



OFC Statutes



OCEANIA FOOTBALL CONFEDERATION

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OFC statutes

regulations governing the
application of statutes

standing orders of
the congress



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OCEANIA FOOTBALL CONFEDERATION (INC.) STATUTES

DEFINITIONS

In the interpretation of the Statutes, Regulations and Standing Orders, unless the context otherwise requires:

“Associate Member” means a national association within the region which are not in direct affiliation with FIFA and whose membership has been approved by the OFC Executive Committee.

“Confederation” or **“OFC”** means the Oceania Football Confederation Incorporated.

“Congress” means the supreme and legislative body of OFC and shall be Ordinary or Extraordinary.

“Emergency Committee” means the body referred to in Article 33.

“Executive Committee” means the Executive body of OFC.

“FIFA” means Federation Internationale de Football Association.

“FIFA Statutes” means the Statutes adopted by FIFA and in force and includes the Regulations Governing the Application of the Statutes and the Standing Orders of the FIFA Congress.

“Football” means Association Football, the game controlled by FIFA and organised in accordance with the Laws of the Game.

“Full Member” means an association that has been admitted into membership of FIFA by the FIFA Congress and has been admitted into full membership of OFC at an OFC Congress.

“Laws of the Game” means the Laws of the Game issued by the International Football Association Board.

“Member” means a Full Member, Provisional Member or Associate Member and where applicable includes their members, officials and players.

“National association” or **“Association”** means the controlling body for association football within the country or territory concerned.

“Oceania Region” or **“Region”** means the region for which OFC is responsible to FIFA and includes generally the islands and nations of the Pacific and adjacent seas and such other nations as may be determined from time to time.

“Official” means all office-bearers, members of various committees, managers, coaches, trainers, match commissioners, technical and medical officers and administrative staff of the Confederation, National Association, League or Club.

“Player” means any football player who is affiliated to a Member.

“Provisional Member” means a national association which has applied to become a member of FIFA and which has been granted provisional membership by OFC at the request of FIFA in accordance with the FIFA Statutes.

I. GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1: TITLE, CONSTITUTION and HEADQUARTERS

1. The Oceania Football Confederation Incorporated is an incorporated society entered in the Register of Incorporated Societies in New Zealand pursuant to the Incorporated Societies Act 1908 of New Zealand.
2. The Headquarters of the Confederation shall be in Auckland, New Zealand and may only be transferred by a resolution of Congress.

Article 2: OBJECTIVES

1. To improve the game of football constantly and promote it throughout the Oceania Region in the light of its unifying, educational, cultural and humanitarian values, particularly through youth and development programmes.
2. To promote the game of football in the Oceania Region in a spirit of peace, understanding and fair play without discrimination as to politics, gender, religion or race.
3. To control football in the Oceania Region by taking appropriate steps to prevent infringements of the FIFA Statutes and the OFC Statutes, Regulations and Standing Orders, decisions of FIFA or OFC, or the Laws of the Game and to prevent the introduction of improper methods or practices into the game and to protect it from abuses.
4. To enforce due compliance with the Statutes and Regulations of FIFA and OFC.
5. To provide by Statute, Regulations, By-Laws or otherwise the method of deciding and settling all differences or disputes that may arise between Members, and clubs, leagues, officials and players affiliated to Members.
6. To organise or assist in the organisation of competitions within the Oceania region.
7. To purchase, hold or otherwise acquire any real property or equipment, or any interest in the same, respectively, which shall be for the benefit of OFC or which will assist in the promotion of any of the objects of OFC.
8. To take all necessary steps to maintain the integrity and credibility of OFC, its Members, Club, Leagues officials and players having regard to the position of OFC in the World of Football

Article 3: LOGO/ABBREVIATION

1. The logo and common seal of the Confederation shall be:



2. The use of the common seal shall be subject to the control of the Executive Committee.
3. The abbreviation of the Confederation is "OFC".

Article 4: OFFICIAL LANGUAGE

1. The official languages of the Confederation and the Congress shall be English and French.
2. English is the official language for minutes, correspondence and announcements of OFC. However at the discretion of the Secretariat the minutes, correspondence and announcements of OFC shall also be published in French. In the event of any discrepancy, the English version shall be authoritative.

Article 5: NON-DISCRIMINATION AND STANCE AGAINST RACISM

Discrimination of any kind against a country, private person or groups of people on account of ethnic origin, gender, language, religion, politics or any other reason is strictly prohibited and punishable by suspension or expulsion.

Article 6: PROMOTING FRIENDLY RELATIONS

1. OFC shall promote friendly relations:
 - (a) between Members, Confederations, Clubs, Officials and Players.
 - (b) in society for humanitarian objectives.
2. OFC shall provide the necessary institutional means to resolve any difference or dispute that may arise between Members, and Clubs, Officials and Players affiliated to Members.

Article 7: PLAYERS

Each Member of OFC shall respect the decisions of the FIFA and/or OFC in relation to the regulation of the Status of Players and the provisions for their transfer in accordance with the respective regulations.

Article 8: LAWS OF THE GAME

Each Member of OFC shall play Football in compliance with the Laws of the Game.

II. MEMBERSHIP

Article 9: ADMISSION

1. Congress shall decide to admit, suspend or expel a member of OFC.
2. Membership of OFC shall be open to national associations situated in the Oceania region. In exceptional circumstances, a national association that is situated in another continent may be admitted to membership, provided that it is not a member of the Confederation of that continent or of any other Confederation, and that FIFA approves its membership of OFC.
3. An Association in a region which has not yet gained independence may, with the authorisation of the Association in the country on which it is dependent, also apply for admission to OFC.
4. Only one Association shall be recognised as a Member in each country or territory.
5. There shall be three classes of membership:
 - (a) Full Membership – means a national association which has been admitted as a member of FIFA and whose application for full membership has then been subsequently approved by the OFC Congress.
 - (b) Provisional Membership – means a national association which has applied to become a member of FIFA and which has been granted provisional membership by the OFC at the request of FIFA in accordance with the FIFA Statutes.
 - (c) Associate Membership – which shall be open to national associations within the region which are not in direct affiliation with FIFA and whose membership has been approved by the OFC Executive Committee.
6. The Regulations Governing the Application of the OFC Statutes shall regulate the details of the procedure for admission.
7. Upon being admitted as a member of FIFA, a provisional member's application is then referred to an OFC Congress for approval as a full member of OFC.

8. The new Member shall acquire membership rights and duties as soon as it has been admitted by OFC. Its delegates are eligible to vote and be elected with immediate effect.
9. This article shall not affect the status of existing Members.

Article 10: MEMBERS RIGHTS

1. All full members have the right:
 - (a) To take part in the Congress and to exercise their right to speak and vote;
 - (b) To draw up proposals for inclusion in the agenda of the Congress;
 - (c) To nominate candidates for election at the Congress;
 - (d) To take part in the competitions organised by OFC;
 - (e) To take part in FIFA's and OFC's assistance and development programmes;
 - (f) To exercise all other rights arising out of these Statutes or those recognised by the regulations, directives and decisions of OFC and FIFA.
2. All provisional and associate members have the right:
 - (a) To take part in the Congress and to exercise their right to speak but not to vote;
 - (b) To take part in the competitions organised by OFC;
 - (c) To take part in some OFC assistance and development programmes as approved by the Executive Committee;
 - (d) To exercise all other rights arising out of these Statutes or those recognised by the regulations, directives and decisions of OFC and FIFA as they apply to provisional and associate members.

Article 11: MEMBERS' OBLIGATIONS

1. Every Member of the Confederation has the following obligations:
 - (a) To comply fully with Statutes, regulations, Code of Ethics, directives and decisions of FIFA and OFC at all times;
 - (b) To take part in competitions organised by OFC and/or FIFA (except provisional members which cannot participate in FIFA final competitions);
 - (c) To pay their membership subscriptions;
 - (d) To respect the Laws of the Game;
 - (e) To ensure that their own members comply with Statutes, regulations, Code of Ethics, directives and decisions of FIFA and OFC at all times;
 - (f) To comply fully with all other duties arising from these Statutes and other regulations.
 - (g) To submit no later than 31 December each year to the OFC Secretariat their audited financial accounts for the previous year.
2. Violation of the above-mentioned obligations by any Member may lead to sanctions provided for in these Statutes.

Article 12: SUSPENSION

1. The Congress is responsible for suspending a Member. The Executive Committee may, however, suspend a Member that seriously and repeatedly violates its obligations as a Member with immediate effect. The suspension shall last until the next Congress, unless the Executive Committee has lifted it in the meantime.

2. A suspension shall be confirmed at the next Congress by a two-thirds majority of the votes taken. If it is not confirmed, the suspension is automatically lifted.
3. A suspended Member shall lose its Membership rights. Other Members may not entertain sporting contact with a suspended Member. The Disciplinary Committee may impose further sanctions.

Article 13: EXPULSION

1. The Congress may expel a Member:
 - (a) if it fails to fulfil its financial obligations towards OFC; or
 - (b) if it seriously violates the Statutes, regulations, decisions of FIFA or OFC; or
 - (c) if it loses the status of an Association representing Association Football in its country.
2. The presence of an absolute majority of Full Members at the Congress is necessary for an expulsion to be valid, and the motion for expulsion must be adopted by a two-thirds majority of the votes taken.

Article 14: RESIGNATION

1. A Member may resign from OFC with effect from the end of the calendar year. Notice of resignation must reach the general secretariat no later than six months before the end of the calendar year and be sent by registered letter.
2. The resignation is not valid until the Member wishing to resign has fulfilled its outstanding financial obligations towards OFC and its other Members.

Article 15: BODIES

1. A Member's bodies shall be either elected or appointed in that Association. A Member's statutes shall provide for a procedure that guarantees the complete independence of the election or appointment.
2. Any Member's bodies that have not been elected or appointed in compliance with the provisions of paragraph 1, even on an interim basis, shall not be recognised by OFC.
3. Decisions passed by bodies that have not been elected or appointed in compliance with paragraph 1 shall not be recognised by OFC.

Article 16: STATUS OF LEAGUES AND OTHER GROUPS OF CLUBS

1. Leagues or any other groups affiliated to a Member shall be subordinate to and recognised by that Member. The Member's statutes shall define the scope of authority and the rights and duties of these groups. The statutes and regulations of these groups shall be approved by the Member.
2. Every Member shall ensure that its affiliated clubs can take all decisions on any matters regarding membership independently of any external body. This obligation applies regardless of an affiliated club's corporate structure. In any case, the Member shall ensure that neither a natural nor a legal person (including holding companies and subsidiaries) exercises control over more than one club whenever the integrity of any match or competition could be jeopardised.

III. HONORARY MEMBERSHIP/OFC AWARDS

Article 17: HONORARY MEMBERSHIP/OFC AWARDS

1. The Congress may grant titles of Honorary President or Honorary Members to any individual for meritorious services rendered to OFC
2. All such individuals as referred to in paragraph 1 shall be permitted to attend the Congress with the right to join in discussions but not to vote.
3. Nominations for the grant of such titles or awards shall be made to the Executive Committee by a member of the Association or member of the Executive Committee.
4. Congress may also grant the OFC Gold or OFC Silver Award where Congress considers any individual has given meritorious services to OFC.
5. Nominations for the grant of such titles or awards shall be made to the Executive Committee by a national association.

IV. ORGANISATION

Article 18: LEGISLATIVE, EXECUTIVE, JUDICIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE BODIES

1. The Congress shall be legislative body of OFC and as such, the supreme authority.
2. The Executive Committee shall be the executive body of OFC.
3. Standing and ad hoc committees shall advise and assist the Executive Committee in fulfilling its duties. Their primary duties, composition, function and additional duties are defined in special regulations made by the Executive Committee.
4. The Judicial bodies of OFC shall be the disciplinary body of OFC.
5. The General Secretariat shall be the administrative body of OFC.

A. CONGRESS

Article 19: CONGRESS

1. A Congress may be an Ordinary or Extraordinary Congress.
2. The Ordinary Congress shall be held every two years. The Executive Committee shall fix the date and place. The members shall be notified in writing at least 30 days in advance.
3. The General Secretary shall draw up the agenda based on proposals from the Executive Committee and the Members. Any proposal that a Member wishes to submit to the Congress shall be sent to the general secretariat in writing, with a brief explanation, at least 21 days before the date of the Congress.
4. The Ordinary Congress agenda shall include the following mandatory items:
 - (a) A declaration that the Congress has been convened and composed in compliance with the Statutes;
 - (b) Approval of the Agenda;
 - (c) Address of the President;
 - (d) Roll Call;
 - (e) Appointment of scrutineers to check the voting;
 - (f) Suspension or expulsion of a Member (if applicable);
 - (g) Approval of the minutes of the preceding Congress;

- (h) Activity report (containing the activities since the last Ordinary Congress);
 - (i) Receipt and consideration of the auditor's report and of the annual accounts;
 - (j) Admission for membership (if applicable);
 - (k) Votes on proposals for amendments to the Statutes, the Regulations Governing the Application of the Statutes and the Standing Orders of the Congress (if applicable);
 - (l) Consideration of proposals submitted by the Members and the Executive Committee;
 - (m) Appointment of auditors (if applicable);
 - (n) Election of the OFC President (if applicable);
 - (o) Election of the members of the OFC Executive Committee (if applicable);
5. The agenda of an Ordinary Congress may be altered, provided two-thirds of the Members present at the Congress and eligible to vote agree to such a motion.
 6. The General Secretary shall, not later than 14 days before the date of the Congress, send out to all members the following:
 - (a) The Agenda of the Congress;
 - (b) The Activity Report of the Confederation;
 - (c) The Auditors Report and Annual Accounts;
 - (d) Proposals for amendment and/or alterations to the Statutes, the Regulations Governing the Application of the Statutes and the Standing Orders of the Congress;
 - (d) Any other matter raised by Members or the Executive Committee for which due notice has been given;
 - (e) Names of candidates for election.
 7. Quorum of Congress shall be two thirds of the Full Members.

Article 20: EXTRAORDINARY CONGRESS

1. The Executive Committee may convene an Extraordinary Congress at any time.
2. The Executive Committee or Emergency Committee shall convene an Extraordinary Congress upon the written request of at least two thirds of the Full Members. The request shall specify the items for the agenda. An Extraordinary Congress shall be held within two months of the receipt of the request.
3. The Members shall be notified of the date, place and agenda of such Extraordinary Congress at least 21 days before the date fixed for the Extraordinary Congress and only the items included in the agenda shall be discussed.
4. Representation, voting and the conduct of an Extraordinary Congress shall be the same as those for an ordinary Congress where they apply.

Article 21: VOTES AND DELEGATES

1. Each full member has one vote in the Congress and is entitled to be represented by two delegates.
2. Each provisional member is entitled to be represented by one delegate who may take part in all discussions but who shall have no right to vote on any issue.
3. Delegates to the Congress must belong to the member association they represent and must be appointed by the body of the member association.
4. The Chairman of the Congress, in the event that there is an equality of votes, shall have a casting vote except in the conduct of elections.

Article 22: NOMINATIONS OF CANDIDATES FOR ELECTION

1. The names of candidates for any office may be submitted by any Full Member and shall reach the General Secretary not later than 21 days before the date of the Congress at which the election is to take place.
2. The General Secretary shall notify the Members of the names of the proposed candidates at least 14 days before the date of the Congress.
3. Candidates for the election of the OFC Executive Committee members must not be a paid employee or representative of their national association and must hold office within their respective national association at the date of the election.

Article 23: AMENDMENTS TO THE STATUTES, REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE APPLICATION OF THE STATUTES AND THE STANDING ORDERS OF THE CONGRESS

1. The Congress is responsible for amending the Statutes, the Regulations Governing the Application of the Statutes and the Standing Orders of the Congress.
2. Any proposals for an amendment to the Statutes must be submitted in writing with a brief explanation to the general secretariat by a Member or by the Executive Committee. A proposal submitted by a Member is valid, provided it has been supported in writing by at least two other Members.
3. For a vote on an amendment to the Statutes to be valid, an absolute majority (half of the Members plus one Member) of the Members eligible to vote must be present.
4. A proposal for an amendment to the Statutes shall be adopted only if two-thirds of the Members present and eligible to vote agree to it.
5. Any proposal to amend the Regulations Governing the Application of the Statutes and the Standing Orders of the Congress must be submitted in writing with a brief explanation to the General Secretariat by a Member or by the Executive Committee.
6. A proposal for an amendment to the Regulations Governing the Application of the Statutes and the Standing Orders of the Congress shall be adopted only if a simple majority of the Members present and eligible to vote agree to it.
7. Any proposal must reach the General Secretary 21 days before the date of the Congress. The General Secretary shall notify the members of the proposal for amendment at least 14 days before the date of Congress.

Article 24: ELECTIONS, OTHER DECISIONS, REQUISITE MAJORITY

1. Elections shall be conducted by secret ballot.
2. Any other decision that requires a vote shall be reached by a show of hands or voting cards. If a show of hands does not result in a clear majority in favour of a motion, the vote shall be taken by calling the roll, members being called in English alphabetical order.
3. For the election of the President, a candidate is elected if supported by two-thirds of the valid votes cast in the first ballot. In the second and any subsequent ballot, an absolute majority (i.e. more than half) of the votes cast is sufficient. If there are more than two candidates, whoever obtains the lowest number of votes is eliminated as from the second ballot until only two candidates are left. In the event of a tie in the ballot involving only two candidates a further ballot shall be held. If the candidates are still tied after the further ballot, the election shall be determined by drawing lots.

4. For the election of the seven Executive Committee, candidates are elected if they obtain an absolute majority of the valid votes cast in the first ballot. If the number of persons obtaining that majority is fewer than the number of places to be filled, a further ballot shall be held in which the persons securing the highest number of valid votes cast shall be elected to the remaining places. If there is a tie for one or more of the remaining places in the second ballot, a further ballot limited to the tied candidates shall be held. If candidates are still tied after the further ballot, the election for the unfilled place or places shall be determined by drawing lots.
5. Unless otherwise stipulated in the Statutes, a simple majority is sufficient for a vote to be valid. The number of valid votes counted shall decide the simple majority. Abstentions are disregarded in calculating the majority.

Article 25: MINUTES

1. The General Secretary shall be responsible for recording the minutes at the Congress.
2. The minutes of the Ordinary Congress and any Extraordinary Congress shall be approved at the next ensuing Ordinary Congress.

Article 26: EFFECTIVE DATES OF DECISIONS

Decisions passed by the Congress shall come into effect for the Members at the close of the Congress, unless the Congress fixes another date for a decision to take effect.

B. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**Article 27: COMPOSITION AND TERM OF OFFICE****Composition**

1. The Executive Committee shall consist of:
 - (a) The President,
 - (b) Seven other memberswho are elected by the Congress.
2. Excluding the President, the Executive Committee shall not include more than one representative of the same national association.
3. The President shall have the power to invite one or two observers to the Executive Committee.
4. Excluding the President each member shall hold office (other than in an honorary capacity) within their respective national association. Any member who no longer holds office within their respective national association shall no longer be a member of the Executive Committee and a vacancy exists and the Executive Committee shall appoint a replacement for the remainder of the term.
5. Notwithstanding Article 22 and Article 27.4 above, no person shall be eligible to be elected as President and/or an Executive Committee member if he has been found guilty of breaching the FIFA and/or OFC Code of Ethics and suspended for a period longer than 6 months or more in the previous five years immediately following the call for nominations for such positions.

Term of Office

6. The term of the office of the President and members of the Executive Committee elected by a Congress shall be for four years. If during the four-year term a vacancy occurs with respect to any office (except the President) the Executive Committee shall appoint a replacement for the remainder of the term. All members of the Executive Committee may be re-elected.

7. If the President is permanently prevented from performing his official function, the Senior Vice President shall represent the President until the next Congress. The President may nonetheless continue to exercise his function as FIFA Vice President until the conclusion of his Vice Presidential mandate, unless he also ceases to exercise his function in that role in which case it shall remain vacant until the new OFC President is elected.
8. If the President is temporarily prevented from performing his function, the Senior Vice President shall represent him as President until he is able to resume his duties. The President may nonetheless continue to exercise his functions as FIFA Vice President, unless he is temporarily prevented from performing that role in which case it will remain vacant until the President is able to resume his duties.

Article 28: POWERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

1. The Executive Committee shall pass decisions on all cases that do not come within the sphere of responsibility of the Congress or are not reserved for other bodies by law or under these Statutes.
2. The President shall compile the agenda. Each member of the Executive Committee is entitled to propose items for inclusion in the agenda.
3. The Executive Committee may as required set up other standing and ad hoc committees to deal with particular matters on such terms and with such powers and duties as it considers appropriate.
4. The Executive Committee shall appoint the chairmen, deputy chairmen and members of the standing committees, ad hoc committees and the judicial bodies.
5. The Executive Committee shall compile the regulations for the organisation of standing committees and ad-hoc committees.
6. The Executive Committee shall appoint or dismiss the General Secretary on the proposal of the President. The General Secretary shall attend the meetings of all the committees ex officio.
7. The Executive Committee shall, at the request of the Members concerned, resolve any disputes between members.
8. The Executive Committee shall consider and approve any application for provisional membership of OFC.
9. The Executive Committee shall report to FIFA on the manner in which Provisional Members are organised.
10. The Executive Committee shall refer to the next Congress any application for full membership of OFC by an Association which has been admitted to membership of FIFA.
11. The Executive Committee may delegate all or any of its powers to any of its committees or to any national association.
12. The Executive Committee shall approve OFC competitions and tournaments and all international competitions in the region and the rules and regulations for these competitions.
13. The Executive Committee shall control the use and investment of the OFC's funds and may borrow funds on behalf of the OFC.

Article 28 (A) Club Licensing:

1. OFC shall implement a club licensing system in the Confederation. The objective of the club licensing system is to safeguard the credibility and integrity of club competitions, to improve the level of professionalism, to promote sporting values in the principles of fairplay as well as safe and secure environments, and to promote transparency in the finances, ownership and control of the clubs.

2. The Executive Committee shall establish club licensing regulations based on the FIFA Club Licensing Regulations
3. The Executive Committee shall appoint a club licensing committee to assist the Executive Committee in implementing the club licensing in an advisory role
4. The member associations of OFC shall implement a club licensing system in accordance with the minimum criteria set by OFC. They should include this obligation in their Statutes and describe the licensing body therein. They should also draw up club licensing regulations.

Article 29: FREQUENCY OF MEETINGS AND QUORUM

1. The Executive Committee shall meet at least twice a year.
2. The President shall convene the Executive Committee meetings. If half the members of the Executive Committee request a meeting, the President shall convene it.
3. The General Secretary shall give 14 days notice to call an OFC Executive Committee meeting.

Article 30: VOTING

1. Each member of the Executive Committee shall be entitled to one vote. Observers shall have no voting rights.
2. Unless provided otherwise, a decision shall be made in elections and votes if supported by more than half of the votes cast. In the event of a tie, the President shall have the casting vote. Votes shall be open and elections shall be secret.

Article 31: SUSPENSION OF MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

1. The Executive Committee may suspend a member of the Executive Committee or a member of another organ until the next Congress where it considers that person to have committed a gross dereliction of duty or an act of improper conduct.
2. Such decisions shall be made if supported by two-thirds or more of all members of the Executive Committee. A member of the Executive Committee affected by the decision shall not be entitled to take part in the deliberations or vote.
3. Where the Executive Committee has suspended a Member, the next Congress shall consider whether to expel or reinstate that member. Congress may vote to expel a suspended member by a two-thirds majority of votes taken. If the suspended member is not expelled by the Congress then the suspension is automatically lifted. If the member is expelled the Executive Committee shall appoint a replacement for the remainder of the period.

C. PRESIDENT

Article 32: PRESIDENT

1. The President represents OFC legally.
2. By virtue of his election as the OFC President the President shall automatically be installed as the FIFA Vice President.
3. He is primarily responsible for:
 - (a) implementing the decisions passed by the Congress and the Executive Committee through the general secretariat;
 - (b) supervising the work of the general secretariat;
 - (c) relations between FIFA and the Confederations, Members, political bodies and international organisations;

4. Only the President may propose the appointment or dismissal of the General Secretary.
5. The President shall preside over the Congress, the Executive and Emergency Committee meetings and those committees of which he has been appointed chairman.
6. The President shall have an ordinary vote on the Executive Committee and, whenever votes are equal, shall have a casting vote (except in the case of an election).
7. If a vacancy occurs with respect to the President then the procedure in Article 27(7) applies. If a vacancy occurs with respect to any other Executive member then the Executive Committee shall appoint a replacement to fill the vacancy for the remainder of the period.

D. EMERGENCY COMMITTEE

Article 33: EMERGENCY COMMITTEE

1. The Emergency Committee shall deal with all matters requiring immediate settlement between meetings of the Executive Committee. The committee shall consist of the OFC President, Senior Vice President, the Vice President and the Treasurer.
2. The President shall convene the Emergency Committee meetings. The business of the meeting shall be conducted at specially convened meetings, by telephone conference call, post, facsimile or other electronic communication and all decisions shall be reported to the Executive Committee in a timely manner. Such decisions shall have immediate legal effect. The President shall notify the Executive Committee immediately of the decisions passed by the Emergency Committee.
3. All decisions taken by the Emergency Committee shall be ratified by the Executive Committee at its next meeting.
4. If the President is unable to convene a meeting, the Senior Vice President or a Vice President shall deputise.
5. A member of the Emergency Committee who is unable to attend or has a conflict of interest may be replaced by another member of the Executive Committee designated by the President
6. Three members of the Emergency Committee shall form a quorum.

E. STANDING COMMITTEES

Article 34: STANDING COMMITTEES OF OFC

1. The Executive Committee may as required set up other standing and ad hoc committees to deal with particular matters on such terms and with such powers and duties as it considers appropriate.
2. The Executive shall appoint the Chairman and members of the Standing and ad hoc Committees.
3. Each chairman shall represent his committee, see that its business is properly conducted, fix the date of the meetings in conjunction with the General Secretary and report to the Executive Committee on its work. A committee may set up a bureau or expert group/panel.
4. The Executive Committee shall specify the duties and responsibilities of each Committee.
5. The President and General Secretary are ex-officio members on all standing and ad hoc committees.
6. The quorum for all standing and ad hoc committee meetings shall be satisfied when fifty percent or more of the members are present.

V. DISCIPLINARY MEASURES

Article 35: DISCIPLINARY MEASURES

The disciplinary measures are primarily:

1. for natural and legal persons:
 - (a) a warning;
 - (b) a reprimand;
 - (c) a fine;
 - (d) the return of awards.
2. for natural persons:
 - (a) a caution;
 - (b) an expulsion;
 - (c) a match suspension;
 - (d) a ban from the dressing rooms and/or the substitutes' bench;
 - (e) a ban from entering a stadium;
 - (f) a ban on taking part in any football-related activity.
3. for legal persons:
 - (a) a transfer ban;
 - (b) playing a match without spectators
 - (c) playing a match on neutral territory;
 - (d) a ban on playing in a particular stadium;
 - (e) annulment of the result of a match;
 - (f) expulsion;
 - (g) a forfeit;
 - (h) deduction of points;
 - (i) relegation to a lower division.
4. The Executive Committee shall draw up an OFC Disciplinary Code.

VI. JUDICIAL BODIES

Article 36: JUDICIAL BODIES

1. The judicial bodies of OFC are:
 - (a) the Disciplinary Committee;
 - (b) the Appeal Committee;
 - (c) the Ethics Committee
2. The responsibilities and function of these bodies shall be stipulated in the OFC Disciplinary Code.
3. The decision-making powers of certain committees remain unaffected.
4. The members of the judicial bodies may not belong either to the Executive Committee or a Standing Committee of OFC.

Article 37: DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE

1. The Disciplinary Committee shall consist of a chairman, deputy chairman and the number of members deemed necessary. The chairman and the deputy chairman shall have legal qualifications.
2. The function of this body shall be governed by the OFC Disciplinary Code. The committee shall pass decisions only when at least three members are present. In certain cases, the chairman may rule alone.
3. The committee may pronounce the sanctions described in these Statutes and the OFC Disciplinary Code on Members, clubs, Officials, Players and match and players' agents.
4. These provisions are subject to the disciplinary powers of the Congress and Executive Committee with regard to the suspension and expulsion of Members.

Article 38: APPEAL COMMITTEE

1. The Appeal Committee shall consist of a chairman, deputy chairman and the number of members deemed necessary. The chairman and deputy chairman shall have legal qualifications.
2. The function of this body shall be governed by the OFC Disciplinary Code. The committee shall pass decisions only when at least three members are present. In certain cases, the chairman may rule alone.
3. The Appeal Committee is responsible for hearing appeals against decisions from the Disciplinary Committee that are not declared final by the relevant OFC regulations.
4. Decisions pronounced by the Appeal Committee shall be irrevocable and binding on all the parties concerned. This provision is subject to appeals lodged with the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS).

VII. ARBITRATION

Article 39: ETHICS COMMITTEE

1. The Ethics Committee shall consist of a chairman, a deputy chairman and the number of members deemed necessary. The chairman and deputy chairman shall have legal qualifications.
2. The function of this body shall be governed by the OFC Code of Ethics as established by the OFC Executive Committee.

Article 40: DISPUTES

1. Unless specifically provided for in these Statutes or the FIFA regulations, Members, and Clubs, Players, Officials and Match and Player's Agents affiliated to Members shall not take before any national court of law any dispute relating to the FIFA Statutes or the OFC Statutes or Regulations or the administration of football.

Article 41: COURT OF ARBITRATION FOR SPORT (CAS)

1. Members of the Confederation, their clubs, members of their club and any players, officials and licensed match agents and players' agents may have recourse to the Court of Arbitration for Sport, an independent arbitration tribunal with headquarters in Lausanne (Switzerland), recognised by OFC, to resolve any disputes between FIFA, the Confederations, Members, Leagues, clubs, Players, Officials and licensed match agents and players' agents.
2. The CAS Code of Sports-Related Arbitration governs the arbitration proceedings. With regard to substance, CAS applies the various regulations of FIFA or, if applicable, of the Confederations, Members, Leagues and clubs and, additionally, Swiss law.
3. The Members and Leagues shall agree to recognize CAS as an independent judicial authority and to ensure that their members, affiliated Players and Officials comply with the decisions passed by CAS. The same obligation shall apply to licensed match and players' agents.

Article 42: JURISDICTION OF CAS

1. Only CAS is empowered to deal with appeals against decisions and disciplinary sanctions of the last instance, after all previous stages of appeal available at FIFA, OFC, Member or League level have been exhausted. The appeal shall be made to CAS within 21 days of notification of the decision.
2. Recourse may only be made to CAS after all other internal channels have been exhausted
3. CAS shall not, however, hear appeals on;
 - (a) violations of the Laws of the Game;
 - (b) suspensions of up to four matches or up to three months;(with the exception of doping decisions)
 - (c) decisions passed by an independent and duly constituted arbitration tribunal of a member or Confederation.
 - (d) decisions against which an appeal to an independent and duly constituted arbitration tribunal recognised under the rules of a member or Confederation may be made.
4. CAS is also empowered to deal with all disputes between a third party and any entities or persons mentioned in Article 42(1) if an arbitration agreement exists.

VIII. SUBMISSION TO DECISIONS OF FIFA and OFC

Article 43: PRINCIPLE

1. The Members and Leagues shall agree to comply fully with any decisions passed by the relevant OFC and FIFA bodies.
2. They shall take every precaution necessary to ensure that their own members, Players and Officials comply with these decisions.
3. The same obligation applies to licensed match and players' agents.

Article 44: SANCTIONS

Any violation of the foregoing provisions will be punished in compliance with the OFC Disciplinary Code or FIFA Disciplinary Code.

IX. GENERAL SECRETARIAT

Article 45: GENERAL SECRETARIAT

The general secretariat shall carry out all the administrative work of OFC under the direction of the General Secretary.

Article 46: GENERAL SECRETARY

1. The General Secretary is the chief executive of the general secretariat.
2. The General Secretary shall be appointed on the basis of an agreement governed by private law.
3. The General Secretary shall be responsible for:
 - (a) implementing decisions passed by the Congress and Executive Committee in compliance with the President's directives;
 - (b) managing and keeping the accounts of OFC properly;
 - (c) compiling the minutes for the meetings of the Congress, Executive Committee, Emergency Committee and standing and ad-hoc committees;
 - (d) OFC's correspondence;
 - (e) organising the general secretariat;
 - (f) the appointment and dismissal of staff working in the general secretariat.
 - (g) relations with FIFA, other Confederations, national associations, organisations and committees;
 - (h) examining claims for payment
 - (i) authorising payments resulting from normal administration.
4. The President shall appoint the managerial staff (directors) in the general secretariat on the proposal of the General Secretary.

X. FINANCE

Article 47: TREASURER

The Treasurer shall be responsible for the accounts of the Confederation. The Treasurer's duties shall include:

- (a) Preparation in collaboration with the General Secretary an annual budget of income and expenditures together with a cash flow statement for presentation to the Executive Committee or the Congress.
- (b) Presentation to each meeting of the Executive Committee a statement of income and expenditure to date.
- (c) Operation of bank accounts of the Confederation consistent with the statutes of OFC. The signatories on such bank accounts as are operated by the Treasurer shall be as determined by the Executive Committee from time to time.
- (d) Responsibility for the completion of the annual financial audit of the Confederation accounts in a timely manner having regard to the presentation of annual accounts.

Article 48: FINANCIAL PERIOD

1. The financial period of OFC shall be annually from 1 January to 31 December in each year.
2. The revenue and expenditure of OFC shall be managed so that they balance out over the financial period.
3. The General Secretary is responsible for drawing up the annual consolidated accounts of OFC with its subsidiaries as at 31 December.

Article 49: AUDITORS

1. The auditors shall audit the accounts approved by the Executive Committee and present a report to the Congress.
2. The auditors shall be appointed by the Congress for a period of four years. This mandate may be renewed.

Article 50: MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS

1. The annual subscription for membership shall be as determined from time to time by Congress.
2. The annual subscription shall be due on 1 January of each year and payable on or before 31 March of each year. A member which has not paid its subscription by 1 April shall be automatically suspended from being a member unless a reason for non-payment acceptable to the Executive Committee is submitted prior to that date. A notification of suspension of membership for non-payment of annual subscription shall be sent by the General Secretary to the member. Subject to payment of the subscription in arrears before 30 June of that year the member regain its rights.
3. Annual subscriptions payable by members are as follows:
 - Full Members NZ\$500 (Five Hundred New Zealand dollars) and
 - Provisional Members NZ\$100 (One Hundred New Zealand Dollars)
4. Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions the Executive Committee for good cause shown may exempt an applicant for membership or a member from payment of all or part of any of the abovementioned sums.

Article 51: SETTLEMENTS

OFC may debit any Member's account to settle claims.

Article 52: LEVIES

1. Members shall pay OFC a levy for every international match played between two "A" Association teams. Matches played as part of the Olympic Football Tournaments shall be regarded as international matches. The levy shall be calculated in compliance with the provisions in the Regulations Governing the Application of the Statutes on the basis of the gross revenue and shall be payable by the Member in whose country the match is being played.
2. The Member is obligated to pay an additional levy to FIFA in accordance with the FIFA Statutes and Regulations governing the application of Statutes.

XI. RIGHTS IN COMPETITIONS

Article 53: RIGHTS

1. OFC and its members are the original owners of all of the rights emanating from competitions and other events coming under their respective jurisdiction, without any restrictions as to content, time, place and law. These rights include, among others, every kind of financial rights, audiovisual and radio recording, reproduction and broadcasting rights, multimedia rights, marketing and promotional rights and incorporeal rights such as emblems and rights arising under copyright law.
2. The Executive Committee shall decide how and to what extent these rights are utilised and draw up special regulations or directives to this end. The Executive Committee shall alone decide whether these rights shall be utilised exclusively, or jointly with a third party or entirely through a third party.

Article 54: AUTHORISATION

1. OFC and its Members are exclusively responsible for authorising the distribution of image and sound and other data carriers of football matches and events coming under their respective jurisdiction, without any restrictions as to content, time, place and technical and legal aspects.
2. The Executive Committee shall issue special regulations or directives to this end.

XII – INTERNATIONAL MATCHES AND COMPETITIONS

Article 55: VENUE

The Executive Committee shall decide the venue and match schedules for the competitions organised by OFC. The Executive Committee shall issue guidelines in this connection.

Article 56: INTERNATIONAL MATCH CALENDAR

The Executive Committee shall compile an OFC match calendar that shall be binding upon OFC and its members and in line with the FIFA International Match Calendar

Article 57: INTERNATIONAL MATCHES AND COMPETITIONS

1. OFC shall have the right to organise any competition as may be determined by the Executive Committee in accordance with regulations approved by the Executive Committee and/or FIFA from time to time.
2. Other international competitions within the region organised by members shall have the prior approval of the Executive Committee (or Emergency Committee) and, where necessary, of FIFA, before they can be held and shall be subject to any levy prescribed in these Statutes.
3. Rules and Regulations governing competitions organised by other bodies within the region and in which any one or more member of the Confederation is playing shall be approved by the Executive Committee (or Emergency Committee) and, where necessary, by FIFA.

Article 58: CONTACTS

1. Matches may not be played or sporting contacts made between members and Associations that are not Members of FIFA or OFC, or their clubs, without the approval of FIFA and/or OFC.
2. Matches against teams whose players do not belong to a club or a League affiliated to a FIFA Member are prohibited.
3. Members and their clubs may not play on the territory of another Member without the latter's approval.
4. Members of the Confederation may not play matches on the ground of another national association (whether a member of the Confederation or not) without the consent of such association.

Article 59: APPROVAL

Any Association, League or club that is affiliated to a Member cannot belong to another Member or participate in competitions on the territory of another Member without the authorisation of FIFA and only in exceptional circumstances.

XIII. FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 60: UNFORESEEN CONTINGENCIES AND FORCE MAJEURE

The Executive Committee shall have the final decision on any matters not provided for in these Statutes (subject to Article 61 below) or in cases of force majeure.

Article 61: INTERPRETATION

1. In this article the term “Rules” shall include the Statutes, Regulations, and Standing Orders.
2. In any matter not covered by the OFC Rules, the FIFA Rules shall apply if the context permits.
3. In the case of any inconsistency between the Rules of FIFA, OFC, or Members, the FIFA Rules shall prevail over the OFC Rules, which in turn shall prevail over the Members' Rules.
4. In the case of any inconsistency between these Statutes, the OFC Regulations, and the OFC Standing Orders, the Statutes shall prevail over the Regulations, which shall prevail in turn over the Standing Orders.
5. Subject to the preceding requirements, the Executive shall have the authority to interpret the Statutes, Regulations and Standing Orders, and to rule accordingly.

Article 62: DISSOLUTION

1. A dissolution of the Confederation can only be decreed by a Congress and provided that two-thirds of the Full Members are present at the Congress and the resolution for dissolution has received the approval of at least two-thirds of the votes recorded.
2. In case of dissolution of the Confederation, the funds and assets of the Confederation shall be given to FIFA to be held on trust for the benefit of any future equivalent Confederation.

XIV: TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS

Article 63: SAVINGS AND TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS

1. On 10th July 2004, the Congress elected the following office bearers:
 - (a) OFC President for the term of 2004-2008;
 - (b) Election of the eight members of the Executive Committee for the term of 2004-2008.

In accordance with Article 32(2), adopted at the Extraordinary Congress on 21 November 2005, the OFC President will automatically become the FIFA Vice President. The mandate of the FIFA Vice President will be from 2007-2011. The incumbent OFC President shall relinquish his position as OFC President in 2007 so that fresh elections can be held for a new OFC President in 2007 to coincide with the mandate of the FIFA Vice President. From 2007 onwards, the President shall be elected for terms of four years in accordance with Article 27(6).

2. It follows that the mandate of the incumbent Executive Committee members shall be consistent with the mandate of the OFC President and therefore each Executive Committee member shall relinquish their position on the Executive Committee in 2007 and that fresh elections for all Executive Committee positions shall be held in 2007. From 2007 onwards, the Executive Committee members shall be elected for terms of four years in accordance with Article 27(6).

Article 64: ENFORCEMENT

These Statutes were adopted at the Extraordinary Congress in Paris, France on 19 May 2004 and will come into force on 1 June 2004.

Articles 9(5), 10(2), 11(1), 19(4), 22(3), 24(3), 24(4), 27, 32 and 63 were supplemented or amended by the Extraordinary Congress in Moorea, Tahiti on 21 November 2005. These amendments come into force on 1 January 2006.

Article 32(7) was deleted by the Extraordinary Congress in Papeete, Tahiti on 1 December 2007.

FOR THE OFC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President

General Secretary

SIGNED By the Representatives of at least three members:

REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE APPLICATION OF THE STATUTES

I APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP OF OFC

Article 1: APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION

1. A national association that wishes to become a member of OFC shall submit a written application for admission including its constitution, internal organisation and details relating to its infrastructure to FIFA.
2. The association's legally valid statutes shall be enclosed with the application for membership and shall contain the mandatory following provisions:
 - (a) always to comply with the Statutes, regulations and decisions of FIFA and OFC;
 - (b) to comply with the Laws of the Game in force;
 - (c) to recognise the Court of Arbitration for Sport, as specified in these Statutes.
3. If FIFA is satisfied that the application is complete and requests OFC to admit the association to provisional membership of OFC, the Executive Committee shall decide whether to grant provisional membership to the association.

Article 2: ADMISSION PROCEDURE

1. Once the national association has been approved provisional membership, OFC shall observe the manner in which the applicant association is organized over a period of at least two years.
2. As soon as the Executive Committee considers a provisional member is qualified to become a member of FIFA, the Confederation shall send to FIFA a detailed report on the organisation of the Association, and all other necessary documents, for the consideration of the FIFA Executive Committee to decide whether or not to submit the Association's application for affiliation to the FIFA Congress.
3. Upon being admitted as a member of FIFA by a FIFA Congress, the next OFC Congress shall decide whether to admit the Association or not as a full member. If necessary an OFC Extraordinary Congress shall be convened for the purpose of admitting a full member of OFC.

II DEFINITION, ANNOUNCEMENT AND REGISTRATION OF MATCHES

Article 3: INTERNATIONAL MATCHES

1. International football matches recognised by the Confederation shall be those between two National Associations affiliated to the Confederation and/or FIFA for which each Association fields a representative national team.
2. An international "A" match shall be a match that has been arranged between two National Associations affiliated to the Confederation and/or FIFA and for which both Associations field their first national representative teams.
3. The terms used to define a match shall be those recognised as giving an appropriate political and geographical description of the countries or territories within the National Associations whose teams are involved in the match and over which countries or territories they have sole control and jurisdiction.
4. If a Member allows one of its leagues to choose a team which bears the name of its country, the match shall be considered an international match as described in the aforementioned para.1.

Article 4: INTERCLUB AND INTERLEAGUE MATCHES

1. An interclub match shall be a match played between two clubs. Although the clubs may belong to different members, such a match shall not be recognised as an international match.
2. An inter league match shall be a match played between two leagues. Although the leagues may belong to different National Associations, such a match shall not be recognised as an international match subject to the provision of Art. 3.4 above.

Article 5: NOTIFICATION

1. Every international "A" match including friendly matches and those played in tournaments or in games comprising football shall be made known to the OFC General Secretariat by the National Associations organising them at least 14 days before the matches are held.
2. Failure to give notification of a match within this prescribed period shall incur a fine of NZ\$500. Failure to provide any notification whatsoever shall incur a fine of NZ\$1,000. These fines shall be paid within 10 days of receipt of written advice from OFC. Provided The Executive Committee shall have the powers to waive the fine in the event of any force majeure.

Article 6: REPORT

1. The Secretary of the National Association on whose territory the match or the tournament is played shall within 14 days of each match, notify the Confederation of the result of the match, the surnames and first names of the referee and assistant referees who officiated, the surnames and first names of the players and substitutes of each team, and the surnames and first names of the goal scorers, using the official form for this purpose. This form shall be completely filled in and signed.
2. Failure to send the form in within the prescribed period shall incur a fine of NZD 100 to be paid to OFC. Failure to send the form at all shall incur a fine of NZD 500. These fines shall be paid within 10 days of receipt of the written advice of the Confederation. In case of repetition, the amount of the fine may be increased by the Executive Committee.

III. INTERCLUB AND INTERLEAGUE MATCHES

Article 7: AUTHORISATION

1. No interclub or inter league matches between teams from different Members shall be played without the express authorisation of the Members concerned. The Members shall include a provision in their regulations stipulating at what point in time the clubs are required to seek authorisation and, in addition, the sanctions to be imposed if this rule is breached.
2. A Member shall inform the Members concerned of every match who it knows has been arranged and played in their area of jurisdiction and for which permission was either not sought or given.
3. Scratch teams consisting of Players not belonging to the same club or Member shall not be permitted to play clubs or teams representing Members or similar teams unless authorisation has been granted by the Members concerned and the Confederation on whose territory the match is planned. If the Players belong to clubs or Members from different Confederations, the authorisation of FIFA is required.

IV. TOURNAMENTS

Article 8: AUTHORISATION

1. All tournaments involving more than two teams, local or national, (clubs or representative teams) which belong to different National Associations must be authorised by the Confederation. If any of the teams involved belong to different confederations, the authorisation of FIFA is required.
2. The request for authorisation shall be submitted by the National Association in whose country the tournament is planned to take place at least two months before the commencement of the tournament.
3. The request for authorisation shall be accompanied by a list of the teams who are planning to take part in the tournament and the tournament regulations drawn up by the organising National Association.
4. If a tournament is played in the territory of a National Association without prior permission, the National Association in question shall be fined an amount of at least NZ\$1,000 and may be subject to further sanctions by the OFC Executive Committee, and if necessary, by FIFA.

IV FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS

Article 9: LEVIES

1. The levy to be paid directly to OFC for each international "A" match including friendly matches, those played in tournaments or in games comprising football - except for junior tournaments - and includes matches of the preliminary Olympic Football Tournament and the preliminary World Cup shall amount to 1%. (One percent)
 - This levy to OFC of 1% is in addition to the levies due to FIFA which are governed by Art. 10 of the FIFA Regulations governing the Application of the FIFA Statutes, or by the individual Regulations of the respective FIFA competitions.
2. If one team is from another confederation, the levy payable shall be 1/2% to OFC and 1/2% to the confederation concerned.
 - The levies due to the respective confederations in this case shall be paid to FIFA in addition to the 1% due to FIFA and FIFA will retrocede 1/2% to each of the confederations as per Art 10.4 (b) of the Regulations Governing the Application of the FIFA Statutes.
3. The amount shall be based on the gross receipts (ticket sales, advertising rights, rights for television and radio broadcasts, film and video rights and Government or other grants, etc) derived from matches subject to levies.
4. The only deductions that may be made from the gross income are state or local taxes actually paid (but not bank charges or differences in exchange rates) and any charges for the hire of the stadium. The total amount of the deductions shall not exceed 30% of the entire gross income.
5. In the case of the levy due to OFC, the Executive Committee shall have discretion to allow other deductions from the gross gate in addition to those named in the aforementioned para. 4 before calculating the OFC levy, and also to allow the total amount of the deductions to be greater than 30%.

Article 10: STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT

1. For each match subject to a levy, a detailed statement of account shall be drawn up by the National Association of the country in which the match has been played.
2. This statement shall contain all the requisite figures reflecting the entire income and any taxes or charges deducted there from
3. The statement of account and the amount due from the levy shall be sent to the Confederation within 60 days of the date the match was held.
4. Failure to conform to these requirements shall be penalised with one of the sanctions provided under the OFC Statutes.

Article 11: MINIMUM CONTRIBUTION

Whatever the financial outcome of the match, the minimum contribution to be paid to OFC is NZ\$250.

VI. MATCH AGENTS AND PLAYERS AGENTS

Article 12: MATCH AGENTS

1. Match agents may be employed to arrange matches
2. Match agents hired to organise match between teams from within OFC must be officially recognised by OFC and possess an agent's licence issued by OFC. The OFC Executive Committee shall draw up regulations governing the award of this licence.
3. Match agents hired to organise match between teams from different Confederations shall hold a FIFA Licence.
4. The body responsible for supervising and ruling on any matters connected with the application of the OFC Regulations governing match agents shall be the OFC Executive Committee.
5. OFC shall be entitled to intervene to enforce the agreements concluded between match agents and teams in the following cases:
 - (a) if the match or tournament at the source of the dispute involves teams from different National Associations within OFC; and
 - (b) if the match agent in question holds an OFC licence.
6. FIFA shall be entitled to intervene to enforce the agreements concluded between match agents and teams in the following cases:
 - (a) if the match or tournament at the source of the dispute involves teams from different Confederations; and
 - (b) if the match agent in question holds an OFC licence and FIFA licence.

Article 13: PLAYERS AGENT

Players may use the services of player's agent to negotiate transfers. Such players' agents must be in possession of a licence issued by FIFA to carry out this work.

VI. ELIGIBILITY TO PLAY FOR ASSOCIATION TEAMS

Article 14: PRINCIPLE

1. Any person holding the nationality of a country is eligible to play for the representative teams of the Association of his country. The Executive Committee shall decide on the conditions of eligibility for any Player whose nationality would entitle him to represent more than one Association.
2. As a general rule, any Player who has already represented one Association (either in full or in part) in an official competition of any category may not play an international match with another Association team.
3. If a Player has more than one nationality, or if a Player acquires a new nationality, or if the Player is eligible to play for several Association teams due to his nationality, the following exceptions apply:

(a) Up to his 21st birthday, a player may only once request changing the Association for which he is eligible to play international matches.

A Player may exercise this right to change Associations only if he has not played at "A" international level for his current Association and if at the time of his first full or partial appearance in an international match in an official competition of any other category, he already had such nationalities. Changing Associations is not permitted during the preliminary competition of a FIFA competition, continental championship or Olympic Tournaments if a player has already been fielded in a match of one of these competitions.

(b) Any Player who has already acquired eligibility to play for one Association but has another nationality imposed upon him by a government authority, is also entitled to change associations. This provision is not subject to any age limits.

4. Any Player who wishes to exercise this right to change Associations shall submit a written and substantiated request to the FIFA general secretariat. After submitting the request, the Player is no longer qualified to play for his current Association's team. The Players' Status Committee shall decide on the request. The committee's decision may be brought before the Appeal Committee. The Regulations for the Status and Transfer of Players contain more detailed provisions.
5. Any Players who have already had their 21st birthday at the time of implementation of these provisions and who fulfil the requirements in par. 3 (a) are also entitled to submit such a request to change Associations. This entitlement will expire definitively twelve months after implementation of this provision.

VII. LAWS OF THE GAME

Article 15: AMENDMENTS TO THE LAWS

1. FIFA shall notify its Members of any amendments and decisions regarding the Laws of the Game within one month of the ordinary annual meeting of IFAB.
2. The Members shall enforce these amendments and decisions no later than 1 July following IFAB's annual meeting. Exceptions may be granted only to Members whose football season has not terminated by this date.
3. Members may apply such amendments and decisions as soon as they have been issued by IFAB.

Article 6: SPEAKERS

1. Permission to speak is granted in the order in which it is requested. A speaker may not start speaking until he has obtained permission to do so. Speakers shall address the Congress from the rostrum intended for this purpose.
2. A speaker may not speak for a second time on the same item until all other delegates who have requested permission to speak have spoken.

Article 7: PROPOSALS

1. All proposals shall be submitted in writing. Proposals which are not relevant to the subject under discussion shall not be admitted to the debate.
2. Any amendment shall be drawn up in writing and passed to the chair before being put to the debate.

Article 8: PROCEDURAL MOTIONS AND CLOSING OF DEBATES

1. If a procedural motion is made, discussion on the main question shall be suspended until a vote has been taken on the motion.
2. If a motion is made to close the discussion, it shall immediately be put to the vote without debate. If the motion is approved, permission to speak shall only be granted to those Members who have asked to speak before the vote was taken.
3. The chair shall close the discussion unless the Congress decides otherwise by a simple majority of those voting.

Article 9: VOTES

1. Voting by secret ballot is prohibited.
2. Before each vote, the chair, or the person designated by him, shall read the text of the proposal aloud and explain the voting procedure (quorum) to the Congress. If an objection is raised, the Congress shall decide immediately.
3. Votes may be taken by roll call if requested by at least 5 of the Members present and entitled to vote.
4. No-one is compelled to vote.
5. As a rule, votes are taken by a show of hands (voting cards) or by the use of electronic equipment.
6. Proposals shall be put to the vote in the order in which they are submitted. If there are more than two main proposals, they shall be put to the vote in succession and the delegates may not vote for more than one of the proposals.
7. Alterations to amendments shall be put to the vote before the amendments proper, and amendments before the main proposal.
8. Proposals without a vote against are regarded as having been passed.
9. The chair shall check the results of the vote and announce it to the Congress.
10. No-one is permitted to speak during the vote and until after the result has been announced.

Article 10: ELECTIONS

1. Elections shall be carried out with ballot papers by secret ballot. The General Secretary, assisted by the scrutineers, shall conduct the distribution and counting of the ballot papers.
2. The number of ballot papers that have been distributed shall be announced by the chair before the count.
3. If the number of ballot papers returned is equal to or less than the number of ballot papers distributed, the election shall be declared valid. If the number returned exceeds that of the ballot papers distributed, the vote shall be declared null and void and another vote shall be taken immediately.

4. The absolute majority shall be calculated on the basis of the number of valid ballot papers collected. Empty ballot papers or invalid votes are disregarded. If two or more votes are given in support of one candidate on one ballot paper, only one vote shall be valid.
5. The chair shall announce the result of each ballot.
6. The General Secretary shall put the ballot papers that have been collected and counted into envelopes intended for this purpose and seal them immediately. The general secretariat shall keep these envelopes and destroy them 60 days after the end of the Congress.

Article 11: ENFORCEMENT

These Standing Orders of the Congress were adopted by the Extraordinary Congress in Paris on 19 May 2004 and will come into force on 1 June 2004.

FOR THE OFC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President

General Secretary

SIGNED By the Representatives of at least three members:

