours used for the Playing Equipment. This distinction may be achieved by displaying the numbers on a single-coloured patch. The number may be surrounded by a border or shadow outline. A 'number zone' must be created on the back of the shirt unless, at the discretion of the AFF, it is decided that the number appearing is clearly legible and distinguishable from a distance by all Players, the Match Officials, spectators and media, from the colours used for the Equipment. A 'number zone' may be created on the front of the shirt.
- 3.6. The numbers may be sewn on or affixed to the kit item by heat transfer. The numbers may not be attached with Velcro or other temporary means.
- 3.7. The Official Emblem may only appear once on the bottom of each figure of the number on the back of the shirt. Its size shall not exceed 5 cm² (five square centimetres) and shall not affect the legibility of the number.
- 3.8. Except for the Official Emblem, a number shall not contain, or give the visual impression of, any Manufacturer Identification or elements which at the discretion of the AFF create an association with a Manufacturer, sponsor or any third party.
4. Player Names
 - 4.1. Players must be identified by their surname or popular name on the back of the shirt. The name must be identical with that declared on the relevant forms issued by the AFF upon entry to the Competition.
 - 4.2. Player names must appear on the back of the shirt used as Playing Equipment in all Competitions.
 - 4.3. In the event that a Player name appears on the back of a shirt:
 - 4.3.1. The name must be positioned above the number on the back of the shirt;
 - 4.3.2. The letters shall be between 5 cm (five centimetres) and 7.5 cm (seven and a half centimetres) in height and must be separated from the number by at least 4 cm (four centimetres). They may be in upper and/or lower case. For better legibility, they may be surrounded by a border or shadow outline. In the case of striped shirts, the name must be either affixed to a neutral-coloured patch or surrounded by a border or shadow outline;
 - 4.3.3. The letters must be the same colour as that of the number on the back of the shirt. They may not contain any Manufacturer Identification, advertising, design features or other elements.

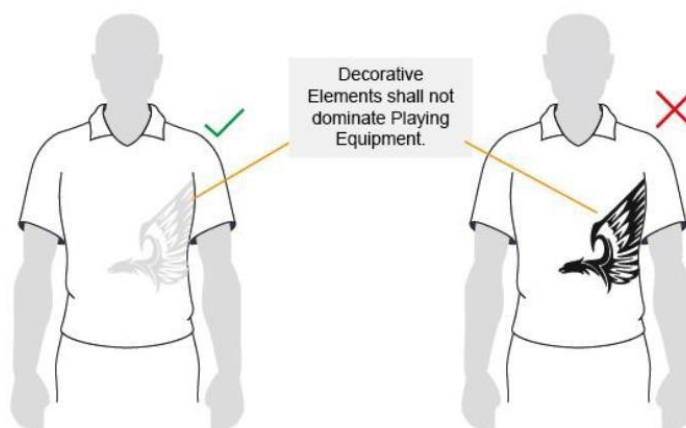
- 4.3.4. The name must be clearly distinguishable from the colour of the shirt. It must contrast (light on dark or vice versa) with the colour of the shirt as specified in clause 4 of this Appendix 3 of these Regulations.

Player's name must be **5 - 7.5cm** in height. The name must be separated from the number by at least **4cm**.



5. Decorative Elements

- 5.1. Playing Equipment may contain Decorative Elements which shall not be designed or used in a manner limiting the ability of all Players, Match Officials, spectators and media to clearly distinguish the opposing Teams irrespective of the prevailing conditions, such as weather and light. Decorative Elements shall not dominate Playing Equipment.



- 5.2. Decorative Elements contained in Official Kit and Reserve Kit may be identical, provided that no Decorative Elements are designed or used in a manner limiting the distinction between the Official Kit and Reserve Kit.
- 5.3. Decorative Elements must be permanently incorporated in Playing Equipment using one (1) or more of the following techniques:
- 5.3.1. Jacquard Weave;
 - 5.3.2. tonal print;

- 5.3.3. embossing; or
- 5.3.4. any other technical solution approved by the AFF.
- 5.4. Decorative Elements shall not distract or limit the legibility of any Player number and name. No letter or number may be used as a Decorative Element.
- 5.5. Decorative Elements may form part of a Manufacturer's generic product line, provided these Decorative Elements do not display, stylise, or produce the visual impression of a Manufacturer Identification, country, religious symbol, corporate symbol, or other comparable symbol.
- 5.6. In case of dispute regarding the nature of any representation on Equipment, the AFF at its discretion shall decide whether it shall be regarded as a Manufacturer Identification, Decorative Element, or sponsor advertising.
- 6. Sleeve Free Zone
 - 6.1. The Sleeve Free Zone is exclusively reserved for specified AFF badges. No other elements shall be positioned immediately adjacent to these AFF badges.
 - 6.2. The Sleeve Free Zone must be on the RIGHT SIDE which is at least 12 cm (twelve centimetres) high, 8 cm (eight centimetres) wide and be centred between the shoulder point and the elbow point.



- 7. Special Equipment for Players
 - 7.1. General Principles
 - 7.1.1. Except for the specific Special Equipment items set out below, in accordance with Law 4 of the Laws of the Game, a Participating Player may use Special Equipment provided that its sole purpose is to protect him physically and poses no danger to him or any other Participating Players. Special Equipment must be made of material that is not dangerous to the Participating Player wearing it or any other Participating Player. The use of Special Equipment remains subject to the inspection and approval of the AFF and/or the Referee of a Match.
 - 7.1.2. Special Equipment shall not affect the clear distinction for all Participating Players, Match Officials, spectators, and media of

opposing Teams irrespective of the prevailing conditions, such as weather and light.

- 7.1.3. No structural section of, or material used for, Special Equipment or any other Equipment listed in may be made of reflective material or change colour or appearance due to any external influence, including pressure, light, and water.

7.2. Captain's Armbands

- 7.2.1. Captain's armbands shall be of one (1) dominant colour, or exceptionally composed of the colours of the National Flag clearly distinguishable from the colour used on the sleeves of the shirt of a Participating Player. Captain's armbands must be separate from the shirt.

- 7.2.2. Captain's armbands shall remain free of, and shall not produce, subject to the discretion of the AFF, the visual effect of a Manufacturer Identification, a sponsor, any Decorative Element or further elements, except for the word "captain" or an abbreviation or translation thereof or the Official Emblem of the MA.

7.3. Goalkeeper Gloves

- 7.3.1. Goalkeepers may wear goalkeeper gloves of any colour. The goalkeeper gloves shall be separate from the shirt. Goalkeepers of the same Team may wear different goalkeeper gloves.

- 7.3.2. The name and/or the number of the goalkeeper may appear once on each goalkeeper glove. The letters used shall not exceed 2cm (two centimetres) in height.

- 7.3.3. MAs or Teams may display one (1) single type of identification on each goalkeeper glove, chosen from:

- (i) Official Emblem: maximum 50 cm² (fifty square centimetres);
- (ii) Official Symbol: maximum 50 cm² (fifty square centimetres);
- (iii) Official Name: maximum 12 cm² (twelve square centimetres);
- (iv) National Flag: maximum 25 cm² (twenty-five square centimetres); or
- (v) Country Name: maximum 12 cm² (twelve square centimetres).

- 7.3.4. The identification may be freely positioned on the goalkeeper gloves and shall be displayed no more than once.

- 7.3.5. Any letters used for the Official Name or Country Name, must not exceed 2 cm (two centimetres) in height.

- 7.3.6. Only one (1) type of Manufacturer Identification may appear once on each goalkeeper glove. Such manufacturer identification must not exceed 20 cm² (twenty square centimetres).

- 7.3.7. A Quality Seal or Technology Label may be used once on each goalkeeper glove in any position, but not exceeding 10 cm² (ten square centimetres).

7.4. Goalkeeper Cap

- 7.4.1. Goalkeepers may, irrespective of the prevailing conditions, wear a goalkeeper cap of any colour. The goalkeeper cap must be produced by the Manufacturer of one of their items of Playing Equipment. Goalkeepers of the same Team may wear different goalkeeper caps.
- 7.4.2. The name and/or the number of the goalkeeper may appear once on the goalkeeper cap. The letters used shall not exceed 2 cm (two centimetres) in height.
- 7.4.3. MAs or Teams may display one (1) single type of identification on a goalkeeper cap, chosen from:
- (i) Official Emblem: maximum 50 cm² (fifty square centimetres);
 - (ii) Official Symbol: maximum 50 cm² (fifty square centimetres);
 - (iii) Official Name: maximum 12 cm² (twelve square centimetres);
 - (iv) National Flag: maximum 25 cm² (twenty-five square centimetres);
 - (v) Country Name: maximum 12 cm² (twelve square centimetres).
- 7.4.4. This type of identification may be freely positioned on the goalkeeper cap and shall be displayed no more than once.
- 7.4.5. Any letters used for the Official Name or Country Name must not exceed 2 cm (two centimetres) in height.
- 7.4.6. Only one (1) type of Manufacturer Identification may appear once on each goalkeeper cap. Such manufacturer identification must not exceed 20 cm² (twenty square centimetres). The positioning of this identification is unrestricted.
- 7.5. Gloves worn by Outfield Players
- 7.5.1. Outfield Players may wear gloves. The gloves shall be separate from the shirt.
- 7.5.2. Neither the name (nor abbreviation) nor the number of a Player may be displayed on the gloves.
- 7.5.3. MAs or Teams may display one (1) single type of identification on each glove of an outfield Player, chosen from:
- (i) Official Emblem;
 - (ii) Official Symbol;
 - (iii) Official Name;
 - (iv) National Flag; or
 - (v) Country Name .
- 7.5.4. This type of identification may be freely positioned on the gloves and shall be displayed no more than once. The size of the type of identification shall not exceed 12 cm² (twelve centimetres).
- 7.6. Headband and Wristband
- 7.6.1. Players may wear a headband or wristband. Neither the name (nor abbreviation) nor the number of a Player may be displayed on a headband or wristband.

7.6.2. MAs or Teams may display one (1) single type of identification on a headband or wristband, chosen from:

- (i) Official Emblem;
- (ii) Official Symbol;
- (iii) Official Name;
- (iv) National Flag; or
- (v) Country Name or City Name.

7.6.3. This type of identification may be freely positioned on the headband or wristband and shall be displayed no more than once. The size of the identification shall not exceed 12 cm².

7.7. Special Medical Protection Items

7.7.1. Special medical items, including without limitation, headgear, face masks, knee and arm protectors, eye protection, and splints, may be approved by the AFF and are subject to Law 4 of the Laws of the Game.

7.7.2. Except for one (1) tonal Manufacturer Identification which is not visible in use, no special medical item shall display the branding of its Manufacturer or any third party.

7.8. Items Worn Under Playing Equipment

7.8.1. Players may wear Special Equipment under the Playing Equipment, including without limitation undershirts and singlets, underwear, t-shirts, and thermal shorts.

7.8.2. Such Special Equipment worn under the Playing Equipment may be separate from, or permanently attached to, the shirt or shorts.

7.8.3. The colour of any visible Special Equipment worn under the Playing Equipment must be of the same group of basic colours as the corresponding part (e.g., sleeves or legs) of the Playing Equipment. In the event that a Player is wearing a short-sleeve shirt, a long-sleeve t-shirt worn under the Playing Equipment must be of the same visual appearance as the long-sleeve shirt worn by other Players of the same Team.

7.8.4. Sponsor advertising, political statements, and/or other messages, including without limitation, personal messages and/or illustrations, are strictly prohibited on Special Equipment used inside of Control Access Areas.

7.9. Warm-Up Bibs

7.9.1. AFF may decide to provide warm-up bibs for Matches in the Competitions. In case of any such restriction, the AFF will exclusively provide each MA or Team with a sufficient number of warm-up bibs in contrasting colours for its use before and during Matches, as well as for official training.

7.9.2. In the event that the AFF decides not provide warm-up bibs for any Matches in the Competitions, warm-up bibs shall be clearly distinguishable, irrespective of the prevailing conditions, such as

weather and light, for all Players, Match Officials, spectators and media from the colours of the shirts being used as Playing Equipment.

7.9.3. MAs or Teams may display any type of identification on the warm-up bibs.

7.9.4. The MAs or Teams at their sole discretion may determine the number and types of identifications to be displayed, their size, and their exact locations.

7.9.5. Only one (1) type of Manufacturer Identification may appear once on each bib. Such manufacturer identification must not exceed 20 cm² (twenty square centimetres). The positioning of this identification is unrestricted.

8. Special Equipment in the Controlled Access Area

8.1. General Principles

8.1.1. This Article 8 shall apply to any Special Equipment worn in any Controlled Access Area by the Team Delegation or Match Officials. For the avoidance of doubt, the application of this Article 8 includes wearing Special Equipment in a Controlled Access Area, without limitation, at both official training and Matches.

8.1.2. No sponsor advertising is permitted on any Special Equipment worn in any Controlled Access Area by the Team Delegation or Match Officials.

8.2. Tops

8.2.1. The Team Delegation and Match Officials may wear tops (including without limitation tracksuit jackets, rain jackets, winter jackets, coats, t-shirts, sweatshirts, polo shirts) in the Controlled Access Area.

8.2.2. Participating MAs or Teams may display any type of identification on the tops.

8.2.3. Participating MAs or Teams at their sole discretion may determine the number and types of identifications to be displayed, their size, and their exact locations.

8.2.4. Only one (1) type of Manufacturer Identification may appear once on each top. Such manufacturer identification must not exceed 20 cm² (twenty square centimetres). The positioning of this identification is unrestricted.

8.3. Bottoms

8.3.1. The Team Delegation and Match Officials may wear bottoms (including without limitation tracksuit bottoms, rainwear bottoms, shorts, and winter trousers) in the Controlled Access Area.

8.3.2. Participating MAs or Teams may display any type of identification on the bottoms.

- 8.3.3. Participating MAs or Teams at their sole discretion may determine the number and types of identifications to be displayed, their size, and their exact locations.
 - 8.3.4. Only one (1) type of Manufacturer Identification may appear once on each bottom. Such manufacturer identification must not exceed 20 cm² (twenty square centimetres). The positioning of this identification is unrestricted.
9. Special Equipment for Other Persons
- 9.1. Ball Persons, Player Escorts and Flag Bearers
- 9.1.1. The AFF may provide ball persons, Player escorts (if any) and flag bearers with all Equipment for AFF Competitions.
 - 9.1.2. Ball persons may wear Special Equipment consisting of a dominant colour which must be clearly distinguishable for all Players, Match Officials, spectators and media from the colours of the Players of the opposing Teams and the Match Officials, irrespective of the prevailing conditions, such as weather and light.
- 9.2. Other Equipment Items
- 9.2.1. Footballs
 - 9.2.2. Law 2 of the Laws of the Game applies to the use of footballs.
 - 9.2.3. Football Boots
 - 9.2.4. Law 4 of the Laws of the Game applies to the use of football boots.
 - 9.2.5. Participating Players of the same Team may wear football boots of different Manufacturers and different visual appearance.
 - 9.2.6. Shin guards
 - 9.2.7. Law 4 of the Laws of the Game applies to the use of shin-guards.
 - 9.2.8. Players of the same Team may wear shin-guards of different Manufacturers and different visual appearance.
 - 9.2.9. Field Equipment
 - 9.2.10. Law 1 of the Laws of the Game applies to the use of certain types of Field Equipment, including without limitation goals, goal nets, flag posts and their flags.
 - 9.2.11. All Field Equipment utilised by the Teams in the technical area and on the Field of Play for storage, technical use, refreshments and medical treatment before and during a Match, must remain free of all forms of sponsor advertising and Manufacturer Identification. Additional Field Equipment must be approved in advance by the AFF.
 - 9.2.12. Only one type of Manufacturer Identification is allowed on Player bags and Team equipment bags: maximum 25 cm² (twenty-five square centimetres).

10. Advertising on Equipment





Note: The names and logos of manufacturers, brands, clubs and players including the logo of AFC Fair Play sleeve patch is for educational/informational purposes only.

- 11. Matters not provided for
- 11.1. For any matters relating to Equipment Regulations that have not been provided for under this Appendix 3 of the Regulations, the provisions of the AFC Equipment Regulations shall be followed.

Subject to any, measures as stipulated by the Tournament Committee or local authorities, the following must be adhered to by accredited Photographers:

1. All photographers requiring access to the Competition must contact the Hosting MA and complete the necessary application procedures to clear their request.
2. All photographers requiring pitch-side access must wear a Media Identity Bib or they will not be allowed onto pitch-side. The Hosting MA shall make the bibs available at the entrance to a Stadium in exchange for a journalist ID card.
3. Team lists will be made available latest forty-five (45) minutes before kick-off in the media centre.
4. Access to the Field of Play is not permitted at any time, including before and after the Match.
5. Before the start of each Match, photographers may shoot the line-ups of the Teams from the touchline but must not enter the Field of Play.
6. Once the Match starts, photographers must stay behind the advertising boards behind the goals and are not permitted to change sides until half-time, the end of normal playing time, or the start of Extra Time, if any. When changing ends on half time, photographers should pass along the opposite side of the Team Benches from behind the advertising boards. Under no circumstances will photographers be allowed to shoot from either touchline during the Match, except when seats have been allocated in any particular Match.
7. The Head Coaches of the Teams, if requested, shall attend a press conference that will commence immediately after the Match. At the press conference, all photographers must stand at the rear of the room and allow journalists to be seated towards the front.
8. An Official Photographer may work from any position, including touchlines, but should not move during the Match. The instructions provided by the AFF, Match Commissioner, Media Officer and General Coordinator at a

Stadium shall be followed. The Hosting MA shall ensure the same, failing which, the AFF may sanction the Hosting MA, at its discretion.

9. Photographers are required to obtain the prior authorisation of the AFF before setting up any remote camera in designated areas.
10. Failure to adhere to this Appendix 4: Photographer Operation Guidelines, may result in the eviction from a Stadium and refusal of accreditation for future competitions.

ANNEXURE A: PARTICIPATING TEAM OBLIGATIONS

In these Participating Team Obligations (the "PTO"), the following terms shall have the following meanings:

"AFF Partners" means the AFF Commercial Right Partner, Commercial Affiliates and any third parties which are authorised by the AFF.

"AFF Rights" means any and all Commercial Right, Proprietary Interests and Data.

"Applicable Regulations" means the Asean Club Championship 2024/25 Competition Regulations, the Entry Manual for AFF Club Competitions, the AFF Stadium Regulations, the AFF Equipment Regulations, the AFF Disciplinary and Ethics Code, the AFF Safety and Security Regulations, the AFF Anti-Doping Regulations, all other relevant regulations of the AFF, all directives, guidelines, circulars and instructions issued by the AFF, all applicable FIFA regulations and the Laws of the Game.

"Attributes" means any and all: (i) personal and biographical data, information and statistics of the Participating Players and Participating Officials (including, without limitation, name(s), nickname(s) and age, as well as country, city and date of birth); and (ii) images (including, without limitation, head shots), voices, representations and likenesses of the Participating Players and Participating Officials.

"Data" means any and all data, information and statistics relating to: (i) the Competition and past editions of the Asean Club Championship, as well as other AFF competitions; and (ii) the participation of the Participating Players and Participating Officials in the Competition of the Asean Club Championship, as well as other AFF competitions.

"MA" means the respective AFF Member Associations.

"MA Indicia" means any and all indicia and branding of the MA (including, without limitation, all MA name(s), nickname(s), crest(s), logo(s), trade name(s), trademark(s), emblem(s) and stadium images).

"PC" means the respective Participating Clubs.

"PC Indicia" means any and all indicia and branding of the PC (including, without limitation, all team name(s), nickname(s), crest(s), logo(s), trade name(s), trademark(s), emblem(s), team kit designs (both with and without sponsor and manufacturer branding) and stadium images).

All other capitalised terms appearing in this PTO shall, unless the context specifically indicates otherwise, have the meanings given to them in these Regulations.

THE MA AND THE PC ACKNOWLEDGE AND AGREE TO BE BOUND BY THE FOLLOWING:

1. The AFF owns all AFF Rights, and the MAs and PCs shall have no claim or right to the ownership of any AFF Rights. To the extent that any AFF Rights (or any part thereof) have vested or may vest in the MAs and/or PCs for any reason (whether by operation of law or otherwise), the MAs and/or PCs (as appropriate) hereby irrevocably agrees to assign all rights, title and interest in and to such

AFF Rights to the AFF on a royalty-free basis and to take all steps necessary to implement the assignment.

2. The PCs, by virtue of participating in the Competition, hereby grants the AFF and the AFF Partners an unconditional and irrevocable licence and right to use, exploit and sub-license the respective PC Indicia and the Attributes on a royalty-free worldwide basis by any means and for any purposes relating to the AFF and/or the AFF's competitions (including, without limitation, promotional, commercial and non-commercial purposes) in perpetuity. For the avoidance of doubt, the foregoing shall include, without limitation, the right to record, reproduce, edit and/or simulate the PC Indicia and/or Attributes in any medium (including, without limitation, visual, audio and audio-visual) and to use and exploit the same.
3. The MAs, by virtue of their respective hereby grants the AFF and the AFF Partners an unconditional and irrevocable licence to use, exploit and sub-license the MA Indicia and, where applicable, the Attributes on a royalty-free worldwide basis by any means and for any purposes relating to the AFF and/or the AFF's competitions (including, without limitation, promotional, commercial and non-commercial purposes) in perpetuity. For the avoidance of doubt, the foregoing shall include, without limitation, the right to record, reproduce, edit and/or stimulate the MA Indicia and/or Attributes in any medium (including, without limitation, visual, audio and audio-visual) and to use and exploit the same.
4. The MAs and PCs are aware of all applicable laws and regulations and have executed and have in their possession all written agreements and/or waivers (including, where applicable, from Participating Players and Participating Officials) necessary to grant the licences and rights provided for as per this Annexure A of these Regulations.
5. Notwithstanding any provision of this Agreement, the MA Indicia, PC Indicia and/or Attributes shall not (without the prior written consent of the relevant Participating Player and/or Participating Official) be used in any manner which may reasonably be considered to constitute a personal endorsement by the Participating Player and/or Participating Official of any commercial product or service.
6. The MAs and PCs are fully aware of and shall comply with the Applicable Regulations at all times. In this regard, particular attention is drawn to Articles XX (Clubs directly or indirectly involved in Match Manipulation) and YY (Control or Influence of Clubs) of the Entry Manual for AFF Club Competitions.
7. The PC hereby confirms that it is not in breach of any of the provisions set out in these Regulations and nor is it aware of any facts or circumstances that may lead to it breaching any of these provisions at any time during the Competition.