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# Competition Regulation

## SAFF U17 Championship 2024

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### **DEFINITIONS**

The terms defined in capital letters hereafter and used in these Competition Regulation (whether in capital or not) shall have the following meaning (s):

#### **Accommodation**

Hotels or any other locations providing accommodation to SAFF Delegation, Match Officials and Team's Official Delegation for the Competition.

#### **Accreditation or Accredited**

The giving of authority to a person or a group of persons, involving certification, which allows the Accredited person(s) to undertake specified activities within the Controlled Access Areas by issuance of an Accreditation Card.

#### **Accreditation Card**

A physical item that is issued to Accredited persons which allows them to undertake specified activities within the Controlled Access Areas.

#### **Advertising Rights**

The right to promote to the exclusion of all others save as qualified in these Competition Regulation, brand 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 Stadia or Facility Areas or within the Controlled Access Areas, in association with the SAFF Logo and/or the Competition Mark, by in-stadium/out-stadium perimeter signage and other advertising, concessions, displays, sampling, premiums, digital signage and screens, closed circuit television, equipment usage or other methods and through printed matter such as programmes, posters, letterheads, press releases, newsletters and tickets, including, for the avoidance of doubt, subject always to the SAFF Guidelines, 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 Match Officials), medical and security staff, ball kids, player escorts, flag bearers and/or photographers. The display of the name and/or logo of the bona fide supplier of clothing on the strip of Referees/linesmen and other officials are also included. For the avoidance of doubt, advertising on the strip of Participating Players is excluded, other than where it is the trademark of the bona fide manufacturer and is in accordance with AFC and/or SAFF regulations. Similarly, branding on any equipment, goods and/or services used in connection with the Competition, save where supplied by an Official Licensee, may only include customary branding of the bona fide manufacturer and may not be associated in any way with the Commercial Rights.

#### **AFC**

The Asian Football Confederation.

#### **Archive Materials**

Any audio and/or audio-visual materials and/or photographs, images, broadcasts, films, videos,

streams, posts and/or all Competition Data and materials derived from those.

### **CAS**

The Court of Arbitration for Sport.

### **Clean Stadia**

A Stadia and/or Official Training Site and/or Controlled Access Areas that is free from any signage or advertisement, commercial or otherwise, of any kind, whether on any stadium infrastructure, staff uniforms, accreditations, fences, equipment or elsewhere for the specified time of the Competition referenced in Article 64.3.

### **Commercial Rights**

Advertising Rights, Concession Rights, Hospitality Rights, Image Rights, Media Rights, Merchandise Rights, Promotional Rights, Sponsorship Rights, and Travel and Tour Rights and/or any other rights whether existing now or to be identified in the future.

### **Competition**

SAFF U17 Championship 2024 which shall include the Matches as set out in the Match Schedule, including any matches, activities on the field of play (other than matches), opening ceremonies, presentation or closing ceremonies, press conferences or official functions connected therewith.

### **Competition Data**

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

### **Competition Mark**

The official logo of the Competition as designed and published by SAFF.

### **Complimentary Tickets**

Tickets which are supplied without charge.

### **Concession Rights**

Sampling, vending, display and other distribution methods and payment methods connected therewith for and of products or services at the Stadia and Controlled Access Areas.

### **Controlled Access Areas**

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

### **Facility Areas**

The location of Official Functions, press centers, ticket offices, official hotels, media areas, sponsor areas, official hospitality areas and information centers controlled by or on behalf of SAFF used in

connection with the Competition whether at the Stadia or elsewhere at the Venues.

### **FIFA**

The Federation International de Football Association.

### **Force Majeure**

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

### **Hospitality Rights**

The opportunity to offer and sell hospitality and entertainment facilities at the Venues in combination with the Tickets excluding those private facilities reserved for the accommodation of SAFF Delegation and Team Official Delegation.

### **Host Broadcaster**

The party appointed by the SAFF or Official Licensee 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.

### **Image Rights**

The right to use still and/or moving images and/or representations of images of Participating Teams and Participating Players participating in the Competitions, and including, for the avoidance of doubt, images of Participating Officials, Match Officials, and other officials forming part of the Competition.

### **Laws of the Game**

The laws of association football as laid down by the IFAB.

### **Local Organising Committee**

The committee formed by the Organising Association to aid in the successful organisation and hosting of the Competition.

### **Match (es)**

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

### **Match Schedule**

The published schedule containing details of the Competition, including, but not limited to, the names of the Participating Teams, Venues, Stadia, and details of the Match kick-off times.

### **Match Officials**

Any individual appointed to officiate a Match in the Competition in the role of Match Commissioner, Referee Assessor, Referee, Assistant Referee, fourth official or fifth official.

## **Media**

All members of the written press, on-line editors, photographers, television news crews and the representatives of the Host Broadcaster entitled and granted to media Accreditation Card by SAFF.

## **Media Rights**

The right and license to produce, edit, and 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 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, and all rights to exploit any and all commercial opportunities arising from and/or in connection with such rights.

## **Member(s) / Member Association(s)**

Those National Associations who are members of FIFA, and who have applied for and been granted membership of SAFF in accordance with the SAFF Statutes.

## **Merchandising Rights**

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

## **National Association(s)**

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

## **Official Licensee**

Any entity to which the SAFF has granted the right to exercise and exploit the Commercial Rights (or any part thereof) in respect of the Competition.

## **Official Functions**

Any official event organised in connection with the Competitions, including but not limited to press conferences, team manager's meetings, etc.

## **Official Training Sites**

Training sites designated by the Organising Association for use by the Participating Teams throughout the duration of the Competition.

## **Organising Association(s)**

The Member Association(s) and their Local Organising Committee appointed by SAFF to organise, stage and host the Competition.

## **Participating Officials**

Those officials registered and participating in the Competition as selected by the participating Member Association.

## **Participating Players**

Those players registered and participating in the Competition as selected by the participating

Member Association.

### **Participating Team(s) /Member Association(s)**

Those teams participating in the Competitions, under the authority of a Member Association/National Association and SAFF during the Competition (including the Host Association Team).

### **Premiums**

A promotional item (including packaging, labeling and/or containers thereof) which incorporates a mark and/or logo of SAFF and/or the Competitions, and which is distributed free of charge or via prize competitions.

### **Promotional Rights**

Any rights to official publications, official suppliers, official products, sales promotion including but not limited to the right to organise promotional competitions and to make awards and give prizes, official music rights, the right to grant official status and all other rights of commercial value in regard to the Competition.

### **Proprietary 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.

### **Regulations**

Those regulations published and implemented by FIFA, AFC and SAFF to be used in connection with the Competition.

### **SAFF**

The South Asian Football Federation.

### **SAFF Committees**

Any committees constituted by SAFF for the organisation of this Competition and any committee constituted in accordance with the SAFF Statutes including but not limited to the SAFF Disciplinary and Ethics Committee.

### **SAFF Delegation**

Any officials appointed by SAFF in relation to the Competition, including but not limited to the SAFF staff.

### **SAFF Guidelines**

Any guidelines, regulations, policies, instructions and/or protocols issued by SAFF which form an integral part of the Competition.

### **SAFF General Secretariat**

The secretariat of SAFF which is responsible to conduct all administrative work of SAFF and the Competition.

### **SAFF Logo(s)**

The official logo of SAFF and the Competition Mark, and/or such other official logo, which shall be the only marks used by SAFF in relation to the Competition, save where otherwise mutually agreed

with other parties.

### **SAFF Statutes**

The constitution of SAFF.

### **SAFF Website**

The domain [www.saffederation.org](http://www.saffederation.org) owned by the SAFF, including without limitation all other domains or official media platforms and channels created and/or owned by the SAFF (e.g. Facebook, YouTube, Instagram, etc.).

### **Sponsorship Rights**

An association with the Competition Mark and/or SAFF Logo (subject to any special provisions regarding the SAFF Logo as set out in these Competition Regulation and/or SAFF Guidelines) by any combination of Commercial Rights, including title sponsor of the Competitions or any of them such as “SAFF U17 Championship 2024” sponsored/presented by “Company A” and/or such other designation as mutually agreed by the parties.

### **Stadia/Stadium**

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

### **Team’s Official Delegation**

The Participating Team’s Official Delegation which comprises of **a maximum of 23 players and 7 officials** who are named in the Final Registration for the Competition.

### **Territory**

The World.

### **The IFAB**

The International Football Association Board.

### **Ticket**

A pass providing access to a venue for the purpose of attending a Match, official training, or Official Function.

### **Ticketing**

The Organising Association to provide tickets to spectators for every Match and Official functions of the Competition allowing them to enter the Stadia. Ticketing shall include the management of 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-license 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.

### **Tribune d’Honneur**

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

## Venues

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

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

- (a) the singular shall include the plural and vice-versa;
- (b) the masculine gender shall include the feminine and vice-versa;
- (c) reference to natural persons shall include any legal person or corporation;
- (d) references to the SAFF shall include its successors and permitted assigns; and
- (e) references to regulations shall include statutes, codes, orders, regulations, rules, directives, decisions, circulars, notifications and protocols.

## SECTION 1: GENERAL

### 1. Representation

- 1.1 The SAFF stages the SAFF U17 Championship 2024 (hereafter the “**Competition**”) once every year or every two (2) years to ensure the development of football within the South Asian region where all Member Associations of SAFF are eligible to participate.
- 1.2 SAFF stages the Competition with SAFF’s Member Association(s) (hereinafter the “**Organising Association(s)**”) after the appointment of these Member Association(s) by the SAFF.
- 1.3 These Competition Regulations govern the rights, duties, and responsibilities of the SAFF Secretariat, SAFF Delegation, Match Officials, Organising Association, Participating Member Associations, Participating Teams, Participating Players and Participating Officials taking part in the Competition.
- 1.4 These Competition Regulations and all related directives, decisions, guidelines, and circulars issued by the SAFF shall be binding upon all parties participating and involved in the preparation, organisation and hosting of the Competition.
- 1.5 Any rights and/or Proprietary Rights associated with the Competition which have not been granted by these Competition Regulations and/or specific agreements to a Participating Member Association or an Organising Association in the Competition belong to SAFF.
- 1.6 The current SAFF Statutes, all SAFF regulations, guidelines, circulars and codes are binding for all parties participating and involved in the preparation, organisation and hosting of the Competition. Any reference in these Competition Regulations to the SAFF Statutes refers to the Statutes valid at the time of entry and to all relevant SAFF regulations, guidelines, circulars and codes.

## SECTION 2: OBLIGATIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

### 2. SAFF

- 2.1 The SAFF shall be responsible for organising the Competition in accordance with these Competition Regulations, SAFF Statutes and all other SAFF regulations, policies and protocols and shall carry out the necessary administrative work.
- 2.2 The responsibilities of the SAFF shall include, but are not limited to:
- A. supervising general preparations;
  - B. deciding on the Competition format, draws, and entries to the Competition;
  - C. determining the Match Schedule;
  - D. selecting Organising Association, Stadium and Official Training Sites for the Competition;
  - E. appointing Match Officials for each Match of the Competition;
  - F. choosing and approving all stipulated technical material;
  - G. reporting cases where appropriate to the SAFF Disciplinary and Ethics Committee;
  - H. dealing with cases of abandoned Matches or cancelled Matches;
  - I. dealing with cases of Force Majeure;
  - J. replacing Participating Teams that have withdrawn from the Competition; and
  - K. dealing with any other aspect of the Competition that is not the responsibility of any other body.
- 2.3 The SAFF General Secretariat may take some decisions in relation to the Competition in consultation with Match Commissioner which shall be final, binding and not appealable.
- 2.4 All decisions made by the SAFF Disciplinary and Ethics Committee in relation to the Competition shall be in accordance with the SAFF Disciplinary and Ethics Code.

### **3. Organising Associations**

- 3.1 The Organising Association shall be obliged and responsible to:
- A. observe all obligations set out in these Competition Regulations, the SAFF Statutes, and all other SAFF regulations, directives, guidelines, and circulars and all applicable national and supra-national laws;
  - B. perform each of its obligations and exercise each of the rights granted to it as host, in connection with the hosting, staging, and organisation of the Competition in accordance with professional standards including forming a Local Organisation Committee;
  - C. assist and coordinate with Participating Member Associations on all arrangements relating to the Competition in agreement with SAFF;
  - D. negotiate with and/or lobby the appropriate government bodies and/or local authorities to assist in the successful hosting, staging, and organising of the Competition;
  - E. obtain all applicable and relevant licenses, permits, grants, and authorizations as may be required to fulfill its obligation in relation to the hosting, staging, and organising of the Competition;
  - F. comply with the SAFF Secretariat and Match Commissioner's instructions on the provision of key services, facilities, equipment and infrastructure at each Stadium;
  - G. provide a Clean Stadium and the necessary assistance and support to the SAFF and Official Licensees in relation to the use and exploitation of the Commercial Rights and all Proprietary Interests of the SAFF and the protection and enforcement of rights in relation thereto;
  - H. procure all necessary insurance policies which shall provide coverage for all risks relating to the hosting, staging and organising of the Competition;
  - I. obtain all clearances and execute all required documentation to enable the free and unfettered



- exercise and exploitation of Commercial Rights and clearance of all products, equipment or materials relating to the exploitation of the Commercial Rights of the Competition;
- J. submit all documents to SAFF in a timely manner upon completion of the Competition which shall in no event exceed one (1) month from the completion of the Competition otherwise Art. 5.6 shall apply;
  - K. guarantee safety and security at the Stadium in compliance with AFC/FIFA Stadium Safety and Security Regulations;
  - L. issue a detailed security plan in the form of a binding agreement;
  - M. provide media access to Participating Teams; and
  - N. ensure that any decision made by SAFF relating to its duties and responsibilities is enforced immediately.
- 3.2 The Organising Association shall indemnify, hold harmless and defend the SAFF, its Official Licensees as well as their officers, members, agents, auxiliary persons, representatives, and employees from and against all liabilities, obligations, damages, losses, claims, demands, recoveries, deficiencies, costs or expenses (including without limitation all costs and expenses for finding and contracting with another Organising Association able and willing to stage the Competition and/or all attorney fees and expenses) which such parties may suffer or incur in connection with, resulting from, or arising out of any breach by the Organising Association (including its officers, directors, representatives, auxiliary persons, employees or agents) or any act or omission of the Organising Association (including its officers, directors, representatives, auxiliary persons, employees or agents) in connection with the performance of its obligations under these Competition Regulations.
- 3.3 The Organising Association shall be required to sign and execute a Competition Host Agreement (“HA”) with the SAFF Secretariat by no later than the deadline communicated to the Organising Association, the HA will detail all requirements pertaining to the organisation and staging of the Competition (which have not been covered in this Competition Regulation) and covenants to ensure the rights of any Official Licensee.

#### **4. Participating Member Associations**

- 4.1 The Participating Member Association eligible to participate shall complete the Participating Team Agreement (“PTA”) in full and submit it to the SAFF Secretariat not later than the deadline communicated to the Participating Member Association. If the Participating Team Agreement does not reach the SAFF Secretariat by the deadline, the participation of the eligible Participating Member Association may be canceled. Only the Participating Team Agreement submitted to the SAFF Secretariat by courier post and/or mail will be valid and taken into consideration.
- 4.2 Each Participating Member Association taking part in the Competition shall ensure, as a condition of its participation in the Competition that every member of its delegation (players and officials) complies with the Participating Team Agreement to be issued by SAFF.
- 4.3. Each Participating Member Association taking part shall undertake to:
- A. observe all obligations set out in the PTA, these Competition Regulations, the SAFF Statutes, and all other SAFF regulations, directives, guidelines and circulars, and applicable national and supra-national laws;
  - B. comply with the Laws of the Game laid down by the IFAB;
  - C. accept that all the administrative, disciplinary and refereeing matters connected with the

Competition shall be settled by the SAFF in compliance with these Competition Regulations;

- D. field their strongest team throughout the Competition;
  - E. observe the principles of Fair Play;
  - F. 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 Organising Association until their departure;
  - G. attend and participate in all official activities and events, including without limitation any team arrival meeting, match coordination meeting, press conferences, and other media and marketing activities in accordance with the instructions issued by the SAFF;
    - G1. failure to attend and/or fully participate in any official activity or event shall result in the Participating Member Association being fined at least USD 250; and
    - G2. the SAFF Disciplinary and Ethics Committee may issue further sanctions at its discretion;
  - H. provide to the SAFF, free of charge, prior to the Competition, statistics and photographs of its Participating Players and Participating Officials, historical information related to its Participating Team, and any further data as requested and in accordance with instructions issued by SAFF;
  - I. link the official URL for the Competition on its official website;
  - J. not establish any digital, media or social media platform relating to the Competition without the prior written approval of SAFF;
  - K. accept the use and/or sub-license by SAFF of any of the records, names and images of the Participating Member Association (including its mark/logo), players and officials, including any still and moving representation thereof, which must appear or be generated in connection with the participation of the Participating Member Association and its Players and Officials in the Competition;
  - L. submit all documents to SAFF in a timely manner upon completion of the Competition which shall in no event exceed one (1) week from the completion of the Competition otherwise Art. 5.6 shall apply;
  - M. not make changes of Participating Players and Participating Officials from the initial list without prior consent of SAFF and without providing sufficient reasons;
  - N. ensure that any decision made by SAFF relating to its duties and responsibilities is enforced immediately;
  - O. accept all arrangements made by any Organising Association in agreement with the SAFF; and
  - P. Participating Member Associations are not authorized to represent SAFF or the Competition without the prior written approval of SAFF.
- 4.4 Each Participating Member Association taking part shall, at its own expense, be solely responsible throughout the Competition for:
- A. the procurement of insurance coverage of its Team Official Delegation which shall include without limitation hospital and surgical insurance, travel insurance, and/or sports equipment insurance for all Matches;
  - B. payment of incidental expenses and for any costs incurred by its Team Official Delegation;
  - C. payment of any costs of extending the stay of any member of its Team Official Delegation in any Organising Association unless such extended stay has been approved by SAFF;
  - D. obtaining visas to enter the territory of any Organising Association no later than thirty (30) days prior to its first Match at that Venue; and
  - F. 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.
- 4.5 Each Participating Member Association taking part shall indemnify, defend, and hold the SAFF and all of its officers, directors, employees, representatives, agents, and all other auxiliary persons free and

harmless against any and all liabilities, obligations, losses, damages, penalties, claims, actions, fines, and expenses (including reasonable legal expenses) of whatsoever kind or nature resulting from, arising out of, or attributable to, any non-compliance with these Regulations by the Participating Member Association, their Team Official Delegation, their affiliates and any third-parties contracted to the Participating Member Association.

### **SECTION 3: SANCTIONS**

#### **5. Sanctions**

Withdrawal from competition

- 5.1 In the case of a Participating Member Association withdrawing or being excluded from the Competition, the SAFF shall be responsible for making any decisions, including without limitation whether to:
- A. change the competition system; and/or
  - B. change the technical regulations.
- 5.2 Without limitation, the following shall be considered as withdrawal, if any Participating Member Association that (for any reason):
- A. informs SAFF in writing that it does not intend to or is unable to report to a Venue and/or for a Match;
  - B. fails to report to a Venue and/or for a Match;
  - C. refuses or fails to continue a Match;
  - D. leaves the Stadium prior to the completion of a Match;
  - E. 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
  - F. 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.
- 5.3 Any Participating Member Association that withdraws from the Competition prior to the commencement of the Competition shall be fined if the withdrawal takes place:
- A. up to thirty (30) days before its first Match: at least USD 1,000;
  - B. less than thirty (30) days before its first Match: at least USD 1,500; and
  - C. be subject to further sanctions at the discretion of the SAFF Disciplinary and Ethics Committee.
- 5.4 Any Participating Member Association that withdraws from the Competition after the commencement of the Competition or does not report for a Match or refuses to continue a Match or leaves the Stadium prior to the completion of a Match shall:
- A. have all its Matches cancelled and considered null and void;
  - B. be required to pay compensation for any and all damages or losses suffered by SAFF, Official Licensees, Organising Association, SAFF Delegates and Participating Member Associations

- participating in the Competition;
- C. be fined at least USD 10,000;
- D. shall not receive any disbursements in relation to the Competition or forfeit the right to the same; and
- E. be subject to further sanctions at the discretion of the SAFF Disciplinary and Ethics Committee.

#### Failure to stage

- 5.5 If an Organising Association fails to stage the Competition (except in the case of Force Majeure), then they shall:
- A. be liable to fine of at least USD 5,000 if more than sixty (60) days remain for the Competition;
  - B. be liable to fine of at least USD 10,000 if less than sixty (60) days remain for the Competition; and
  - C. be subject to further sanctions at the discretion of the SAFF Disciplinary and Ethics Committee.

#### Defaulting on deadlines

- 5.6 If the Participating Teams or the Organising Associations fail to follow the deadlines which are set by SAFF in these Competition Regulations and by issuance of SAFF Guidelines, the organisation at fault shall be required to pay USD 25 for each day the default continues.

### **SECTION 4: TECHNICAL REGULATIONS**



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

- 6.1 All Matches shall be played in accordance with the Laws of the Game laid down by the International Football Association Board and published by FIFA.
- 6.2 In case of any discrepancy in the interpretation of the Laws of the Game, the English version shall prevail and is authoritative.
- 6.3 Only five (5) substitutes listed on the Match Starting List may take part in the Match. Each Team is permitted to use a maximum of five (5) substitutes & a maximum of three (3) substitution opportunities. A player who has been substituted out will take no further part in the Match.
- 6.4 If there are fewer than seven (7) players on either of the teams, the Match shall be abandoned. In this case, the SAFF Secretariat (and if required the SAFF Disciplinary and Ethics Committee) shall decide on the consequences.
- 6.5 Each Participating Team shall be permitted to use a maximum of one 'concussion substitute' in a match in accordance with the Laws of the Game; and when a 'concussion substitute' is used, the opposing team shall then have the option to use an 'additional substitute' for any reason.

#### **7. Duration of Match**

##### Group Stage

- 7.1 Each Match shall last ninety (90) minutes, comprising two periods of forty-five (45) minutes, with an interval of fifteen (15) minutes in between from the whistle ending the first period to the whistle starting the second period.

#### Knockout Stage

- 7.2 Each Match shall last ninety (90) minutes, comprising two periods of forty-five (45) minutes, with an interval of fifteen (15) minutes in between from the whistle ending the first period to the whistle starting the second period.
- 7.3 **If no winner is determined at the end of normal playing time during the knockout matches including semi-finals and final, kicks from the Penalty Mark shall be taken in** accordance with the Laws of the Game. No Extra Time will be played.

### 8. Cancellation of Matches

- 8.1 If the Match cannot commence on time due to Force Majeure or any other incidents such as, but not limited to, the field is not fit for play, weather conditions, floodlight failure, etc. the following procedures must be followed:
- A. The Match must first be delayed for a minimum of thirty (30) minutes, unless the Referee decides that the Match can commence earlier, before a decision to reschedule the Match is taken; and
  - B. At the discretion of the Referee, another delay of a maximum of thirty (30) minutes shall be allowed if in his opinion this extra period of delay will allow the Match to commence. Otherwise, at the end of this second thirty (30) minute period, the Referee must declare the Match to have been cancelled.
- 8.2 In the case of a canceled Match, the SAFF shall decide within two (2) hours of the Referee's decision whether to cancel the Match or whether the Match can be rescheduled, taking sporting and organisational considerations into account, or whether any other action and decision are needed to continue with the Competition. Any disciplinary sanctions resulting from the canceled Match shall remain in force.
- 8.3 No appeals may be lodged against decisions stated in this Art. 8.

### 9. Abandonment of Matches

- 9.1 If the Match is stopped by the Referee before the end of normal time or during any extra time because of any Force Majeure or any other incidents such as, but not limited to, the field is not fit for play, weather conditions, floodlight failure, etc. the following procedures must be followed:
- A. The Match is automatically suspended for the duration of thirty (30) minutes to allow conditions to improve sufficiently to restart the Match, unless the Referee decides that the Match can be resumed earlier; and
  - B. At the discretion of the Referee, another suspension of a maximum of thirty (30) minutes shall be allowed if in his opinion this extra period of suspension will allow the Match to be resumed. At the end of this second thirty (30) minute period, the Referee must declare the Match to have

been abandoned.

- 9.2 In the case of an abandoned Match, the SAFF shall decide within two (2) hours of the Referee's decision to abandon the Match and whether the Match result at the time of abandonment is valid or whether a replay shall be organised, taking sporting and organisational considerations into account.
- 9.3 No appeals may be lodged against decisions stated in this Art. 9.

## **10. Stadiums (Stadia)**

- 10.1 The Stadium for the matches in the Competition shall be nominated upon bidding to host, by the Member Association and subject to inspection and approval by SAFF.
- 10.2 Unless stipulated otherwise in these Competition Regulations, Matches in the Competition must be played in a stadium which meets the entire basic requirement for conducting the Matches and shall conform to AFC Stadium Regulations.
- 10.3 The Organising Association shall ensure that no Matches and/or other activities are held at the Stadium(s) nominated for the Matches at least five (5) days before the start of the Competition and during the Competition.
- 10.4 If the Organising Association considers the field of play unfit for play, the SAFF Secretariat shall be informed immediately, as well as the Participating Member Associations and the SAFF Delegation before their departure. If the Organising Association concerned fails to do this, it will be obliged to cover all of the expenses incurred for travel, board and lodging of the parties involved.
- 10.5 If there is any doubt regarding the condition of the field of play once the Participating Member Association/s has already left to play the Match, the Referee shall decide whether the field of play is playable or not. If the Referee declares that the Match cannot commence because of Force Majeure, or any other incidents such as, but not limited to, the field is not fit for play, weather conditions, floodlight failures, etc. the procedure to be followed is described in Art. 8 above.
- 10.6 Prior to approving any Stadium, SAFF reserves the right to conduct an inspection on the nominated Stadium. The cost of this inspection visit will be borne by the Organising Association.
- 10.7 If, at any time during the Competition, the SAFF Secretariat deems that, for whatever reason, the Stadium is not fit for staging a match, the SAFF may consult with the Organising Association/s and propose an alternative Stadium, in accordance with the standards required by SAFF.
- 10.8 The Organising Association will be subjected to disciplinary sanctions if Matches in the Competition are played in Stadium not approved by SAFF.

## **11. Field of Play**

- 11.1 The SAFF Match Commissioner will inspect the Stadium prior to the Match Day and ensure that all arrangements are in accordance with The Laws of the Game. If the conditions of the field of play including the dimensions of goal and field do not meet the requirements stated in the Laws of the Game, the SAFF Match Commissioner will issue instructions for the Organising Association to rectify

the situation.

## **12. Team Bench and Technical Area**

- 12.1 Up to a maximum of seven **(7) Participating Officials** and a **maximum of twelve (12) Participating Players** are permitted to sit on the team bench during a Match, provided they are in possession of the appropriate Accreditation Card.
- 12.2 All officials and players on the team bench must wear their Accreditation Card at all times. The Accreditation Cards shall always be available for inspection prior to the start of the Match.
- 12.3 All persons on the bench must wear kits that are contrasting with the kit of the players and referees on the pitch. These kits must comply with the AFC Equipment Regulations.
- 12.4 Team 'A' shall occupy the left-hand side bench as viewed from 4th Official Bench and Team 'B' shall be on the right-hand side.

## **13. Warming up**

- 13.1 The Participating Teams shall be entitled to warm up on the field of play before the Match if the weather permits.
- 13.2 During actual play, a maximum of six (6) players from each team may warm up at the same time but without a ball (except for the goalkeeper), behind the goal closest to their substitutes' bench or in a space determined by the SAFF Match Commissioner. The players may be assisted by two (2) officials from the team bench (subject to stadium structure).

## **14. Training Sessions at the Stadium**

- 14.1 Depending on the weather and condition of the pitch, the Participating Teams may be entitled to one (1) hour official training session in the Stadium where they are due to play on one (1) day or two (2) days before the Participating Team's first Match in the Stadium concerned.
- 14.2 The field of play must be prepared to match conditions for this session. If the field of play is not in good condition, the SAFF Match Commissioner may shorten or cancel the official training session and direct the teams to inspect the field of play wearing training shoes only.
- 14.3 If an artificial pitch is to be used for the Matches, the visiting team is entitled to have either one (1) hour official training sessions or two (2) hours official training sessions in the Stadium where they are due to play on, one (1) day or two (2) days before their first match.

## **15. Official Training Sites**

- 15.1 Official Training Sites should be in good condition and situated near the Participating Teams' hotel and shall be made available to the Participating Teams at least three (3) full days prior to the first Match in the Competition.

- 15.2 The Participating Teams in the Competition shall use only those Official Training Sites which have been officially designated for training by SAFF.
- 15.3 These Official Training Sites are reserved for training and shall not be used for other matches and events as from three (3) days prior to the first Match in the Competition, unless written permission has been obtained from the SAFF.
- 15.4 The Organising Association will decide the specific training schedule for the Participating Member Associations.

## **16. Footballs**

- 16.1 The footballs for the Competition shall be selected and supplied by the Organising Association as follows:
- A. The Organising Association(s)/SAFF shall provide each Participating Team with ten (10) approved new footballs prior to the start of the Competition. Only these footballs will be used for practices at the Official Training Sites, during the Competition.
  - B. Only footballs that bear one (1) of the FIFA quality marks or the “IMS -International Match Ball Standard” mark shall be utilized for the Competition.

## **17. Match Schedule**

- 17.1 All Matches shall be played according to the dates, stadium and kick-off times as set by SAFF. The Match Schedule is final and binding on all concerned.
- 17.2 The Organising Association/s shall inform the SAFF Secretariat of the kick-off times for all Matches upon entry to the Competition, which shall be subject to approval by the SAFF Secretariat.
- 17.3 The SAFF Secretariat shall ensure that where necessary and possible, matches in the same group are played simultaneously when the situation demands for sporting reasons, taking into consideration time zones.

## **18. Competition System**

- 18.1 The Competition shall consist of two (2) stages:
- A. Group Stage: depending on the number of teams participating in the event; and
  - B. Knock out Stage.
- 18.2 In case the number of Participating Teams are less than six (6) the SAFF Secretariat reserves the right and may change the competition system and the technical regulations.
- 18.3 The Matches in the Competition shall be played in accordance with the following format:
- A. In groups composed of several teams in a centralized venue, with three (3) points awarded for a



win, one (1) point for a draw and zero (0) points for a loss (league system).

18.4 The SAFF Secretariat forms groups and/or sub-groups for the Competition by drawing lots whilst taking sports, geographic and economic factors into consideration, as far as possible.

## 19. Technical Regulations for the Competition

19.1 The Participating Teams taking part in the Competition shall be divided into groups depending on the number of teams in the entry.

19.2 The following match sequence applies for groups with four (4) teams (the number designates the position drawn in each group):

Match Day	Schedule	
1	Team 1 V Team 4	Team 2 V Team 3
2	Team 4 V Team 2	Team 3 V Team 1
3	Team 1 V Team 2	Team 3 V Team 4

19.3 The following match sequence applies for groups with 5 teams (the number designates the position drawn in each group):

Match Day	Schedule	
1	Team 3 V Team 2	Team 5 V Team 4
2	Team 4 V Team 1	Team 5 V Team 3
3	Team 1 V Team 5	Team 2 V Team 4
4	Team 2 V Team 5	Team 3 V Team 1
5	Team 4 V Team 3	Team 1 V Team 2

19.4 The following match sequence applies for groups with three (3) teams (the number designates the position drawn in each group):

Match Day	Schedule
1	Team 3 V Team 1
2	Team 2 V Team 3
3	Team 1 V Team 2

19.5 The ranking in each group shall be determined in accordance with Article 20.2 below.

## 20. League Format

20.1 A league system may be followed upon considering the number of Participating Teams for the Competition which may be either single-legged or double-legged and may be followed by a final.

20.2 In the league/group format, the ranking in each group is determined as follows:

- A. Greatest number of points obtained in all group matches;
- B. **If two or more teams are equal on the basis of the above criteria (20.2 A), their rankings shall be determined as follows:**

- B1. Greatest number of points obtained in the group matches between the teams concerned;
- B2. Superior goal difference resulting from the group matches between the teams concerned;
- B3. Higher number of goals scored in the group matches between the teams concerned;
- B4. Superior goal difference in all the group Matches;
- B5. Greater number of goals scored in all the group Matches;
- B6. Ranking/fair play points system in which the number of yellow and/or red cards in all group Matches are considered according to the following deductions:
  - i. per yellow card: minus 1 point;
  - ii. per indirect red card (as a consequence of two yellow cards in the same Match): minus 3 points;
  - iii. per direct red card: minus 3 points;The Participating Team receiving the least number of minus points shall be ranked highest. The remaining Participating Teams shall be ranked in descending order.
- B7. Drawing of lots.

## **SECTION 5: ENTRIES FOR COMPETITION**

### **21. Entries**

- 21.1 The SAFF shall determine the Participating Member Associations who are eligible for the Competition.
- 21.2 All decisions by the designated SAFF Committee regarding entries are final and not subject to appeal.
- 21.3 Eligible Member Associations must complete a PTA and submit it to the SAFF in accordance with Article 4 of these Regulations, to confirm their entry.

### **22. Eligible Teams**

- 22.1 In the SAFF U17 Championship 2024, the National U17 Men's Team of Participating Member Associations shall be eligible to participate in this Competition provided all other terms of these Competition Regulations have been met.
- 22.2 The Member Association are eligible if they ensure that the Participating Players meet the age criteria that is set in Art. 24.1 below.
- 22.3 The Participating Member Associations are eligible when they confirm in writing (within the PTA) that they themselves, as well as their players and officials, comply with the Laws of the Game promulgated by the International Football Association Board (IFAB) and agree to respect these Competition Regulations and all related SAFF regulations, policies, guidelines and notifications.
- 22.4 The Participating Member Associations are eligible when they confirm in writing (within the PTA) that they themselves, as well as their players and officials, agree to recognise the jurisdiction of the SAFF Disciplinary and Ethics Committee and the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) in Lausanne, Switzerland.

## **SECTION 6: TEAM'S OFFICIAL DELEGATION: OFFICIALS & PLAYERS**

### **23. Size of Delegation Attending Matches**

- 23.1 Each Participating Member Association (including the Host Association Team) is entitled to an Official Delegation of a maximum **of twenty-three (23) players and seven (7) officials** who must be registered by the Participating Member Association (including the Host Association Team) as **per Art. 24 - 35**. The Team's Official Delegation (including the Host Association Team) will be provided with full board, accommodation and transportation benefits as well as full access to the official Competition areas including the field of play and other Controlled Accessed areas.
- 23.2 At their own cost, each Participating Member Association can nominate, up to an **additional two (2) officials** who will receive access to team hotel, Training Sites and the Official Areas, except the field of play, team bench. The additional officials if any, are required to fly with the team.

### **24. Eligibility of Players**

24.1 A player is eligible to play in the Competition provided he fulfills all the following conditions:

- A. he is duly registered with SAFF by the Participating Member Association according to the provisions of these Regulations;
- B. he is a bona fide citizen of the country he represents, provided he fulfills the provision of Art. 26;
- C. he was born between 1<sup>st</sup> January 2008 and 31<sup>st</sup> December 2010; and
- D. he is eligible to participate for the representative team of the Member Association in accordance with the Regulations Governing the Application of the FIFA Statutes. If a Participating Player is a national in two separate Member Associations' jurisdiction, the Participating Team shall be required to provide a clearance from the Member Association the Participating Player chose not to represent.

24.2 A player is deemed ineligible if:

- A. There is a violation of Art. 24; and
- B. SAFF finds that documents submitted during registration is/are forged.

### **25. Stages of Registration of Players**

25.1 There are three (3) stages of player's registration:

- A. Preliminary Registration to determine a squad of a minimum of eighteen (18) players and up to a maximum of thirty-five (35) players;
- B. Final Registration to specify a minimum of eighteen (18) players and up to a maximum of twenty-three (23) players from the squad declared in the Preliminary Registration for the Competition; and
- C. Start List to identify the starting eleven (11) and up to twelve (12) substitute players for each Match during the Competition.

## 26. Documentations for Registration of Players

26.1 For the registration of players for the Competition, players must be registered using the 'SAFF Official Registration Form for Players' and the Competition Management System (FCMS).

26.2 Documentations for the registration of players are, but not limited to, the following:

- A. Registration form for Players;
- B. Color copy of valid passport containing full name, passport number, date of birth, date of issue, date of expiry and nationality (group passport will not be accepted) (**mandatory**);
- C. Color copy of national ID (if applicable);
- D. Color copy of birth certificates (if applicable); and
- E. Passport-size color photo (taken within 3 months prior to the submission of the registration).

26.3 In cases of registration of naturalized players, the Participating Member Associations concerned must present proof of naturalization by providing supporting documents issued by the competent authorities of their countries as proof of the Player's nationality in accordance with Art. 26 to 29 of the Regulations Governing the Application of the FIFA Statutes.

26.4 SAFF reserves the right to request for additional documents than those stipulated in Art. 26 or waive the requirement of any document.

## 27. Principles for Registration of Players

27.1 A Participating Member Association can register no less than eighteen (18) players and no more than thirty-five (35) players for the Competition in the Preliminary Registration in accordance with Art. 28 and Art. 29.

27.2 If a Participating Member Association fails to register a minimum of eighteen (18) players, the team will be considered to have withdrawn in accordance with Art. 5.2.

27.3 The Participating Players must be assigned jerseys numbered 1-23. Jersey number 1 shall be reserved for a goalkeeper. Each Participating Player shall wear the same number allocated in the Final Registration during all matches in the Competition.

27.4 Participating Member Association must register a minimum of three (3) goalkeepers in their SAFF Preliminary and Final Registration for the players. Registration of fewer goalkeepers will not entitle Participating Member Associations to register more outfield players.

27.5 Each column in the SAFF Official Registration Form for the Players must be completed with correct information.

27.6 Players with missing documentations will not be eligible for registration. All eligible players will be issued with official Accreditation cards authorized by the SAFF Secretariat. Should the card have been misplaced, the teams shall be required to pay a USD 100 production fee for every card lost, to replace it.

27.7 Any Participating Member Association found guilty of fielding an ineligible player shall forfeit the match. Victory and the resultant three (3) points will be awarded to the opposing team as well as the

score of 3-0, or greater, depending on the score of the match. The guilty Participating Member Association, its officials and team officials shall also be subject to further fines and sanctions as determined by the SAFF Disciplinary and Ethics Committee.

27.8 It is responsibility of the Participating Member Association to ensure that all original forms and supporting documents in accordance with Art. 26 are sent in good time and reach SAFF Secretariat by email and/or post in Dhaka, Bangladesh before the deadline announced by SAFF. Proof of submission is not proof of receipt.

27.9 Should the SAFF Secretariat not receive the original copy of the SAFF Official Registration Form with all required document by the deadline announced by SAFF, the Participating Member Association shall be automatically disqualified from the Competition and be considered to have withdrawn in accordance with Art. 5.2.

27.10 In the event there is a dispute pertaining to the status of a player, the case will be referred to FIFA.

## **28. Preliminary Registration of Players**

28.1 Each Participating Member Association entering the Competition shall submit to SAFF Secretariat, mail, the SAFF Official Registration Form for the Players and the supporting documents in accordance with Art. 26 by the deadline announced by SAFF.

28.2 Once the SAFF Official Registration Form has been received by SAFF and after the deadline under no circumstances will the Participating Member Associations be allowed to submit additional names or replacement of players for registrations, even if their quota of thirty-five (35) players has not been fulfill.

## **29. Final Registration of Players**

29.1 Participating Member Associations are required to submit a final registration of a minimum of eighteen (18) players and a maximum of twenty-three (23) players from the squad list of thirty-five (35) players in the Preliminary Registration during the match coordination meeting (MCM).

29.2 Once the final registration of a minimum of eighteen (18) players and a maximum of twenty-three (23) players have been submitted and received by SAFF, Participating Member Associations can still replace any of these players on any grounds, up until (48) hours before their first Match in the Competition. However, the replacement of player (i.e., 'new player ') must be nominated from the list of up to thirty-five (35) players already registered in accordance to the Preliminary Registration of Players.

29.3 Participating Member Association must hand over the accreditation card of the player to be replaced to the SAFF Match Commissioner. The SAFF Match Commissioner will then, in exchange, hand over the official eligibility card of the replacement player.

29.4 Only when the replacement player has received his accreditation card will he be considered to be registered for the Competition and eligible to participate in the Competition.

## **30. Player Selection List**

- 30.1 For each Match in the Competition, each Participating Member Association will receive a 'Player Selection List' on which the numbers and names of up to twenty-three (23) players in the squad are listed prior to their arrival at the stadium.
- 30.2 The Participating Member Association must indicate on the 'Player Selection List' the eleven (11) players who will start the Match and the other twelve (12) players who are designated as either substitutes, suspended or not playing. The team Captain must be identified on the 'Player Selection List'.
- 30.3 Both teams must hand their 'Player Selection List' to the SAFF Match Commissioner at least three (3) hours before the kick-off of their Match.
- 30.4 If the 'Player Selection List' is not completed and returned on time, the matter will be submitted to the SAFF Disciplinary and Ethics Committee.

### **31. Match Starting List**

- 31.1 The 'Match Starting List' must be signed by the Head Coaches/ Assistant Coach of both Teams and returned to the SAFF Match Commissioner whose signature will make the 'Match Starting List' an official document.
- 31.2 The SAFF Match Commissioner will ask to see the accreditation cards and jerseys of the players whose names are listed on the 'Match Starting List'. Each player participating in the Match must be in possession of their accreditation card issued by the SAFF Secretariat. Only those players who are in possession of an official accreditation card are entitled to play in the Matches.
- 31.3 After the 'Match Starting List' has been completed and signed by both Teams and returned to the SAFF Match Commissioner, and if the Match has not yet kicked -off, the following instructions apply:
- A. If any of the eleven (11) players listed on the Match Starting List selected to start the Match are not able to start the Match for any reason, they may be replaced by any of the substitutes listed on the Match Starting List; and
  - B. During the Match, five (5) players may still be substituted.

### **32. Registration of Officials**

- 32.1 Each Participating Member Association entering the Competition shall submit to SAFF Secretariat, mail, the SAFF Official Registration Form for Officials and the supporting documents in accordance with Art. 33 and Art. 34 by the deadline announced by SAFF.

### **33. Documentations for Registration of Officials**

- 33.1 For the registration of officials for the Competition, officials must be registered using the 'SAFF Official Registration Form for Officials' and using the online registration platform Competition Management System (FCMS).

33.2 Documentations for the registration of Officials are, but not limited to, as following (unless already previously submitted to SAFF and available in the Competition Management System adopted by SAFF).

#### 34. Official Registration Form for Officials

34.1 Passport-size colored photo (taken within 3 months prior to the submission of the registration).

34.2 Color copy of valid passport containing full name, passport number, date of birth, date of issue, date of expiry and nationality (group passport will not be accepted).

34.3 Color copy of National ID (when applicable, unless the official is a foreigner from a non-SAFF Member Association).

34.4 SAFF has the right to ask for further documentation for the clarification of the eligibility of the officials other than the documentation listed in Art. 34.

#### 35. Principles for Registration of Officials

35.1 The Participating Member Associations can nominate a maximum of ten (10) officials in the registration.

35.2 The Participating Member Associations shall nominate seven (7) officials who will be entitled for access into the Field of Play and Team Bench.

35.3 The following two (2) officials must be registered as:

- A. Team Manager; and
- B. Head Coach.

35.4 Apart from two (2) officials above, the Participating Member Associations may register five (5) more officials out of the following officials or any other positions provided the officials submit their qualifications, certification, or contracts with the Participating Member Associations:

- A. Assistant Coach;
- B. Physiotherapist;
- C. Doctor;
- D. Goalkeeper Coach;
- E. Security Officer;
- F. Fitness Trainer;
- G. Masseur;
- H. Fitness Coach;
- I. Technical Staff/Secretary;
- J. Video Analyst; and
- K. Media officer.

35.5 The additional two (2) officials referred to in Article 23.2 will receive access to all official areas except field of play and team bench. **Should the Participating Teams have a Head of Delegation, he/she must be registered as one of these two (2) officials.** Failure to do so will result in the Head of Delegation not

receiving access to the team dressing room.

- 35.6 Team Manager and Team Media Officer who coordinate all team & Media related matters with SAFF shall work in full time exclusive capacity from team's Official Arrival Date at the Venue and one (1) day after the team's last Match in the Competition and shall participate in the Team Manager's Meeting, Press -conference and other Official Function for the Match in the Competition.
- 35.7 The Team Manager and any one official member must attend the team manager's meeting and the Head Coach along with a Participating Player must attend the press-conferences and other Official Functions of the Competition.
- 35.8 The Participating Member Association is entitled to register 'Video Analyst', as one of the officials according to Art. 36.
- 35.9 Notwithstanding Art. 35.2 above, if the Participating Team does not appoint any of the designated persons or if SAFF do not approve of the persons nominated, the number of officials on the bench for the team will reduce proportionately.
- 35.10 Each column in the SAFF Official Registration Form for the Officials shall be filled up with correct information.
- 35.11 Officials with missing documentation will not be eligible for registration. All eligible Officials will be issued with official accreditation cards authorized by the SAFF Secretariat. Should the card have been misplaced, the Participating Member Association shall be required to pay a USD 100 production fee for every card lost, to replace it.
- 35.12 Should the SAFF Secretariat not receive the original copy of the SAFF Official Registration Form with all required documents in accordance with Art. 34, the team shall be automatically disqualified from the Competition and be considered to have withdrawn in accordance with Art. 5.2.
- 35.13 Participating Member Association may replace any of its officials until ten (10) days before the first Match of their respective Participating Member Association's Team in the Competition provided all necessary documents have been submitted as per Art. 33 - 34. Further, the Accreditation Card of the replaced official must be returned to the SAFF before the Accreditation Card of the new official can be produced. The new official is not considered part of the Team's Official Delegation until he/she receives his/her Accreditation Card.

## **SECTION 7: LOGISTICS & OFFICE EQUIPMENT**

### **36. Visa Application**

- 36.1 Participating Member Associations must apply for visas to the country hosting their matches no later than one (1) month before the start of the Competition or no later than the deadline for preliminary player registration, whichever is later, and to pay all visa application costs for itself.
- 36.2 If a Participating Member Association fails to secure a visa in time for their match as a result of non-compliance of Art. 36.1, the Participating Member Association will be considered to have withdrawn



in accordance to Art. 5.2.

36.3 Organising Association must guarantee and ensure that visa will be granted to the SAFF Delegation, Match Officials, officials and players of the Participating Member Association, sponsors, media without any discrimination of gender, race or nationality.

36.4 Organising Association should assist broadcasters visiting from overseas in providing them with any documents or approvals they need for visas, accreditations, temporarily importing television equipment and shooting in the host city.

### **37. Taxes**

37.1 The Organising Association must cover all taxes and/or fees related to any importation and/or exportation of equipment, merchandise and/or goods to be used for the Competition.

37.2 The Organising Association is required to cover the cost of any advertising taxes and/or fees or similar taxes at the Stadia and/or within the Venue.

### **38. Arrival & Departure and Travel Arrangements**

38.1 All SAFF Delegation and Match Officials taking part in the Competition shall arrive in the Official hotel at least **two (2) days before** the start of the Competition or on the official arrival date to be determined by SAFF and **leave one (1) day after** completion of the Competition.

38.2 Each Participating Member Association (including the Host Association Team) taking part in the Competition shall arrive in the team hotel reserved for it in the host country **two (2) days** before the competition and leave one (1) day after completion of the team's respective last match in the Competition.

38.3 All Participating Member Associations shall pay for their own airfares (international and domestic airfares) from the Participating Member Associations home venue to the venue of the Competition and vice-versa.

38.4 **Tickets must be endorsable and date changes must be allowed with or without any penalties. SAFF will not be responsible for any penalties incurred for date changes.**

38.5 Any costs relating to non-compliance to Art. 38.2, 38.3 or 38.4 above shall be borne by the Participating Member Association concerned.

38.6 Participating Member Association shall undertake not to play in any commercially driven Matches when travelling to and from the venue of the Competition.

### **39. Accommodation, Local Hospitality, Meals and Refreshments**

39.1 Only official hotels approved by SAFF shall be used for Accommodation.

39.2 The Organising Association must provide the following to the Official Delegation of Participating

Member Associations (including the Host Association Team) from two (2) days prior to the Competition, to one (1) day after the Participating Member Association's last Match in the Competition:

- A. Accommodations for the Team's Official Delegation as per Art. 24, not exceeding thirty (30) persons (**11 double rooms plus 1 single room for Players, and 7 single rooms for Officials**); and
- B. Each room attached with a clean bathroom with toilet and shower facility.

39.3 Accommodation facilities (rooms, toilets, hand sanitizer, mask, etc. and its surroundings must be clean and free from smell.

39.4 Accommodation must be located in an area that is safe from negative and noise pollution if possible.

39.5 SAFF reserves the right to ask the Organizing Association to change the accommodation facilities to another hotel, in the event that SAFF decides that the accommodation to be used does not fulfill the requirements in Art. 39.2.

39.6 Suitable meals three times a day in international buffet style of sufficient quantity and an additional light meal on Match days for each participating Team's Official Delegation as per Art. 23 not exceeding thirty (30) persons.

39.7 A minimum of three (3) liters of water per person per day for each Participating Team's Official Delegation as **per Art. 23, not exceeding thirty (30) persons**, and sufficient amount of ice and refreshments for the teams at the hotel. Each Participating Team shall also be entitled to receive 2 kg of ice for each training day and match day.

39.8 Laundry but no dry cleaning or pressing for playing and training outfits (5 pieces per day per person) for each participating Team's Official Delegation as per Art. 23, not exceeding thirty (30) persons.

39.9 Ensure that the visiting teams' officials and players (Teams' Official Delegation) are accompanied by officials from Host Association during arrival and departure to facilitate transport, immigration, customs and checking-in matters.

39.10 Liaison Officers should be proficient in English.

39.11 The Participating Member Associations shall pay for incidental expenses incurred by its delegation members during the course of their stay in the host country and for any costs incurred by additional members of the delegation and extending their stay other than those mentioned in these Regulations.

39.12 The Organising Association must provide the following to the **SAFF Delegation and Match Officials including (Match Commissioner & Referee Assessor)** for the Competition from their official arrival date to one day after the last Match in the Competition:

- A. Accommodation in a decent hotel different from the teams, unless otherwise approved by SAFF **One (1) single room for each SAFF Delegation and Match officials including Match Commissioner & Referee Assessor**. Suitable meals three (3) times a day in international buffet style of sufficient quantity and an additional light meal on match days;
- B. A minimum of three (3) liters of water per person / day, ice and refreshments at the hotel and at the Stadium during the match;
- C. Reasonable laundry but no dry cleaning or pressing for not more than five (5) pieces per day per

- person for Referees, Assistant Referees, Fourth Official;
- D. Reasonable laundry (including pressing) for not more than five (5) pieces of clothing daily and dry cleaning (including pressing) for one (1) jacket and one (1) pair of trousers/skirt once every two (2) days for all other SAFF Delegation, Match Commissioner and Referee Assessor;
- E. Ensure that the SAFF Delegation and Match Officials are accompanied by officials from Host Association during arrival and departure to facilitate transport, immigration, customs and checking -in matters; and
- F. Liaison Officers should be proficient in English.

#### **40. Local Land Transportation**

40.1 The Organizing Association must provide the following to the visiting teams two (2) days prior to the Competition or the official arrival date to be determined by SAFF, during the Competition until the day after the visiting team's last match in the Competition:

- A. **One bus** for training, matches, transfers to and from the airport of the Venue and official functions;
- B. **One (1) luggage truck must be provided during airport transfers; and**
- C. **One (1) sedan car.**

41.2 The Organizing Association must provide the following to the SAFF Delegation and Match Officials for the Competition from their official arrival date to one day after the last Match in the Competition for the purposes of inspections, meetings, matches, airport transfers and official functions:

- A. **One (1) sedan car for the SAFF Match Commissioner;**
- B. **One (1) sedan car for SAFF Delegation; and**
- C. **One (1) van (10 seaters) for the Referee Assessors, Referee, Assistant Referees and Fourth Official.**

41.3 Additional internal transportation must be provided if there are other SAFF appointed Match Officials/delegates.

41.4 Failure to provide any of these provisions of Art. 41 will result in the forfeiture of the Match Subsidies (if any) due to the Organising Association and further sanctions from the SAFF Disciplinary and Ethics Committee.

#### **41. Tournament Secretariat, Facilities for SAFF Delegation**

41.1 The Organizing Association must ensure that the following are provided, at its own cost, to the SAFF Delegation upon their arrival to the Venue, until one (1) day after the final Match:

- A. Office equipped with the facilities as follows at the Match Commissioner's room:
  - A1. Sim cards to be provided for each SAFF Delegate, Match Commissioner and Referee Assessor;
  - A2. One (1) printer and its consumables such as but not limited to paper, toner and cartridges;
  - A3. One (1) photocopying machine and its consumables such as but not limited to paper, toner and cartridges;
  - A4. One (1) staff proficient in English and use of computers;

- A5. Broadband internet connections for all offices;
- A6. One (1) meeting room, equipped with whiteboard and LCD projector to accommodate at least thirty (30) persons, one day prior to the Competition for purposes of the Team Manager's Meeting;
- A7. At least a minimum of three (3) walkie-talkie at the Stadium on Match Day;
- A8. At least two (2) substitution boards at the Stadium on Match Day;
- A9. One (1) television with live feed of the match to be located at the seating area of the SAFF Match Commissioner; and
- A10. One (1) secure storage room at all times at the Stadium for Competition equipment and supplies.

41.2 Failure to provide any of the provisions of Articles 41.1 A will result in the forfeiture of the match subsidies (If any) due to the Organising Association and further sanctions from the SAFF Disciplinary and Ethics Committee.

#### **42. Audio/Video Recording of Matches**

42.1 The Organising Association is responsible, at its own cost, to provide four (4) copies of Digital Video/pen drive of each match of the competition played in its territory to SAFF Head of Media immediately after the match. In the absence of SAFF Head of Media, the Organizing Association shall provide two (2) copy through pen drive to SAFF Match Commissioner and Referee Assessor immediately after the match and send one (1) copy to SAFF on the next day. The Organising Association shall guarantee the flash drive is of good quality and covering entire duration of the match, and deliver the flash drive after the examination and approval of SAFF Match Commissioner.

### **SECTION 8: MEDIA**

#### **43. General requirements**

43.1 The Organising Association is responsible to ensure all Media requirements and facilities, as stated in the AFC Stadium Regulations, are met at its own cost.

43.2 The Organising Association shall be required to provide a control room with adequate facilities, including but not limited to, chairs, tables, high speed internet, backup internet, backup electricity, generator connections, screens.

#### **44. Media Accreditation**

44.1 The Organising Association must implement a media Accreditation program as instructed by SAFF to control and manage access to the Stadiums.

44.2 Where required, the Organising Association will be responsible for the production of media bibs for photographers, TV and ENG crews under supervision by SAFF. The Organising Association will be responsible for their distribution before and collection after the match.

44.3 All reasonable security measures must be put in place, at the cost of the Organising Association, to

protect the commentary area, camera positions and the equipment of the broadcasters.

- 44.4 No representatives of the written press or radio journalists are allowed on the field of play or the area between the boundaries of the field and the spectators.
- 44.6 Only those accredited photographers, TV cameramen of the Host Broadcaster and the main visiting broadcaster and the personnel required to operate the electronic television cameras of the Host Broadcaster are allowed in the area between the boundaries of the field of play and the spectators at all times, where they will carry out their work in the specific locations assigned to them.
- 44.7 **The team dressing-rooms are strictly off limits to representatives of the Media before, during and after the Match.**
- 44.8 The Organising Association shall ensure that SAFF, the Host Broadcaster and all affiliates have free access to the Stadia from three days prior to match day until one day after the Match, in order to access the technical issues of each and to assemble and construct the relevant infrastructure required for the execution of the Media Rights.
- 44.9 The Organising Association is responsible for ensuring that SAFF's Media Rights are protected and that no broadcaster and/or video or ENG camera crews are allowed access to the Stadium without the prior written permission of SAFF.

#### **45. Open Training Session**

- 45.1 All Official Training Sessions must be opened to the Media. Should the Participating Teams wish to close its Training Session to the Media, it shall open for at least the first fifteen (15) minutes of the training. If the training is to be held at the Match stadium, the areas accessible by the Media shall be the same areas available to them on Match Day, and the access to such areas must be security controlled.

#### **46. Press Conferences**

- 46.1 The Participating Member Associations must attend a pre-Match press conference to be conducted under supervision of SAFF Head of Media and/or LOC Media Officer and/or SAFF Match Commissioner one day prior to the Competition.
- 46.2 Head Coach and one (1) starting player of each Participating Member Associations are obliged to attend and participate in a pre-Match press conference to be held at least one day before the Match. The Participating Team's Media Officer must ensure the attendance of the Head Coach and one starting player.
- 46.3 Both teams are obliged to make their Head Coach available at post-Match press conference and an interpreter must be provided by the Organising Association (if required).
- 46.4 Non-compliance with Art. 46.1, 46.2 or 46.3 above will result in disciplinary sanctions as described in Article 4.3G.

#### **47. Interviews**

- 47.1 If requested by SAFF, the participating Member Associations should have their Head Coach and one player available for the day before each Match and/or on the Match Day for an interview of up to ten (10) minutes, to be recorded by the main TV rights-holding broadcaster (or local TV rights-holding broadcaster) in the territory of the relevant Team, for the purpose of continental news-exchange distribution to all Official Licensees.
- 47.2 Players and officials of Participating Teams are not permitted to give interviews during the Match on the field of play or in its immediate vicinity. However, the SAFF Media Officer and/or SAFF Match Commissioner may designate an area between the substitutes' benches and dressing rooms in which "flash" interviews for the Host Broadcaster only, including the visiting TV rights-holding broadcaster if there is any, can take place at the end of the Match. Players and officials violating this Article will be subject to disciplinary measures.
- 47.3 If requested by SAFF for the 'flash' interviews, the Head Coach and at least one (1) key player from both Participating Teams must be available for at least the Host Broadcaster and the TV rights-holding broadcaster. All interview locations shall be assigned by SAFF Media Officer and/or SAFF Match Commissioner.

## **SECTION 9: EQUIPMENT/KIT**

### **48. Equipment Regulations**

- 48.1 The Participating Member Associations must comply with the AFC Equipment Regulations.
- 48.2 The AFC Equipment Regulations are in force from the time the Participating Member Association's Official Delegation arrive at a Controlled Access Areas until the time the Team's Official Delegation depart from such areas.
- 48.3 SAFF Match Commissioner may conduct Participating Team's equipment check at the Team Managers' Meeting.

### **49. Kit Approval Procedure**

- 49.1 The AFC Equipment Regulations require the Participating Member Associations to submit to SAFF, for SAFF's approval, one sample of all kit which the AFC Equipment Regulations cover. At the same time, when required, the Participating Member Associations shall submit also to SAFF, for SAFF's approval, one sample of all other apparel to be worn by their Team's Official Delegation within the Controlled Access Areas during the Competition Period.
- 49.2 The Participating Member Association shall submit to the SAFF Secretariat the above-mentioned equipment by a date to be determined by SAFF. If any equipment submitted infringes any of the AFC Equipment Regulations, SAFF will require the Participating Teams to take corrective action and resubmit to SAFF the corrected equipment.
- 49.3 All items to be used by a Participating Member Associations within the Controlled Access Areas during

the Competition period shall be subjected to SAFF's approval in accordance with the procedure set forth by SAFF.

49.4 The SAFF Match Commissioner, the SAFF Competition Manager, and/or the SAFF Marketing Manager has/have the right and duty to check kit items at the Match venue and are entitled to send such items to the SAFF Headquarters for further control after the Match.

## **50. Responsibility**

50.1 SAFF takes final decisions regarding the approval of kits and other items mentioned in the AFC Equipment Regulations. SAFF declines all responsibility and authority in the event of conflicts arising from contract between a Participating Member Association and its sponsor(s) on account of the advertising provisions of the AFC Equipment Regulations. The teams agree to hold SAFF harmless from any and all damages which may arise from decisions regarding kits.

## **SECTION 10: TICKETING**

### **51. Policy**

51.1 It is left to the Organising Association to decide whether there will be entrance tickets or free entry for the matches.

### **52. Terms and Conditions**

52.1 SAFF will, when necessary, in collaboration with the Organising Association, issues special Ticketing terms and conditions which will apply to all ticket holders, including but not limited to National Associations, and which must be communicated to all relevant parties.

### **53. Complimentary Tickets**

53.1 The Organising Association shall set aside the following number of complimentary tickets:

- A. A minimum of 25-30 seats in the VVIP area shall be reserved for the SAFF Delegates and their guests;
- B. A minimum of 15-20 seats for each Participating Team (who are playing the Match) and their guests; and
- C. In addition, appropriate place shall be reserved for players of the non-playing teams and non-playing players of the participating teams to watch the matches (Subject to approval of Match Commissioner).

### **54. Purchasable Tickets**

54.1 The Organising Association must make at least 8% of the net saleable capacity of their Stadium

available exclusively to supporters of the visiting teams, for the matches they feature in, in a segregated, safe area to be determined by the Organising Association. The visiting teams must declare the number of seats required (up to 8% of the net saleable capacity) by one week before the match day. The Participating Member Association is responsible for the cost of all seats declared.

54.2 Participating teams shall be entitled to purchase an agreed number of tickets, i.e., up to 100 top or second-category tickets, or a combination thereof, for their VIPs, supporters, sponsors, etc. The price of tickets for supporters of the visiting teams may not exceed the price of tickets of a comparable quality that are sold to supporters of the home team.

## **SECTION 11: MEDICAL & ANTI-DOPING**

### **55. Medical Facilities and Treatment**

55.1 Participating Member Associations must pay for any and all costs of hospitalization, surgical operation and specialized investigative procedures for all members of its delegation.

55.2 The Organising Association must provide, at its own cost, the following to the Participating Member Associations from the official arrival date to be determined by SAFF until one (1) day after the Participating Member Associations' last Match in the Competition and to the SAFF Delegation from the moment they arrive to the Venue until one (1) day after the Competition:

- A. Medical treatment, including hospital facilities for injuries and emergencies related to the Match, sustained/occurring during their stay in the host country;
- B. The treatment must cover basic/primary medical care as listed below:
  - B1. Outpatient treatment;
  - B2. Minor surgeries (suturing, etc);
  - B3. Radiological Investigation;
  - B4. Emergency Treatment;
- C. A full-staffed medical room located in close proximity to player's dressing room/field of play, fully equipped with emergency medical supplies which includes the following:
  - C1. Oxygen with appropriate masks/oral airway;
  - C2. Splints (Spinal injuries);
  - C3. Hard board stretchers;
  - C4. Suction machine;
  - C5. I/V drip sets with emergency injections and medication;
  - C6. Minor surgery supplies and equipment;
  - C7. Automated External Defibrillator;
  - C8. A certified medical officer preferably trained in emergency medicine;
  - C9. A team of support Para -medical staff trained in emergency medical care (CPR/ATLS); and
  - C10. Two (2) ambulances with designated drivers equipped with oxygen, masks, defibrillator, I/V drip sets, emergency medical and trained medical staff.

### **56. Medical Personnel**

56.1 The Organising Association must provide, at its own cost, the following medical personnel on Match



Day at the Stadium where the Match is organized:

A. On-Pitch Medical Services:

- A1. One (1) on pitch Medical Officer trained in Emergency Medicine; and
- A2. Eight (8) trained stretcher bearers in good physical condition.

## 57. Anti-Doping

- 57.1 Doping is prohibited and is a punishable offence. In case of anti-doping rule violations, SAFF will instigate disciplinary proceedings and take appropriate disciplinary measures including provisional measures.
- 57.2 SAFF shall inform the Participating Member Associations by means of a circular of the doping control procedure. List of prohibited substances / methods can be downloaded from the FIFA or WADA website ([www.wada-ama.org](http://www.wada-ama.org)).
- 57.3 The SAFF Secretariat shall be responsible for the approval of the World Anti -Doping Agency (WADA) – accredited laboratory which will carry out the analysis of samples (if required).
- 57.4 The SAFF Disciplinary and Ethics Code, the FIFA Anti-Doping Regulations, as well as all relevant SAFF directives will apply to this tournament.

## SECTION 12: DISCIPLINARY LAWS AND PROCEDURES

### 58. Disciplinary measures and appeals

- 58.1 Disciplinary measures and appeals are dealt with in compliance with the current SAFF Statutes, SAFF Disciplinary and Ethics Code and the relevant SAFF regulations, codes, protocols and circulars.
- 58.2 SAFF may initiate investigations should it suspect and/or is aware of any violations of the Laws of the Game and contravention of its statutes, rules, regulations, instructions and decisions by its Member Associations, officials and players.
- 58.3 SAFF may impose the disciplinary measures for any violations of the Laws of the Game and contravention of its statutes, rules, regulations, instructions and decisions by its Member Associations, Officials and Players.

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

- 59.1 **A player/official who receives two (2) cautions (yellow cards) during the Competition shall automatically be suspended from the Match following the Match in which he/she received the second caution.**
- 59.2 **A player and/or official who were sent off during a match of the Competition (by receiving two (2) yellow cards or a red card) shall automatically be suspended from the match following the match in**

which he/she was sent off.

- 59.3 Any player and/or official who were sent off (by receiving a red card) during the Competition shall remain suspended from further play until his/her case has been decided by the SAFF Disciplinary and Ethics Committee.
- 59.4 A suspended player and/or official shall not be allowed on the substitution bench and technical area.
- 59.5 Each Member Association shall bear the responsibility of monitoring the cautions and/or suspensions received by its players and officials and to ensure that all players and officials registered and/or fielded during the Competition are eligible to play.
- 59.6 Single (1) yellow card received in the Group Stage of the Competition will not be carried forward to the semi-final stage of the Competition.

## **60. Indiscipline and Violent Conduct by players and/or officials**

- 60.1 Any player and/or official reported for indiscipline or violent conduct anywhere in the Stadium including but not limited to the field of play, the changing rooms, at the Training Sites and in the hotels shall be dealt with by the relevant SAFF Committees in accordance with these Regulations, the SAFF Statutes and SAFF Disciplinary and Ethics Code.

## **61. Administrative Procedure**

- 61.1 Subject to the SAFF 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:
- A. the SAFF, 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;
  - B. if the offence is admitted, the SAFF shall submit the compounded offence to the Chairperson of the SAFF Disciplinary and Ethics Committee for approval, should the party deny the offence, the SAFF shall open disciplinary proceedings;
  - C. upon approval of the Chairperson of the SAFF Disciplinary and Ethics Committee, the sanction shall be notified and applied administratively by the SAFF, should the Chairperson of the SAFF Disciplinary and Ethics Committee not approve the compounded offence, the SAFF shall open disciplinary proceedings;
  - D. by agreeing to compound the offence, the party waives its right to request a motivated decision or appeal the sanction issued; and
  - E. any sanction issued administratively comes into force immediately upon notification in accordance with the SAFF Disciplinary and Ethics Code.

## **62. Protest**

- 62.1 Subject to the following provisions, protests are objections of any kind to occurrences that have a direct effect on Matches organized in the Competition (state and marking of the pitch, accessory, Match equipment, eligibility of players, stadium installations, footballs, etc.) and any matters related to

breach of these Competition Regulations.

- 62.2 Unless otherwise stipulated in this article, protests shall first be submitted in writing to the SAFF Match Commissioner within two (2) hours of the Match by the team concerned and followed up immediately with a full written report, including a copy of the original protest, to be sent in writing to the SAFF General Secretariat accompanied by a fee of USD 100. The plaintiff Participating Member Association shall confirm the protest by registered letter, to be sent to the SAFF Secretariat no later than two (2) days after the Match in question.
- 62.3 Protests against any incidents that occur during the course of a Match shall be made to the referee by the team captain immediately after the disputed incident and before play has been resumed. The protests shall be confirmed in writing to the SAFF Match Commissioner by the head of the team delegation no later than two (2) hours after the Match.
- 62.4 **No protests may be made against the Referee's decisions regarding facts connected with play, such decisions being final.**
- 62.5 Once the final match of the Competition has ended, any protest described in this article shall be disregarded.

### **63. Arbitration**

- 63.1 Pursuant to SAFF Statutes, Participating Member Associations are forbidden from taking disputes to a civil court but may only submit them to the appropriate body of SAFF in accordance with the applicable procedure.
- 63.2 Furthermore, any disputes involving SAFF, Participating Member Associations, confederations, leagues, teams, players, officials and licensed agents in connection with the Competition shall be promptly settled by negotiation.
- 63.3 If no solution can be reached, or a formal appeal is envisaged, the issue shall be exclusively resolved under the auspices of the arbitration chamber set forth in the SAFF Statutes, namely the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) with headquarters in Lausanne. The Code of Sports related Arbitration of the CAS and all the relevant CAS Regulations shall apply. The language of arbitration is English.

## **SECTION 13: COMMERCIAL AND INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS**

### **64. Rights Protection**

- 64.1 All Commercial Rights belong to SAFF, if the Organising Association desire to utilize any of the rights, they shall be required to make a formal request to SAFF at least two (2) months before the start of the Competition specifying the Commercial Rights they want to avail, upon which SAFF shall hold a meeting to discuss and finalise on what terms the stipulated Commercial Rights may be shared.
- 64.2 The Organising Association shall deliver all Stadiums and Official Training Sites as a Clean Stadium three (3) days before the first Match at each Stadium or official training at each Official Training Site, until 24

hours after the final Match of the Competition.

- 64.3 The Organising 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 SAFF and/or Official Licensees three (3) days before the first Match at each Stadium or official training at each Official Training Site, until 24 hours after the final Match of the Competition.
- 64.4 SAFF is the exclusive owner of all intellectual property rights of the Competition, including any current or future rights in all types of audio and visual material of the competition, names, logos, visual identities, brands, music, mascots, medals and trophies. Any use of the aforementioned rights, any imitation and/or variation thereof and any other reference to the competition (such as by associating the name of an association with the date of a match) requires the prior written approval of SAFF and must comply with any conditions imposed by SAFF.
- 64.5 All rights to the fixture list and match schedule, as well as any data and statistics (including databases in which such data is stored) in relation to the matches of and players' participation in the competition are the sole and exclusive property of SAFF. No tickets or accreditation may be used by anyone in order to gain access to a venue for the purposes of collecting or gathering such data, and such activities are expressly prohibited. The foregoing prohibition does not apply to the Participating Member Associations, subject to any and all such data collected being used solely for the purposes of instructing their team, players and officials and expressly excluding any other exploitation or use whatsoever.

## **SECTION 14: ADMINISTRATION**

### **65. Financial Provisions**

- 65.1 Participating Members Associations shall pay for their travel of their team and officials from their countries to the venue of the tournament and back. SAFF shall reimburse the approved travel cost of airfares of the Participating **Member** Associations on receipt of **invoice** and tickets not exceeding thirty (30) members.
- 65.2 SAFF shall reimburse to the Organizing Association the approved cost of accommodations, foods, local transportations for the participating teams and SAFF delegations and other logistic requirements as approved by SAFF.
- 65.3 All reimbursement will be made on receipt of the fund from FIFA/AFC under the FIFA Forward Programme.

### **66. Trophy and Medals**

- 66.1 Trophies and/or medals will be presented to the champions and runners up. The Champions trophy will be presented to the champions along with thirty (30) gold medals. The runners up will be presented with thirty (30) silver medals. The Most Valuable Player of the Tournament, Highest Goal Scorer, Best Goal Keeper and the winners of the Fair Play will also be presented.

## **67. Special Provisions**

67.1 Any disputes arising from the application of these Regulations shall be settled by the jurisdiction of SAFF and, if subsequently necessary and SAFF's decision is not final, by the Court of Arbitration for Sport in Lausanne, Switzerland.

67.2 The SAFF Executive Committee shall, in conjunction with the Organizing Association, issue any instructions necessitated by special circumstances which might arise in the country hosting Matches of the Competition. These instructions shall form an integral part of these Regulations.

## **68. Matters not provided for**

68.1 Matters not provided for in these Regulations and cases of Force Majeure shall be decided by the SAFF Emergency Committee/Secretariat, whose decisions are final.

## **69. Amendment**

69.1 These Regulations shall be subject to any necessary amendment and/or additional requirements at any time as may be required by any of the regulations and directives of the SAFF as deemed appropriate.

## **70. Force Majeure**

70.1 The SAFF is the only body capable of declaring a Force Majeure event.

## **71. Implementation**

71.1 The SAFF 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.

**Kazi Md. Salahuddin**  
**President**

**Anwarul Huq**  
**General Secretary**

