





# NORTH, CENTRAL & SOUTH LEAGUE 2022 RULES & REGULATIONS



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# **DEFINITIONS**

In these Competition Regulations, capitalised terms shall have the following meanings, unless the context specifically indicates otherwise:

Accommodation

Any location approved by the FAM which provides accommodation to the FAM Delegation, Team Official Delegations, FAM Commercial Rights Partner, and Official Licensees

**Accreditation Card** 

Any physical item which is issued by the FAM and/or Host Club which provides the recipient the right to access a Controlled Access Area (or part thereof) where the Controlled Access Area is under the control of the FAM, Host Club or the Host Island/Council.

**Advertising Rights** 

The right to promote 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 Stadium or Facility Areas or within the Controlled Access Areas, in association with the Competition Marks and/or FAM Marks, by in-stadium/out-stadium perimeter signage and other advertising, digital signage and screens, closed circuit television, equipment usage or other methods and through printed matter (including digitally delivered printed matter) such as programme, posters, letterheads, press releases, newsletters and Tickets, and subject to any FAM regulations, the right to display such advertising on the clothing or footwear worn, or on any equipment used, carried or transported by officials (including for the avoidance of doubt 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 the uniforms of the 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 any FIFA and/or AFC 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** 

Asian Football Confederation.

**Away Club** 

A Participating Club who is playing a Match in the Competition away from their home Stadium.

**Broadcast Licensee** 

Any entity, including the Host Broadcaster, which has been granted the Media Rights from the FAM or the FAM Commercial Rights Partner for the Competition.

Champion

the Participating Club that wins the final Match of the Competition.

Club

A professional club or an amateur club which participates in Leagues or competitions registered as a legal entity in Sports Commission of Maldives.

Clean Stadium

A Stadium or Official Training Site whether inside, in the air space above or the outer perimeter, delivered to the FAM at a prescribed time, that is free from:

- (i) any advertising and commercial signage of any kind, whether on any stadium infrastructure, staff uniforms, accreditations, fences, equipment or elsewhere.
- (ii) third party agreements relating to the use and operation of the Stadium (or part thereof) and/or
- (iii) stadium or venue naming rights.

**Commercial Rights** 

The entity appointed by the FAM for the sale of Commercial **Partner** Rights (or any part thereof) and the provision of services in relation thereto.

**Commercial Rights** 

Advertising Rights, Concession Rights, Hospitality Rights, Image Rights, Media Rights, Merchandise Rights, Promotional Rights, Sponsorship Rights, and Travel and Tour Rights.

Competition

The FAM North, Central & South League 2023-2024, which includes without limitation, all Matches as set out in the Match Schedule, open division, third division, second division and first division Matches, all 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 Clubs and/or Participating Players, information and/or statistics about their participation and/or performance in

the Competition, Match analysis, Referee decisions, and any other information in relation to the Competition.

### **Competition Marks**

All design marks, slogans, designations, names, logos, insignia, emblems, mascot or devices (in any application) owned and/or controlled by the AFC (in any language) relating to the Competition.

### **Competition Title**

"FAM North League 2022" / "FAM Central League 2022" / "FAM South League 2022" or any variation thereof as advised and opted by the FAM.

### **Competition Website**

The official website of the Competition with a dedicated URL including without limitation all other domains or official media platforms and channels of the Competition created and/or owned by the FAM (e.g., Facebook, YouTube, Twitter, etc.)

### **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 Stadium and Facility Areas.

### **Controlled Access Area**

- (ii) any Stadium
- (iii) any Official Training Site
- (iv) any official hotel (public areas being excepted), subject to and to the extent agreed in any executed hotel/guest hose agreement
- (v) any official exclusion zone encircling a Stadium on a Match Day
- (vi) any official parking area, accreditation centre, International Broadcast Compound, and/or hospitality area
- (vii) the venue of any Official Function
- (viii) any official FAM fan park
- (ix) Facility Areas; and/or
- (x) any other location and/or facility designated by the FAM as a Controlled Access Area,

associated to the Competition to which access is permitted only to those in possession of an Accreditation Card, Ticket, and/or other officially sanctioned entry permit.

### **Facility Areas**

The location of Official Functions, ceremonies, press centres, ticket offices, competition hotels, media areas (including without limitation areas used for viewing of any public exhibition), sponsor village areas (including without limitation "FAM fan park" areas,

and areas used for the activation of the Commercial Rights), official hospitality areas (including without limitation areas used for the exploitation of the Hospitality Rights), and information centres controlled by or on behalf of the FAM and used in connection with the Competition whether at the Stadium or elsewhere at the Venues.

**FAM** Football Association of Maldives

**FAM-CMS** The FAM online registration and competition management system.

https//fcms.ma.services/mdv

FAM Committee One (1) or more (as the context defines) of the Standing

Committees of the FAM as promulgated within the FAM Statutes.

FAM Comp. Committee FAM internal organising committee for the Competition which has

been appointed in accordance with the FAM Statutes, and which has ultimate authority over all matters relating to the organisation

of the Competition.

FAM Delegation (i) FAM staff

(ii) Match Officials

(iii) other officials appointed by the FAM

(iv) FAM Committee members

(v) and FAM guests

FAM Marks All design marks, slogans, designations, names, logos, insignia,

emblems or devices (in any application) owned and/or controlled by the FAM (in any language) relating to the FAM itself but

excluding the Competition Marks.

**FAM NL/CS League** the Competition [FAM North (N), Central & South (CS) League 2022]

FAM Website The domain http://www.famaldives.com owned by the FAM,

including without limitation all other domains or official media platforms and channels created and/or owned by the FAM (e.g.

Facebook, YouTube, Twitter, etc).

Field of Play The area described in Law 1 of the Laws of the Game issued by the

International Football Association Board (IFAB) and administered

by FIFA.

**FIFA** The Federation International de Football Association.

Football Association The controlling body for football within a country or territory

recognised by the FAM.

**Force Majeure** 

Any event affecting the performance or any provision of these 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, 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.

**Group Stage** 

Group stage of the Competition held in accordance with these Regulations.

Head to head

Record between two sides level on points to determine their league positions

**Hospitality Rights** 

The opportunity to offer and sell hospitality and entertainment facilities at the Venues or within the Controlled Access Areas in combination with the Tickets as may be purchased from the Host Island whether such facilities are in boxes, marquees or otherwise, but excluding those private facilities reserved for FAM officials and its guests not forming part of the Commercial Rights.

**Host Broadcaster** 

The party appointed by the FAM to ensure and provide the production of broadcast signals of the Matches and other events of the Competition, and the provision of all related services in accordance with the Media Rights granted to it.

**Host City** 

Any city and/or identifiable metropolitan area in which any Match is staged.

**Host Island/Council** 

A Member Club or Island/Atoll Council approved by the FAM to organise, stage, and host Matches in the Competition.

**Host Club** 

A Participating Club who is approved by the FAM to organise, stage, and host Matches in the Competition in collaboration with their respective Host Island/Council.

**Image Rights** 

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

Laws of Game

the Laws of association football issued by the IFAB

League

A professional league and/or amateur league which consists of a combination of Clubs within the territory of an Atoll and which is subordinate to and under the authority of the Island/Atoll Council.

Match

A football match in its entirety (including a replayed and/or deferred football match, Extra Time and Penalty Kicks) which takes place as part of the Competition in accordance with the Match Schedule. For the avoidance of doubt, a Match formally commences when the Stadium is officially opened to spectators and formally concludes when the Stadium is officially closed to spectators.

**Match Officials** 

Any individual appointed to officiate a Match in the Competition in the role of referee, assistant referee, fourth official or, and the appointed Referee Assessor(s).

Match Schedule

The official schedule which sets out, without limitation, the dates and times on which Matches shall be played, the Stadium at which the Matches shall be played, and the names of the Participating Clubs.

Media

Any individual granted a media Accreditation Card by the FAM. Match Contribution The payment made to a Participating Club for its participation in a Match, comprised of one (1) or more of the following: travel contribution, performance bonus, and/or participation fee.

Media

Any individual entitled to a media Accreditation Card as determined by the FAM.

**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 (including without limitation the basic feed, multi feeds, additional feeds, audio feeds, a feed incorporating Competition Data, world feed, and unilateral feeds) of the Competition, and all interview activities and action during and forming part of the Competition including Official Functions and the Image Rights by any and all means of transmission distribution, exhibition and reception, now existing or hereinafter developed including but not limited to analogue, digital, satellite cable and interactive communication systems, on a live, delayed, and unlimited repeat basis, in full or in part (including without limitation by way of clips and/or highlights and/or support programme and/or magazine shows and/or news access), and all rights to exploit any and all commercial opportunities (including for example broadcast sponsorship and commercial airtime opportunities) arising from and/or in connection with such rights.

**Member Clubs** 

A Club which is a member of the FAM registered as a legal entity

**Merchandise Rights** 

The right granted to Official Licensees for the use and exploitation of the Competition Marks and/or official designation in the manufacture, packaging, distribution, and sale of goods and services of all kinds, including items of equipment (i.e. footballs), clothing, coins, medals, games (electronic or otherwise), other collectibles and premiums related to the Competition.

**Neutral Venue** 

Any Stadium utilised for a Match which is not the regular home Stadium or Venue utilised by the Participating Club designated as the Host Club, unless expressly authorised by the FAM.

The designation of a Stadium as a Neutral Venue must be expressly authorised by the FAM in accordance with these Regulations.

Official Countdown

An official document produced by the FAM which stipulates the events and activities to be carried out at specific times by the Participating Clubs on Match day.

Official Function

Any event which is officially organised or sanctioned by the FAM in connection with the Competition.

For the avoidance of doubt, this expressly includes, without limitation, all matches and/or events held at Official Training Sites, the Opening Ceremony, the Closing Ceremony, any FAM gala dinner, lunch, or banquet, cultural events, official press conferences, official draw, workshop and launch events.

**Official Training Site** 

Any site designated by the Host Club in collaboration with their respective Host Island and approved by the FAM for use by the Participating Clubs throughout the duration of the Competition for training purposes.

**Participating Club** 

A Club who is approved by the FAM to participate in the Competition.

**Participating Official** 

Any official who is registered to participate in the Competition.

**Participating Player** 

Any player who is registered to participate in the Competition.

**Penalty Kicks** 

"Kicks from the Penalty Mark" as described in the Laws of the

Game.

### **Premiums**

Any promotional item (including packaging, labelling, and/or containers thereof) which incorporates a mark and/or logo of the FAM and/or the Competition, 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 use an official designation 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

These Competition Regulations.

### **Sponsorship Rights**

- (a) The right, in any and all media, throughout the world, an in all languages, to promote a club between the Competition and certain products, services, and/or brands, and shall include (by way of illustration only) the exclusive right to exercise rights of club with the Competition, including without limitation the right to (a) use an official designation.
- (b) use the FAM Marks and/or applicable Competition Marks on branded products and/or product packaging (including Premiums, and in relation to the Competition Marks only on items for retail sale) and/or advertising; (c) receive commercial programme Tickets, and (d) the right to receive broadcast sponsorship opportunities in connections with broadcasts of a Match or Official Function.

### Stadium

Any venue or stadium at which a Match is played. For the avoidance of doubt, this includes:

- (i) the entire premises (to the extent that a valid Accreditation Card or Ticket is required in order to gain access) of a stadium facility inside the outer stadium perimeter fence and (on Match days and any day on which any official Team practice session takes place within the stadium), the aerial space above such stadium premises
- (ii) parking facilities
- (iii) VIP and hospitality areas (including any hospitality village)
- (iv) the Media tribune

(v) concessions areas

(vi) commercial display areas

(vii) buildings

(viii) the Field of Play

(ix) any broadcast compound or stadium media centre

(x) any stands; and,

(xi) any areas beneath the stands

Team Official Delegation The final-registered delegation of a Participating Club for each

Match of the relevant stage of the Competition subject to the

limits set out in these Regulations.

**Ticket** A pass providing access to a venue for the purpose of attending

either a Match or Official Training, or Official Function.

**Ticketing** Where applicable, all operational measures to provide Tickets to

all spectators of every Match and for Official Functions of the Competition allowing them to enter the Stadium or a Venue. Ticketing shall include the management of the operation necessary for the production, sale, distribution, delivery and

payment of the Tickets of the Competition.

Travel and Tour Rights The right to organise and/or sub-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.

**Venue** the Host City and immediate surrounding area in which a Stadium

is located.

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

- (a) the singular shall include the plural and vice-versa
- (b) the feminine gender shall include the masculine and vice-versa
- (c) reference to natural persons shall include any legal person or corporation
- (d) references to the FAM shall include its successors and permitted assigns and, in relation to the availability of the Commercial Rights, its respective Member Clubs and FAM Committees
- (e) reference to the FAM Commercial Rights Partner or Official Licensees shall include where advised by the FAM, its successors, and permitted assigns and, in relation to the exercise and exploitation of the Commercial Rights
- (f) all defined terms, unless otherwise stated herein shall bear the same meaning as ascribed in the FAM Statutes, unless the context indicates otherwise

# **SECTION 1: GENERAL PROVISIONS**

### 1. North, South and Central League 2022

- 1.1. The FAM stages the North, Central and South League 2022 for member Clubs.
- 1.2. These Regulations govern the rights, duties, and responsibilities of the FAM, the Participating Clubs (as well as their Member Clubs), Host islands, Participating Players and Participating Officials taking part in the Competition.
- 1.3. These Regulations and all related directives, decisions, guidelines, and circulars issued by the FAM shall be binding upon all parties participating and involved in the preparation, organisation, and hosting of Matches in the Competition.
- 1.4. The Manual forms an integral part of and shall be read in conjunction with these Regulations. The Manual shall be binding upon all parties participating and involved in the preparation, organisation, and hosting of Matches in the Competition. Failure to adhere to any matter set out in the Manual may lead to the imposition of sanctions as set out in the FAM Disciplinary and Ethics Code. In the event of any discrepancy between these Regulations and the Competition Manual, these Regulations shall prevail to the extent of the inconsistency.
- 1.5. Any rights and Proprietary Interests associated with the Competition that are not granted by these Regulations and/or specific agreements to any Participating Club shall vest in the FAM.
- 1.6. Any reference to the FAM Statutes and to AFC and FIFA regulations refer to those valid at the time of application.

# 2. The Football Association of Maldives

- 2.1. The League Secretariat & the League Committee shall be responsible for organizing the Competition in accordance with the FAM Statutes. The League Secretariat shall carry out the necessary administrative work in support of the league Committee.
- 2.2. The responsibilities of the FAM shall include, but are not limited to:
  - 2.2.1. supervising general preparations and deciding on the Competition format, the draws, and the entries to the Competition.
  - 2.2.2. determining the Match Schedule (Article 8)
  - 2.2.3. selecting match venues for the Competition (Article 11)
  - 2.2.4. appointing Match Officials for each Match.
  - 2.2.5. choosing and/or approving the official football and stipulated technical material.
  - 2.2.6. reporting cases where appropriate to the FAM Disciplinary and Ethics Committee (Article 50)
  - 2.2.7. replacing Participating Clubs that have withdrawn from the Competition (Article 5).
  - 2.2.8. dealing with cases of cancelled Matches or abandoned Matches (Articles 9 and 10).
  - 2.2.9. dealing with cases of Force Majeure (Article 9).
- 2.3. All decisions made by the League Committee and/or League Secretariat in relation to the Competition are final and binding and not appealable.
- 2.4. All decisions made by the FAM Disciplinary and Ethics Committee in relation to the Competition are subject to the operation of the FAM Disciplinary and Ethics Code.
- 2.5. All decisions made by the FAM Entry Control Body (League Secretariat) in relation to the Competition are subject to the operation of the Procedural Rules Governing the FAM Entry Control Body.

### 3. Participating Clubs

- 3.1. The principal obligations and responsibilities of each Participating Club are stipulated in the Participating Team Agreement ("PTA"), these Regulations, the Competition Manual, the FAM Statutes, and all other FAM regulations, directives, guidelines, and circulars.
  - 3.1.1. Each Participating Club that has qualified for the Competition must submit a PTA.
  - 3.1.2. The PTA and such other documents as are requested by the FAM in relation to the PTA shall be completed and submitted to the FAM via FAM-CMS in accordance with the deadline provided by the FAM.
  - 3.1.3. Failure to submit the PTA to the FAM by the deadline shall result in the non- participation of the relevant Participating Club.
- 3.2. Each Participating Club shall ensure as a condition of its participation in the Competition that every member of its Team Official Delegation for each Match is aware of and agrees to comply with the PTA.
- 3.3. Each Participating Club shall undertake to:
  - 3.3.1. observe all obligations set out in the PTA, these Regulations, the Manual, the FAM Statutes, and all other FAM regulations, directives, guidelines and circulars, and applicable national and supra-national laws.
  - 3.3.2. comply with the Laws of the Game laid down by the IFAB.
  - 3.3.3. accept that all the administrative, disciplinary and refereeing matters connected with the Competition shall be settled by the FAM in compliance with these Regulations.
  - 3.3.4. field its strongest team throughout the Competition.
  - 3.3.5. observe the principles of Fair Play.
  - 3.3.6. ensure the good conduct of its Team Official Delegation and of any person carrying out duties on its behalf throughout the Competition, which includes but is not limited to their arrival on the territory of any Host Island until their departure.
  - 3.3.7. as Host Island, make the appropriate arrangements for the staging of Matches, in conjunction with its member club and the League Secretariat, in accordance with these Regulations.
  - 3.3.8. accept all arrangements made by any Host Island and/or Host club in agreement with the FAM.
  - 3.3.9. ensure that its Participating Players and Participating Officials attend and participate in all official activities and events, including without limitation any team arrival meeting, match coordination meeting, press conference, and other media and marketing activities in accordance with the instructions issued by the FAM.
    - 3.3.9.1. failure to attend and/or fully participate in any official activity or event shall result in the Participating Club being fined at least MVR 5,000 (Five Thousand); and
    - 3.3.9.2. the FAM Disciplinary and Ethics Committee may issue further sanctions at its discretion.
  - 3.3.10. provide to the FAM, free of charge, prior to the Competition, any photographs, audio/visual materials and/or information regarding the Participating Club, Participating Players and/or Participating Officials including without limitation statistics and historical information and any further information as requested by the FAM.
  - 3.3.11. link the official URL for the Competition on its official website; and

- 3.3.12. not establish any digital, media or social media platform in connection with the Competition without the involvement and express approval of the FAM.
- 3.4. Each Participating Club shall, at their own expense, be solely responsible throughout the Competition for travel, food and accommodation.
- 3.5. Each Participating Club shall indemnify, defend, and hold the FAM 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 Club, its Team Official Delegation, its affiliates and any third-parties contracted to the Participating Club and/or its Member Association.
- 3.6. The host island Council of the Host Club is responsible for nominating a Local General Coordinator, a Local Media Officer and a Local Safety and Security Officer for Matches that is played within its territory and shall submit the nomination to the FAM for the FAM's approval (together with the Venue information) in accordance with the deadline(s) notified by the FAM. Should a Match be played in a Neutral Venue, the Host Island of the Host Club shall still be held accountable for the relevant nomination, and this must be done in collaboration with the island council on whose territory the Match is played.
- 3.7. Each Participating Club shall arrive at the Venue for an away Match at least 06 (six) hours before the Match and depart from the Venue no later than 1 (one) day after the Match.
  - 3.7.1. Should an Away Club wish to arrive at the Venue less than 06 (six) hours before the relevant Match, it shall submit a request via official letter to the FAM with valid reasons and arrival itinerary details at least 10 (ten) hours prior to the Match for the FAM's approval (to be accepted at its sole discretion).
  - 3.7.2. Should the FAM accept such a request, the late arrival of the relevant Club shall not interrupt the timing of Official Functions and/or the participation of the relevant Participating Club in Official Functions.
- 3.8. All Participating Players and Participating Officials are encouraged to attend the FAM Annual Awards in the relevant calendar year if they are nominated for an award.
- 3.9. Each Participating Club shall ensure that any decision made by the FAM relating to its duties and responsibilities is enforced immediately.

### 4. Entry

- 4.1. Teams applying for participation must be a registered club at Football Association of Maldives and Sports Commissioners office.
- 4.2. All documents must be submitted (unless such document was previously submitted, and a current version is already available in FAM / League Secretariat).
- 4.3. Where original documents are not in English, the original and an accredited translation shall be provided.
- 4.4. The FAM / League Secretariat may request additional documents in all cases.
- 4.5. Eligible Clubs must complete a PTA and submit it to the FAM in accordance with (Article 3) to confirm their entry into the Competition.
  - 4.5.1. The name and logo of a Participating Club shall be the same as the name and logo submitted to the FAM / League Secretariat.

- 4.5.2. The name and/or logo of a Participating Club shall not directly refer to the name and/or logo of any third-party entity, whether or not that third-party entity is a commercial partner or sponsor of the Participating Club.
- 4.5.3. The FAM may grant an exception to Article 4.5.2 if 1 (one) of the following requirements are met:
  - 4.5.3.1. the name of the Participating Club is a pre-existing name with long- term use. The third-party entity must have been directly involved in the creation of the Participating Club itself (by financial or other means); or
  - 4.5.3.2. the Participating Club previously competed in a FAM competition utilising the name.
- 4.6. Participating Clubs are not permitted to change their name after the competition draw has been conducted.

### 5. Withdrawal from the Competition

- 5.1. All Participating Clubs undertake to play all of its Matches in the Competition until elimination.
- 5.2. In the case of a Participating Club withdrawing or being excluded from the Competition, the League Committee shall be responsible for making any decisions, including without limitation whether to:
  - 5.2.1. replace the Participating Club.
  - 5.2.2. change the competition system (Article 6); and/or
  - 5.2.3. change the technical rules (Section 4).

All decisions of the League Committee in this regard are final and binding and not appealable.

- 5.3. Any Participating Club that withdraws from the Competition before it has commenced shall be fined:
  - 5.3.1. up to 30 (thirty) days before its first Match: at least MVR 10,000. (Ten Thousand)
  - 5.3.2. less than 30 (thirty) days before its first Match: at least MVR 20,000. (Twenty Thousand)
- 5.4. Any Participating Club that:
  - 5.4.1. withdraws from the Competition after it has commenced; or
  - 5.4.2. does not report for a Match; or
  - 5.4.3. refuses to continue a Match; or
  - 5.4.4. leaves the Stadium prior to the completion of a Match, shall be considered to have withdrawn from the Competition and shall:
  - 5.4.5. have all its Matches cancelled and considered null and void. For the avoidance of doubt, all points and goals in those Matches shall not be taken into consideration when determining the final rankings.
  - 5.4.6. be disqualified from participating in the next 2 (two) editions of the Competition.
  - 5.4.7. be disqualified from participating in any Competition organised, if qualification has been attained.
  - 5.4.8. return to the FAM any Match Contribution that had been paid in support of its participation in the Competition or if not yet paid, forfeit its right to that Match Contribution.
  - 5.4.9. be fined:
    - 5.4.9.1. at least MVR 20,000 (Twenty Thousand) if it withdraws after the commencement of the Open division Stage; or
    - 5.4.9.2. at least MVR 30,000 (Thirty Thousand) if it withdraws after the commencement of the third division Stage; or

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- 5.4.9.3. at least MVR 50,000 (Fifty Thousand) if it withdraws after the commencement of the second division Stage; or
- 5.4.9.4. at least MVR 100,000 (Hundred Thousand) if it withdraws after the commencement of the first division Stage; and
- 5.4.10. be required to pay compensation for any and all damages or losses suffered by, where applicable, the other Participating Clubs, the FAM, the FAM Commercial Rights Partner, Commercial Affiliates and the Host club / island. The amount of compensation shall be determined by the FAM Executive Committee.
- 5.5. Any Participating Club that withdraws from the Competition at any stage shall also be referred to the FAM Disciplinary and Ethics Committee. The FAM Disciplinary and Ethics Committee may impose additional sanctions to those provided for under (Articles 5.3 and 5.4) at its discretion.
- 5.6. The League Committee shall take whatever action it deems necessary against the Member Participating Club that withdraws from the Competition.
- 5.7. The provisions of (Articles 5.3 to 5.6) are not applicable in cases of Force Majeure recognised by the League Committee. The League Committee shall take whatever action it deems necessary in cases of Force Majeure.

# SECTION 2: LEAGUE SYSTEM AND MATCH SCHEDULE

### 6. Competition Format

- 6.1. Maldives divided in to four league and each league shall be played as an independent competition.
  - 6.1.1. FAM North League
  - 6.1.2. FAM Central League
  - 6.1.3. FAM South League
  - 6.1.4. Male' League (Male' League is an ongoing league / starting year the format of the Male' League defers from this format)

Starting 2023, qualification for the Dhivehi Premier League, shall continue to be open and earned through a team's performance these regional leagues.

- 6.2. League System
  - 6.2.1. Each league involves 4 divisions,
    - 6.2.1.1. Open Division shall be played in 2 Rounds.
      - 6.2.1.1.1. First Round

        First Round shall be played if more than 1 team participate from an island. (Island
      - Champion shall be qualified to 2nd Round of Open Division).

        6.2.1.1.2. Second Round

Teams shall be divided into groups. (Groups shall be divided according to the geographic distance of team representative islands.) 33 Teams shall advance to third division.

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### 6.2.2. Third Division

Qualified 33 teams from open division shall be divided into groups (Groups shall be divided according to the geographic distance of team representative islands.) 18 Teams shall advance to second division. Remaining 15 teams shall be registered as representative zone league (third division teams).

### 6.2.3. Second Division

Qualified 18 teams from open division shall be divided into groups (Groups shall be divided according to the geographic distance of team representative islands.) 8 Teams shall advance to first division. Remaining 10 teams shall be registered as representative of north, south and central league (second division teams).

### 6.2.4 First Division

Qualified teams from 2nd division shall play in turn against each other. Champions shall be promoted to 2023-2024 Dhivehi Premier League.

- 6.3. Depending on the number of entries, or in the case of withdrawal or suspension of any Participating Clubs, the League Committee may change the competition system and/or technical rules. Such decisions are final and binding and not appealable.
- 6.4. The ranking in each group shall be determined in descending order as follows:
- 6.5. higher number of points obtained in all group Matches.
- 6.6. if 2 (two) or more Participating Clubs are equal on points, the following criteria are applied to determine the ranking (in descending order):

### Head-to-Head Criteria

- 6.6.1. higher number of points obtained in the group Matches played among the Participating Clubs in question.
- 6.6.2. superior goal difference from the group Matches played among the Participating Clubs in question.
- 6.6.3. higher number of goals scored in the group Matches played among the Participating Clubs in question.

### <u>Tiebreaker</u>

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

### Group Results Criteria

- 6.6.5. superior goal difference from all group Matches played.
- 6.6.6. higher number of goals scored from all group Matches played.
- 6.6.7. Kicks from the Penalty Mark if only 2 (two) Participating Clubs still have an equal ranking and have played their last group Match against each other.
- 6.6.8. the lower score calculated according to the number of yellow and red cards received in the group Matches.
- 6.6.9. If after applying all the above criteria, 2 (two) or more Participating Clubs are in equal in ranking, the winner shall be decided by toss of a coin.
- 6.7. Should the competition system require the best-ranked Participating Clubs from among different groups to advance, the rankings shall be determined by the method set out in Appendix 2 of the Competition Manual.

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### 7. Extra Time and Kicks from the Penalty Mark

- 7.1. If no winner is determined in a group stage match or final at the end of normal playing time, no extra time shall be played.
- 7.2. Kicks from the Penalty Mark shall be taken in accordance with (Article 6.6.7), or
  - 7.2.1. If no winner is determined in a final match at the end of normal playing time, Kicks from the Penalty Mark shall be taken in accordance with the Laws of the Game and the Competition Manual.
  - 7.2.2. Kicks from the Penalty Mark shall be taken after an interval of five (5) minutes at the end of normal playing time.

### 8. Match Schedule

- 8.1. All Matches shall be played in accordance with the FAM Competitions Calendar. The dates are final and binding and not appealable.
- 8.2. The Match Schedule shall be determined following the official draws.
- 8.3. The League Secretariat retains final discretion to amend the Match Schedule at any time.

### 9. Cancellation of Matches

- 9.1. For any match which is cancelled as a result of Force Majeure, the League Committee shall decide on the matter at its sole discretion and take whatever action is deemed necessary.
  - 9.1.1. Decisions made pursuant to Article 9.1 are final and binding and not appealable.
- 9.2. Any Match which is cancelled, except in cases of Force Majeure recognised by the League Committee, may lead to the imposition of sanctions by the FAM Disciplinary and Ethics Committee against the relevant party that has caused the cancellation in accordance with the FAM Disciplinary and Ethics Code.

### 10. Abandonment of Matches

- 10.1. For any Match which is abandoned as a result of Force Majeure, the League Committee shall decide on the matter at its sole discretion and take whatever action is deemed necessary.
  - 10.1.1. Decisions made pursuant to Article 10.1 are final and binding and not appealable.
- 10.2. Any Match which is abandoned, except in cases of Force Majeure recognised by the league Committee, may lead to the imposition of sanctions by the FAM Disciplinary and Ethics Committee against the relevant party that has caused the abandonment in accordance with the FAM Disciplinary and Ethics Code.
- 10.3. If a Match is abandoned or cancelled by the Referee for any reason, the procedure described in Article 9 of the Competition Manual shall be followed.

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# **SECTION 3: STADIUMS AND OFFICIAL TRAINING SITES**

### 11. Stadiums

- 11.1. Matches shall play at separate centralised venue, which shall be selected on a bidding process.
- 11.2. All Stadiums / grounds approved by the FAM, comply with the FAM regulations.
- 11.3. The FAM reserves the right to refuse the nomination of a Venue / field and require a Participating Club to play its Matches in a different Stadium within the same Venue or zone, or alternatively in a Neutral Venue.

### 12. Field of Play

- 12.1. Matches shall be played in FAM approved natural grass or synthetic turf fields,
  - 12.1.1. Approved field sizes: minimum length has to be 100 meters and maximum 105 meters, the width has to be minimum 64 meters and maximum 68 meters.

### 13. Official Training

- 13.1. Official Training Sites shall be made available (if requested by participating clubs) at least 1 (one) session of training, prior to 2 (two) days before tournament start. They shall not be used for any other purpose during this period, unless prior written permission has been obtained from the FAM.
- 13.2. Participating Clubs must strictly follow the official training schedule decided by League secretariat. The League secretariat shall decide the final timing of official training.

# **SECTION 4: TECHNICAL REGULATIONS**

### 14. Laws of the Game

- 14.1. All Matches shall be played in accordance with the Laws of the Game in force and as laid down by the IFAB. In the case of any discrepancy in the interpretation of the Laws of the Game, the English version shall be authoritative.
- 14.2. Each Match shall last 90 (ninety) minutes, comprising 2 (two) periods of 45 (forty-five) minutes, with a half-time interval of 15 (fifteen) minutes.
- 14.3. 3 (three) substitutes listed on the 'Match Start List' may take part in the Match. Any Participating Player who has been substituted may take no further part in that Match.
- 14.4. The FAM may, at its discretion, decide to use electronic performance and tracking systems (EPTS) in accordance with the Laws of the Game.

### 15. Refereeing

15.1. If the Referee is prevented from carrying out his/her duties, such Referee shall be replaced by the Fourth Official or Senior Match Official. The same applies for either of the Assistant Referees if a Reserve Assistant Referee is not appointed.

### 16. Team Bench and Technical Area

- 16.1. A maximum of 9 (nine) Substitute Players and a maximum of 8 (eight) Team Officials listed on the starting list are permitted to sit on the team bench during a Match, provided they are in possession of the appropriate Accreditation Card.
- 16.2. A maximum of 4 (four) Participating Players from each team may warmup simultaneously and assisted by maximum of 1 Participating Team Official per team in the designated warmup area.
- 16.3. Only goalkeepers can warmup with a football.

### 17. Footballs

- 17.1. The footballs used in the tournament shall be selected and supplied by FAM.
- 17.2. Each Participating Club entering the Group Stage shall receive 10 (ten) footballs for training prior to the tournament.

### 18. Equipment

- 18.1. The FAM has the sole authority to approve the team equipment (including team jersey) in accordance with the FAM Equipment Regulations.
  - 18.1.1. Each Participating Team shall submit to the FAM for its approval 1 (one) sample of all equipment, as defined in the FAM Equipment Regulations, by the date(s) provided by the FAM.
  - 18.1.2. Each Participating Team shall submit to the FAM for its approval 1 (one) sample of all other apparel to be worn by their Team Official Delegation within the Controlled Access Areas during the Competition by the date(s) provided by the FAM.
  - 18.1.3. Should any equipment submitted to the FAM infringe the FAM Equipment Regulations, the Participating Team shall be required to resubmit corrected equipment to the FAM in accordance with the FAM Equipment Regulations.
  - 18.1.4. The Match Commissioner, the League Coordinator, and/or the League Marketing Manager all have the right and duty to inspect the equipment of a Team Official Delegation at each Venue and are entitled to seize and send such items to the League Secretariat for further inspection following each Match if required.
- 18.2. Each Participating Club shall indemnify the FAM and hold the FAM harmless from any and all damages in the event that a conflict arises as a result of any endorsement deal existing between itself and its sponsor(s) which contravenes the FAM Equipment Regulations.

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# **SECTION 5: TEAM OFFICIAL DELEGATION**

### 19. Team Official Delegation

- 19.1. All Participating Players and Participating Officials of a Team Official Delegation shall be issued with Accreditation Cards authorised by the League Secretariat. League secretariat shall produce the Accreditation Cards and Special Accreditation Cards (SAD) for its Participating Players and Participating Officials.
- 19.2. Each Participating Club shall ensure that no person in its Team Official Delegation or otherwise affiliated to it enters or is present in its team dressing room, on the Field of Play, or in any other Controlled Access Area without being in physical possession of the necessary Accreditation Card which has been validly issued to such person.
- 19.3. For each Match in the Competition, Participating Clubs shall register a Team Official Delegation comprising a maximum of 20 (twenty) Participating Players and up to 8 (eight) Participating Officials.

### 20. Registration Windows

- 20.1. There are three (3) registration windows for the League. The registration windows shall open on the dates communicated by the FAM. The applicability of each registration window and the relevant closing dates are as follows:
  - 20.1.1. Registration Window 1:

This registration window applies only to Participating Clubs which enter the Competition at the open division stage. It shall close 30 (thirty) days prior to the relevant Participating Club's first open division Match in the League.

20.1.2. Registration Window 2:

This registration window applies only to Participating Clubs which enter the Competition at the second division stage. It shall close fifteen 30 (thirty) days prior to the relevant Participating Club's first second division Match in the League.

20.1.3. Registration Window 3:

This registration window applies to all Participating Clubs which qualify for the second division Stage. It shall close 30 (thirty) days prior to the relevant Participating Club's first, first division Match in the League.

20.2. Participating Players and Participating Officials registered pursuant to the replacement provisions contained in (Articles 25,26,27 and/or 29) are considered to have been registered during the same registration window covered those replacement provisions.

### 21. Eligibility of Players

- 21.1. Each Participating Club shall ensure that all players:
  - 21.1.1. are duly registered with the FAM pursuant to these Regulations; and
  - 21.1.2. are duly registered by the Participating Club with transfer rules and those set out in the FIFA Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players.
- 21.2. Individuals who meet the criteria set out in (Article 21.1) are eligible to participate in the Competition, subject to the provisions of the FAM Disciplinary and Ethics Code.

- 21.3. Each Participating Club shall ensure to submit authentic documents for registration of its Participating Players.
- 21.4. The approval of the registration of a Participating Player by the League Secretariat does not automatically provide for the eligibility of the Participating Player. Each Participating Club is responsible for fielding only eligible Participating Players in a Match. Failure to do so shall lead to the consequences stipulated in the FAM Disciplinary and Ethics Code.
- 21.5. A Participating Player shall be deemed ineligible, without limitation, if:
  - 21.5.1. there is a violation of (Article 21.1); or
  - 21.5.2. the player participates in a Match contrary to a decision of the FAM Disciplinary and Ethics Committee, these Regulations, or the operation of the FAM Disciplinary and Ethics Code; or
  - 21.5.3. the FAM determines that any document submitted during registration is falsified or forged.

### 22. Registration of Players

- 22.1. There are 4 (four) stages of registration for the players in the Competition:
  - 22.1.1. Registration Windows 1, 2, 3 and 4: each Participating Club must submit a squad of a minimum of 18 (eighteen) and a maximum of 30 (thirty) players;
  - 22.1.2. Player Selection List: each Participating Club must submit a 'Player Selection List' prior to each Match which identifies the starting 11 (eleven) and up to 9 (nine) substitute players comprising individuals registered in the relevant registration window.
- 22.2. Should the FAM not receive all required documents by the stipulated deadline, the Participating Club concerned shall be considered to have withdrawn from the Competition (Article 6) prior to its commencement and be subject to (Article 5).

### 23. Documents for Registration of Players

23.1. Participating Players must be registered via FAM-CMS with the supporting documents set out in the Competition Manual.

### 24. Player Status

- 24.1. Each Participating Club may register up to 4 (four) foreign Participating Players. At least 1 (one) of these Participating Players must hold the nationality of an AFC Member Association.
- 24.2. A Participating Player shall only be registered to 1 (one) Participating Club per registration window.
- 24.3. A Participating Player shall not be eligible to represent more than 1 (one) Participating Club per stage of the Competition (Article 6). A Participating Player that has been fielded by a Participating Club in a stage of the Competition shall not be registered for another Participating Club in that same stage.
- 24.4. If a violation of (Articles 24.2 or 24.3) occurs:
  - 24.4.1. the Participating Player may be sanctioned with a ban on participating in a minimum of 1 (one) future edition of the Competition, unless he can demonstrate that extenuating circumstances existed.
  - 24.4.2. the Participating Club shall forfeit any Match in which the Participating Player has been fielded in accordance with the FAM Disciplinary and Ethics Code.

- 24.4.3. the Participating Club shall be considered to have withdrawn from the Competition (Article 6) and be subject to (Article 5); and
- 24.4.4. the FAM Disciplinary and Ethics Committee may impose further sanctions at its discretion.
- 24.5. For the purposes of the contract of a Participating Player, his date of registration to a Participating Club shall be:
  - 24.5.1. for Participating Players who transferred internationally to the Participating Club: the official date of the International Transfer Certificate ("ITC") submitted in accordance with (Article 23); and
  - 24.5.2. for Participating Players who transferred domestically to the Participating Club or are a 'homegrown' player: the official date of the contract submitted in accordance with (Article 23).
- 24.6. An ITC shall only be accepted after the close of a registration window where:
  - 24.6.1. the Participating Club entered into a valid contract with the player prior to the close of the registration window and submitted this to the FAM; and
  - 24.6.2. a copy of the ITC or evidence to demonstrate that an ITC has been issued in accordance with the FIFA Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players is submitted via FAM-CMS no later than seven (7) days prior to its first Match in the Competition.

### 25. Registration Window 01

- 25.1. Each Participating Club shall submit its registration of Participating Players and supporting documents in accordance with (Article 23) via FAM-CMS.
- 25.2. Each Participating Club shall submit a registration of a minimum of 18 (eighteen) and a maximum of 30 (thirty) Participating Players.
  - 25.2.1. Each Participating Club must register a minimum of 3 (three) goalkeepers in its registration.
  - 25.2.2. Participating Players must be allocated a playing number between 1 to 30. Playing number 1 shall be reserved for a goalkeeper. Each Participating Player shall wear the same playing number allocated in his first registration during all Matches in the Competition. Participating Players registered as replacements (Article 25.4) may only be allocated a new playing number.
- 25.3. If a Participating Club fails to register a minimum of 18 (eighteen) Participating Players by the stipulated deadline, it shall be considered to have withdrawn from the Competition (Article 6) prior to its commencement and be subject to (Article 5). Proof of submission by facsimile, courier and/or email shall not be accepted.
- 25.4. Once the registration of Participating Players has been received by the FAM and after the stipulated deadline has passed, Participating Clubs may:
  - 25.4.1. Open Division (First Round) no later than 15 (fifteen) days prior to their first Match in the Competition, replace or add up to 4 (four) Participating Players for any reason provided that the maximum number of registered players is not exceeded.
  - 25.4.2. Open Division (Second Round) no later than Seven (7) days prior to their first Match in the Competition, replace or add up to 4 (four) Participating Players for any reason provided that the maximum number of registered players is not exceeded.
- 25.5. Notwithstanding the foregoing replacement provisions, if at any stage during the competition, 2 (two) or more Participating Players who are registered as goalkeepers suffer long-term injuries or illness, the relevant

- Participating Club may request to replace 1 (one) or both goalkeeper(s) by registering 1 (one) or more new Participating Players as goalkeepers (as appropriate).
- 25.5.1. An injury or illness shall be considered long-term for the purposes of this Article if it shall or can reasonably be expected to last for 30 (thirty) days or longer (as from the date of the request).
- 25.5.2. A medical report, in English, must be submitted to the FAM detailing the extent of the injury or illness to the relevant Participating Player(s) before any replacement(s) can be approved by the FAM.
- 25.5.3. Any replacement must be requested no later than 24 (twenty-four) hours before the kick-off time of the Participating Club's next Match following the request.
- 25.5.4. The FAM shall decide on any replacement(s) at its sole discretion, and any such decisions shall be final and binding and not appealable.
- 25.5.5. Incidents involving the provision of false or misleading evidence or information to the FAM in connection with any replacement under this Article (as regards the provision of medical reports or otherwise) may be referred to the FAM Disciplinary and Ethics Committee.
- 25.5.6. For the avoidance of doubt, once a Participating Player has been replaced, the injured player shall not be re-registered in any other team in this competition.
- 25.6. Participating Players registered pursuant to the replacement provisions set out in (Article 25) shall only be eligible to participate in the Competition after receiving their Accreditation Cards.

### 26. Registration Window 02

- 26.1. Each Participating Club shall submit its registration of Participating Players and supporting documents in accordance with Article 23 via FAM-CMS.
- 26.2. Each Participating Club shall submit a registration of a minimum of 18 (eighteen) and a maximum of 30 (thirty) Participating Players.
  - 26.2.1. Each Participating Club must register a minimum of 3 (three) goalkeepers in its registration.
  - 26.2.2. Participating Players must be allocated a playing number between 1 to 30. which shall be the same playing number allocated during registration window 1 or registration window 2 (as applicable). Each Participating Player shall wear the same playing number allocated in his first registration during all Matches in the Competition. Participating Players registered as replacements (Article 27.4) or newly registered Participating Players may only be allocated a new playing number. Playing number 1 shall be reserved for a goalkeeper. Each Participating Player shall wear the same playing number allocated in his first registration during all Matches in the Competition. Participating Players registered as replacements (Articles 25.5.1 to 25.5.6) may only be allocated a new playing number.
- 26.3. If a Participating Club fails to register a minimum of 18 (eighteen) Participating Players by the stipulated deadline, it shall be considered to have withdrawn from the Competition (Article 6) prior to its commencement and be subject to Article 5. Proof of submission by facsimile, courier and/or email shall not be accepted.
  - 26.3.1. If a Participating Club fails to submit its registration of Participating Players by the stipulated deadline, it shall be considered to have registered the same Participating Players registered for registration window 2 (as applicable). Proof of submission by facsimile, courier and/or email shall not be accepted.

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- 26.4. Once the registration of Participating Players has been received by the FAM and after the stipulated deadline has passed, Participating Clubs may:
  - 26.4.1. Second Division no later than 30 (thirty) days prior to their first Match in the Competition, replace or add remaining Participating Players for any reason provided that the maximum number of registered players is not exceeded.
- 26.5. Notwithstanding the foregoing replacement provisions (Articles 27.4.1), if at any stage during the competition, 2 (two) or more Participating Players who are registered as goalkeepers suffer long-term injuries or illness, the relevant Participating Club may request to replace 1 (one) or both goalkeeper(s) by registering 1 (one) or more new Participating Players as goalkeepers (as appropriate). The provisions of (Articles 25.5.1 to 25.5.6) shall apply equally to registration window 3.
- 26.6. Participating Players registered pursuant to the replacement provisions set out in Article 27 shall only be eligible to participate in the Competition after receiving their Accreditation Cards.

### 27. Registration Window 03

- 27.1. Each Participating Club shall submit its registration of Participating Players and supporting documents in accordance with Article 23 via FAM-CMS.
- 27.2. Each Participating Club shall submit a registration of a minimum of 18 (eighteen) and a maximum of 30 (thirty) Participating Players.
  - 27.2.1. Each Participating Club must register a minimum of 3 (three) goalkeepers in its registration.
  - 27.2.2. Participating Players must be allocated a playing number between 1 to 30, which shall be the same playing number allocated during registration window 1, registration window 2 or registration window 3 (as applicable). Each Participating Player shall wear the same playing number allocated in his first registration during all Matches in the Competition. Participating Players registered as replacements (Article 28.4) or newly registered Participating Players may only be allocated a new playing number.
- 27.3. If a Participating Club fails to register a minimum of 18 (eighteen) Participating Players by the stipulated deadline, it shall be considered to have withdrawn from the Competition (Article 6) prior to its commencement and be subject to (Article 5). Proof of submission by facsimile, courier and/or email shall not be accepted.
  - 27.3.1. If a Participating Club fails to submit its registration of Participating Players by the stipulated deadline, it shall be considered to have registered the same Participating Players registered for registration window 3 (as applicable). Proof of submission by facsimile, courier and/or email shall not be accepted.
- 27.4. Once the registration of Participating Players has been received by the FAM and after the stipulated deadline has passed, Participating Clubs may:
  - 27.4.1. No later than 30 (thirty) days prior to their first Match in the Competition, replace or add remaining Participating Players for any reason provided that the maximum number of registered players is not exceeded.
- 27.5. No further replacement or addition of Participating Players shall be permitted.
- 27.6. Notwithstanding the foregoing replacement provisions (Articles 28.4.1), if at any stage during the competition, 2 (two) or more Participating Players who are registered as goalkeepers suffer long-term injuries or illness, the relevant Participating Club may request to replace 1 (one) or both of these goalkeeper(s) by registering 1 (one)

- or more new Participating Players as goalkeepers (as appropriate). The provisions of (Articles 25.5.1 to 25.5.6) shall apply equally to registration window 4. For the avoidance of doubt, once a Participating Player has been replaced, the player shall not be re-registered in the Competition at any stage.
- 27.7. Participating Players registered pursuant to the replacement provisions set out in Article 28 shall only be eligible to participate in the Competition after receiving their Accreditation Cards.

### 28. Player Selection List

- 28.1. Each Participating Club shall mark the starting eleven (11), including the team captain and up to 9 (nine) substitutes, on the 'Player Selection List'.
  - 28.1.1. Each Participating Clubs shall identify at least two (2) players as goalkeepers on its 'Player Selection List'.
- 28.2. Each Participating Club must hand its 'Player Selection List' signed by the Head Coach or the Team Manager, together with the 'Officials on the Substitution Bench' form with the names of the 8 (eight) Participating Officials who shall be entitled to sit on the team bench, to the Match Commissioner at least 90 (ninety) minutes prior to the commencement of each Match.

### 29. Registration of Officials

- 29.1. Each Participating Club shall submit its registration of Participating Officials and the supporting documents in accordance with Article 31 by the deadline provided by the FAM for the relevant registration window.
- 29.2. Each Participating Club shall submit a registration of a minimum of 4 (four) and a maximum of 10 (ten) Participating Officials.
- 29.3. Each Participating Club must include the following 4 (four) Participating Officials in the registration list:
  - 29.3.1.Head Coach.
  - 29.3.2.Team Manager
  - 29.3.3 Medical Officer
  - 29.3.4.Media Officer

Please refer to Appendix 3 (minimum Education requirements of officials)

- 29.4. Up to 8 (eight) Participating Officials may sit on the team bench for each Match. The following 3 (three) Participating Officials must be included on the "Officials on the Substitution Bench" form and must be available during the match.
  - 29.4.1.Head Coach
  - 29.4.2.Team Manager
  - 29.4.3.Medical Officer
- 29.5. Each Participating Club is entitled to register up to 1 (one) 'Media Officer' who shall be the only members of a Team Official Delegation entitled to record Matches in the relevant stage of the Competition using only 1 (one) lightweight amateur camera each. This recording shall be strictly for technical purposes and should not interfere with Match operations or be utilised by any Broadcast Partner or otherwise distributed.
- 29.6. The Team Manager and/or Team Media Officer (as applicable) of each Participating Club shall be responsible for coordinating all Participating Club and media-related matters with the FAM. They shall work in a full-time,

- exclusive capacity from 1 (one) day prior to each competition until 1 (one) day after the competition. They shall participate in all Official Functions related to Matches in the Competition, including without limitation the match coordination meeting and all press conferences.
- 29.7. Should the Participating Club nominate less than eight (8) Participating Officials on the 'Officials on the Substitution Bench' form, or the FAM does not approve the registration of any person(s) nominated, the number of Participating Officials permitted on the team bench shall reduce proportionately.
- 29.8. Should the FAM not receive all required documents by the stipulated deadline, the Participating Club shall be considered to:
  - 29.8.1. have withdrawn from the Competition (Article 6) prior to its commencement and be subject to (Article 5). Proof of submission by facsimile, courier and/or email shall not be accepted.
  - 29.8.2. have registered the same Participating Officials registered for registration window 1 or registration window 2 (as applicable). Proof of submission by facsimile, courier and/or email shall not be accepted.
  - 29.8.3. The Participating Club shall indicate which registered Participating Officials are no longer validly registered with the Participating Club (e.g. they have had their employment terminated or retired).
- 29.9. Once the registration of Participating Officials has been received by the FAM and after the stipulated deadline has passed, Participating Clubs may replace any of the listed Participating Officials at any stage of the Competition no later than seven (7) days before a Match by submitting the documents set out in Article 31 via FAM-CMS. Such Participating Officials registered as replacements shall only be eligible to participate in the Competition after receiving their Accreditation Card.

### 30. Documents for Registration of Officials

30.1. Participating Officials must be registered via FAM-CMS with the supporting documents set out in the Competition Manual.

### **SECTION 6: MEDIA**

### 31. Media Access

31.1. Except where stipulated otherwise by the FAM, each Host Island / Club shall ensure that the FAM, the Host Broadcaster, and all Broadcast Partners have free access to the Stadium from 2 (two) days prior to each Match in the Stadium until 1 (one) day after the Match in the Stadium to allow for the resolution of any technical issues and for the assembly and/or disassembly of the relevant infrastructure required to execute the Media Rights.

### 32. Press Conferences

- 32.1. The Host Island/Club is responsible for the organisation of a pre-match press conference to be conducted under the supervision of the Local Media Officer at least 8 (eight) hours prior to each Match.
- 32.2. The Head Coach of each Participating Club must attend a post-match press conference for each Match in which they participate, commencing no later than fifteen (15) minutes after the Match. If requested by the FAM, the Player of the Match of each Match must also attend the post-match press conference. Where additional awards

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- are granted, the winner of such awards must also attend the post-match press conference if requested by the FAM.
- 32.3. The Participating Clubs shall be responsible for ensuring the provision of interpretation and translation services for its Participating Players and Participating Officials who conduct media sessions in languages other than Dhivehi. For the avoidance of doubt, the interpretation and translation services provided shall be for translation of dialogues from all other languages into the Dhivehi language. In case interpretation into the English language is necessary, it shall be the responsibility of the Host Island / Club to ensure the same.
- 32.4. Any individual who fails to attend an obligatory press conference shall be fined at least MVR 1,000 (Maldivian Rufiyaa One Thousand). The relevant Participating Club shall also be held liable for any failure to attend a press conference in accordance with (Article 3.3.9). The FAM Disciplinary and Ethics Committee may impose further sanctions at its discretion.

### 33. Interviews

- 33.1. If requested by the FAM, Participating Clubs shall make their Head Coach and selected Participating Players available for a flash interview of up to 90 (ninety) seconds, to be recorded by the Host Broadcaster or any other Broadcast Partner, any Commercial Affiliate and/or the FAM. All flash interview locations shall be designated by the Local Media Officer or Match Commissioner.
  - 33.1.1. For all Stages of competition, any such interview shall be conducted
- 33.2. If requested by the FAM, Participating Clubs shall make their Head Coach available on Match Day for a flash interview of not more than 90 (ninety) seconds at their point of arrival at the Stadium for the Match.
- 33.3. Any individual who fails to conduct an interview when requested shall be fined at least MVR 1,000 (Maldivian Rufiyaa One Thousand). The relevant Participating Club may also be held liable for any failure to conduct an interview when requested in accordance with (Article 3.3.9). The FAM Disciplinary and Ethics Committee may impose further sanctions at its discretion.

### 34. Recording of Matches

- 34.1. Immediately after each Match, the relevant Host Club shall provide 1 (one) copy of the full Match recording (If applicable) to the Match Commissioner.
- 34.2. Any Host Club that fails to comply with Article 34.1 shall be fined at least MVR 1,000 (Maldivian Rufiyaa One Thousand). The FAM Disciplinary and Ethics Committee may impose further sanctions at its discretion.

# **SECTION 7: COMMERCIAL**

### 35. Commercial Rights

35.1. The FAM is the owner of all the Commercial Rights emanating from the Competition as well as from any other related events coming under its jurisdiction, without any restrictions as to content, time, place and law. The FAM

- may grant the Host islands / Clubs the Commercial Rights, in whole or in part, in accordance with the Competition Manual which governs the rights, duties, and responsibilities of all parties regarding the Commercial Rights.
- 35.2. Each Host Club and its Member Association shall use its best efforts/endeavours in seeking political and administrative support from all local, regional and national governmental authorities to ensure the effective exploitation and protection of the Commercial Rights (including through the implementation of government guarantees and tabling of supplementary legislation).
- 35.3. Each Host islands / Clubs shall appoint a reasonable number of personnel to assist the FAM in the conduct of its rights protection program.

### 36. Clean Stadium

36.1. Except where stipulated otherwise by the FAM, each Host Club and its Member Association shall deliver the Stadium and Official Training Site as a Clean Stadium 5 (five) hours before each Match or official training at the Official Training Site.

### 37. Advertising and Branding

37.1. Except where stipulated otherwise by the FAM, each Host Island / Club 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 FAM 2 (two) days before competition at the Stadium or official training at the Official Training Site.

# **SECTION 8: SAFETY AND SECURITY**

### 38. General Principles

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

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# **SECTION 9: MEDICAL**

### 39. Pre-Competition Medical Assessment

- 39.1. Each Participating Club shall ensure that each Participating Foreign Player undergoes a Pre-Competition Medical Assessment ("PCMA") at least 15 (fifteen) days prior to its first Match of the Competition.
  - 39.1.1. Participating Foreign Players that have undertaken a PCMA for a FIFA, AFC or other FAM competition may provide the FAM with the physician and player's declaration form originally provided to FIFA, AFC or the FAM, provided that the PCMA was conducted within 6 (six) months of the Competition.
  - 39.1.2. The FAM shall provide all Participating Clubs with the PCMA form setting out the necessary matters to be tested, which shall include testing to prevent players from experiencing sudden cardiac death during any Match.
  - 39.1.3. Each Participating Club must submit to the FAM by latest 10 (ten) days prior to the first Match of the Competition the following signed documents:
    - 39.1.3.1. for each Participating Foreign Player, the 'Player and Examining Physician Declaration for PCMA'.
  - 39.1.4. Any player for whom the required documents are not provided is not eligible to be registered for the Competition.
- 39.2. The FAM Medical Committee may, at its sole discretion, order any further medical evaluation of a Participating Player that it deems necessary. The cost of such further testing shall be borne by the FAM.

# **SECTION 10: FINANCIAL PROVISIONS**

### 40. Responsibilities

- 40.1. Any financial payments to be made by the FAM in accordance with these Regulations shall be subject to all applicable laws, regulations, orders, by-laws and national sanctions.
- 40.2. Participating Clubs shall settle all logistical costs among themselves. The following conditions shall apply during the official period of 1 (one) day prior to each Match until 1 (one) day after the Match:
- 40.3. the participating Clubs shall cover its travel costs to the Venue, as well as boarding and lodging costs and incidental expenses.
- 40.4. any disputes arising regarding the financial provisions under this Article 43 shall be resolved amongst the relevant Participating Clubs but may be submitted to the League Committee for a final decision.

### 41. Accommodation, Meals and Refreshments

41.1. Accommodation in a hotel / guest house different from the Team Official Delegations unless approved by the FAM.

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### 42. Prize Money

42.1. The FAM shall pay the following prize money to league champion and runners up (First Division):

42.1.1. Champion : MVR 50,000. (Fifty Thousand)
42.1.2. Runner-Up : MVR 25,000. (Twenty Thousand)

### 43. Match Contribution

43.1. The Match Subsidy for Participating Clubs shall be the travel contribution.

- 43.2. Match Contributions shall be sent directly to the Participating Club(s), unless otherwise directed by the Participation club or decided by the FAM at its discretion.
- 43.3. All Match Contributions (including any prize money) shall be withheld should a Participating Club have any outstanding payment to be made to the FAM or another Participating Club or any unfulfilled financial obligations under the relevant Articles of these Regulations until the payment is made in full.

### 44. Travel Contribution

- 44.1. For each Match of the relevant Stage of the Competition set out below, the Club shall receive the corresponding travel contribution:
  - 44.1.1. Second Division stage: MVR 2,000 (Two Thousand) per match; and
  - 44.1.2. First Division Stage: MVR 4,000 (Four Thousand) per match.
- 44.2. For the second and first division Stage, the travel contribution shall be paid after the Club has fulfilled all obligations under the relevant Articles of these Regulations.

# **SECTION 11: AWARDS**

### 45. Trophy, Awards and Medals

- 45.1. In this edition of league (2022) Trophy, awards and Medals shall be presented in First Division stage.
- 45.2. The original trophy of the Competition shall be presented as a formality to the Champion during the prize presentation ceremony after the Final. Following the conclusion of the ceremony, the original trophy shall be returned to the FAM and always remain in the possession of the FAM. The Champion shall subsequently be awarded a replica by the FAM for its permanent possession.
- 45.3. The following awards of the Competition shall be presented in accordance with the Competition Manual:
  - 45.3.1. Player of the Match (for each Match).
  - 45.3.2. Most Valuable Player; (First Division).
  - 45.3.3. Top Goal Scorer; (First Division).
  - 45.3.4. FAM Fair Play Award. (First Division).
  - 45.3.5. League runners-up (First Division) and
  - 45.3.6. League champions (First Division)
- 45.4. Goals scored in the open division, third division and second division Stage are not considered for determining the Top Goal Scorer.
- 45.5. The FAM shall award the following medals:

- 45.5.1. 40 (forty) medals to the League Champion; and
- 45.5.2. 40 (forty) medals to the runner-up.
- 45.6. Additional medals may be produced upon request (within 1 day) and at the cost of the requesting Participating Club.
- 45.7. The League Committee may decide to introduce further awards.

### 46. Prize Presentation Ceremony

- 46.1. A prize presentation ceremony, managed and controlled by the FAM and coordinated with the Host Island / Club and the FAM Commercial Rights Partner, shall be held immediately after the last Match of the Competition to present the trophy, awards and medals listed in Article 48.
- 46.2. The Participating Players and Participating Clubs that qualify to receive the trophy, awards and medals are required to attend the relevant prize presentation ceremony. Relevant Participating Clubs shall be represented by the 20 (twenty) Participating Players and 8 (eight) Participating Officials registered in the Team Official Delegation for the final Match of the Competition. No other officials, players, or staff of the Participating Clubs may participate in the prize presentation ceremony.

# SECTION 12: DISCIPLINARY

### 47. Disciplinary Measures

- 47.1. All disciplinary measures in relation to the Competition shall be undertaken in accordance with the current FAM Statutes, FAM Disciplinary and Ethics Code, and all relevant FAM regulations and circulars.
- 47.2. The FAM may introduce new disciplinary rules and sanctions for the duration of the Competition. Such rules shall be communicated to the Participating Clubs 15 (fifteen) days before the first Match of the Competition at the latest.
- 47.3. Only Participating Players and Participating Officials may serve Match suspensions in the Competition. For the avoidance of doubt, this requires the registration of the relevant individual within a registration window in accordance with the deadlines set out in these Regulations.
- 47.4. All Participating Players agree to:
  - 47.4.1. respect the spirit of fair play, non-violence, and the authority of the Match Officials.
  - 47.4.2. behave; accordingly, and
  - 47.4.3. refrain from doping.

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### 48. Good Conduct

- 48.1. Each Participating Club is liable for the improper conduct of:
  - 48.1.1. any member of its Team Official Delegation; and/or
  - 48.1.2. any person affiliated to it and/or carrying out duties on its behalf throughout the Competition.
- 48.2. For any violation of (Article 48), the FAM Disciplinary and Ethics Committee may issue any sanction listed in the FAM Disciplinary and Ethics Code.

### 49. Administrative Procedure

- 49.1. Subject to the FAM 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:
  - 49.1.1. the FAM, 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 20% (twenty) percent should the party admit to the offence.
  - 49.1.2. if the offence is admitted, the FAM shall submit the compounded offence to the Chairperson of the FAM Disciplinary and Ethics Committee for approval.
  - 49.1.2.1. should the party deny the offence, the FAM shall open disciplinary proceedings.
  - 49.1.3. upon approval of the Chairperson of the FAM Disciplinary and Ethics Committee, the sanction shall be notified and applied administratively by the FAM.
    - 49.1.3.1. should the Chairperson of the FAM Disciplinary and Ethics Committee not approve the compounded offence, the FAM shall open disciplinary proceedings.
  - 49.1.4. by agreeing to compound the offence, the party waives its right to request a motivated decision or appeal the sanction issued.
  - 49.1.5. any sanction issued administratively comes into force immediately upon notification in accordance with the FAM Disciplinary and Ethics Code.

### 50. Cautions and Expulsions

50.1. All matters relating to cautions and/or expulsions, including the carrying forward of cautions between stages of the Competition, shall be undertaken in accordance with the FAM Disciplinary and Ethics Code.

# 51. Protest

- 51.1. For the purpose of these Regulations, a protest is an objection of any kind related to any event and/or matter that has a direct effect on a Match.
- 51.2. Unless otherwise stipulated in these Regulations, to be considered valid, a protest must be:
  - 51.2.1. submitted in writing (using the appropriate Protest Form issued by the League Secretariat) to the Match Commissioner for the relevant Match within one (1) hours of the end of the relevant Match.
  - 51.2.2. followed up with a full written report (including a copy of the original Protest Form) which must be sent to the League Secretariat within 24 (twenty-four) hours of the end of the relevant Match; and
  - 51.2.3. accompanied by a non-refundable fee of MVR 500 (Maldivian Rufiyaa five hundred), (non-inclusive of any bank charges), which must be transmitted to the bank account nominated by the League Secretariat or by cash within 24 (twenty-four) hours of the end of the relevant Match.

- 51.3. No protest shall be lodged relating to the Referee's decisions regarding facts connected with play. Such decisions are final and binding and not subject to appeal, unless otherwise stipulated in the FAM Disciplinary and Ethics Code.
- 51.4. If any of the formal requirements set out in Article 54.2 are not met, the relevant protest shall be disregarded.

  The League Secretariat decides whether or not such formal requirements have been met. Such decisions are final and binding and not appealable.
- 51.5. Subject to Article 54.4 and any other exceptions set out in these Regulations, the FAM Disciplinary and Ethics Code, the FAM Statutes and/or any other applicable FAM regulation, the FAM Disciplinary and Ethics Committee shall make decisions on protests. Should the FAM Disciplinary and Ethics Committee determine that a protest is unfounded or irresponsible, it may impose a fine. The FAM Disciplinary and Ethics Committee may transfer a protest to the FAM Competitions Committee for its decision if it is deemed to be purely operational in nature.

# **SECTION 13: DISPUTE RESOLUTION**

### 52. Dispute Related

- 52.1. None of the disputes related to this set of rules nor the competition which shall be held and operational under this very regulation shall not be lodged, deliberated and decided upon in any medium of the local judicial system and shall only be subjected to the adjudicators chambers of FAM, AFC, FIFA and ultimately CAS"
- 52.2. Any and all form of dispute shall be settled based on the principles of sports arbitration and mediation.

### 53. Arbitration

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

### 54. Decisions

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

### 55. Amendments

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

### 56. Force Majeure

56.1. The league Committee is the only body capable of declaring a Force Majeure event.

### 57. Matters Not Provided For

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

### 58. Implementing Provisions

58.1. The League 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.

### 59. Enforcement

59.1. These Regulations were ratified by the FAM Executive Committee on 1st March 2020 and came into force immediately.

# **SECTION 14: CLOSING PROVISIONS**

### 60. Special Instructions

- 60.1. The League Committee shall, in conjunction with the Host Islands / clubs, issue any instructions necessitated by special circumstances which might arise in the organisation of Matches.
- 60.2. These instructions shall form an integral part of these Regulations.

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### Appendix 1: Determining the ranking in a group using fair play criteria

- 1. Each Participating Team shall be awarded points for receiving red and yellow cards as indicated below:
- 1.1 per yellow card: one (1) point;
- 1.2 per red card (as a consequence of two yellow cards): three (3) points;
- 1.3 per red card (direct): three (3) points; and,
- 1.4 per yellow card followed by a red card (direct): four (4) points.
- 2. The Participating Team receiving the least number of points shall be ranked highest. The remaining Participating Teams shall be ranked in descending order.

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### **Appendix 2: Determining the best positioned team from groups**

If, after the League Committee has approved the competition system, and the best second or thirdplaced Participating Teams must be identified from among groups, the following shall be applied:

### Case 1: Where all groups consists of the same number of teams

(using the second-placed Participating Team as the example)

Step 1: Identify the second-placed Participating Teams in each group.

Step 2: Rank the second-placed Participating Teams on the following basis:

- (a) greater number of points from all group Matches;
- (b) goal difference resulting from all group Matches;
- (c) greater number of goals scored in all group Matches;
- (d) application of the Fair Play criteria (see Appendix 1);
- (e) drawing of lots.

### Group A

Team	Р	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS
Team A	3	1	1	1	8	4	4	4
Team B	3	1	1	1	4	3	1	4
Team C	3	1	0	2	7	9	-2	3
Team D	3	0	0	3	5	8	-3	0

# Group B

Team	Р	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS
Team E	3	2	1	0	14	2	12	7
Team F	3	1	1	1	8	10	-2	4
Team G	3	0	1	2	5	8	-3	1
Team H	3	0	1	2	2	9	-7	1

Team B and Team F are the second-placed Participating Teams.

Both teams have four (4) points, therefore, criteria (a) does not determine the best second-placed Participating Team. Team B has a goal difference of +1 whereas Team F has a goal difference of -2. Applying criteria (b), Team B is ranked as the best second-placed Participating Team.

### Case 2: where the number of teams in group varies

(using the second-placed Participating Team as the example)

Due to the varying number of Participating Teams in each group, the second-placed Participating

Teams in each group shall have played a different number of Matches. In order to ensure equality, all

Participating Teams shall be compared across the same number of Matches, the number of which shall be decided by the FAM.

In principle, the results between the identified Participating Teams and the bottom-placed Participating Team in the group shall be considered null and void.

Step 1: Identify the second-placed Participating Teams in each group.

Step 2: Rank the second-placed Participating Teams on the following basis:

- (a) greater number of points from the Matches identified by the FAM;
- (b) goal difference resulting from the Matches identified by the FAM;
- (c) greater number of goals scored in the Matches identified by the FAM;
- (d) application of the Fair Play criteria in the Matches identified by the FAM (see Appendix 1);
- (e) drawing of lots.

### Group A

Team	Р	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS
Team A	3	1	1	1	8	4	4	4
Team B	3	1	1	1	4	3	1	4
Team C	3	1	0	2	7	9	-2	3
Team D	3	0	0	3	5	8	-3	0

### Group B

Team	Р	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS
Team E	4	3	1	0	14	2	12	10
Team F	4	2	1	1	8	10	-2	7
Team G	4	1	1	2	5	8	-3	4
Team H	4	0	1	3	2	9	-7	1
Team I	4	0	0	4	2	11	-9	0

Team B and Team F are the second-placed Participating Teams

Groups A and B have played a different number of matches. In order to identify the best second placed

Participating Team, the number of matches shall be equalised.

The number of matches to be identified shall be equal to that contested in Group A (i.e. the group with the lower number of matches per Participating Team). Accordingly, the number of matches

played in Group B shall be reduced to three (3) matches per Participating Team. As such, the match between Team F and Team, it shall be considered null and void.

### Assume Team F won the match 3-0. We shall have a new calculation for Team F:

Team F 3 1 1 1 1	5	10	-5	4

After applying criteria (a), both Team B and Team F are equal, having accrued 4 points. Team B has a goal difference of +1 and Team F has a goal difference of -5, and after applying criteria (b), Team B is identified as the best second-placed Participating Team.

Note: when deleting matches, the points or rankings of the other Participating Teams in group are irrelevant. Any new calculation is solely for the purpose of determining the best-placed Participating Team among the groups.

### **Appendix 3: Minimum Coach Education Requirements**

For each Competition, the minimum coach education requirements for the Head Coach, Assistant Coach, Goalkeeper Coach and Medical Officer are:

Position	Minimum Education Requirement						
	Open Division Third Division Second Division First Division						
Head Coach	D	D	С	В			
Asst. Coach	D	D	D	С			
GK Coach	D	D	D or GK level 1	C or GK level 1			
Medical Officer	FAM Certified	FAM Certified	FAM Certified	FAM Certified			

### Note:

Medical Officer must be a trained first aid officer (Certificate must be submitted to FAM) or a person who has taken part in a medical course conduct by FAM (Participation certificate must be submitted to FAM for verification).

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