



MAURITIUS FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

BY - LAWS

REGIONAL FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

ARTICLE 1 RESPONSIBILITIES AND DUTIES

- 1.1 The RFA pursues the following particular responsibilities:
 - 1.1.1 ensure compliance with rules of the MFA, CAF and FIFA, and prevent the introduction of improper methods of practices in football and protect it from abuses
 - 1.1.2 ensure that football is played under the laws prescribed by the International Football Association Board and promulgated by FIFA
 - 1.1.3 evolve, in collaboration with the MFA, and ensure the implementation of, a yearly programme of activities in respect of football and carry out a qualitative and quantitative evaluation for a continuously improvement
 - 1.1.4 participate in the setting up of installations and equipment required for the development of football in their regions
 - 1.1.5 participate in organisation of courses on club management, refereeing, sports medicine and coaching courses
 - 1.1.6 manage the day-to-day business of the RFA and implement the decisions of the RFA Assembly and those of the MFA.

ARTICLE 2 MEMBERSHIP

- 2.1 The RFA shall consist of sports clubs practising football at Regional Level and duly registered under the Registrar of Associations Act
- 2.2 Every member shall pay to the RFA on or before the 31st August of each year, such affiliation fee as may be determined by the RFA, in consultation with the MFA
- 2.3 Licence/Insurance fees, participation and transfer fees will be included in the Rules of Competition
- 2.4 A member which fails to pay the membership fee on the date specified in (2.2) above shall forfeit its right to vote

ARTICLE 3 PROCEDURES FOR APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

- 3.1 Application for membership shall be made in writing to the General Secretary of the MFA, and it shall be referred to the RFA concerned. The latter shall have the power to accept or reject the application at the next Annual Regional General Assembly.

3.2 The application must be accompanied by:

- 3.2.1 A copy of the applicant's rules
- 3.2.2 A copy of the applicant's registration certificate from the Registrar of Associations
- 3.2.3 A list of officers, specifying those who are authorised signatories with the right to enter into legally binding agreements with third parties.
- 3.2.4 A declaration to the effect that it agrees to be bound by the MFA, CAF and FIFA rules, and directives in their current form, and subject to later changes, as well as by the decisions of MFA, CAF, FIFA and the Regional Football Association with which it will be enrolled
- 3.2.4 A declaration to the effect that the applicant undertakes to ensure that these are respected by its own members and by any person (player or official) with whom it has a contract
- 3.2.5 A declaration to the effect that it undertakes to organise or participate in international friendly matches and non – RFA tournaments only with the prior consent of the RFA
- 3.2.6 A copy of minutes of its latest General Assembly or constitutional meeting of the proposed applicant club relating to the application for membership
- 3.2.7 A declaration that it recognises the Arbitration Tribunal of the MFA and the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) in Lausanne, as specified in this by - laws and the MFA Statutes and that it shall not bring any case against the MFA or members of the MFA before the ordinary courts.

ARTICLE 4 MEMBERS' RIGHTS

- 4.1 The Members of the RFA have the following rights:
- 4.1.1 to take part in the General Assembly of the RFA, to know its agenda in advance, to be called to the General Assembly within the prescribed time and to exercise their voting rights;
 - 4.1.2 to draw up proposals for inclusion in the agenda of the General Assembly;
 - 4.1.3 to nominate candidates for all bodies of the RFA to be elected;
 - 4.1.4 to be informed of the affairs of the RFA through the official bodies of the RFA;
 - 4.1.5 to take part in competitions and/or other sports activities organised by the RFA;
 - 4.1.6 to exercise all other rights arising from the by – laws of the RFA.
- 4.2 The exercise of these rights is subject to other provisions in these by – laws and applicable regulations.

ARTICLE 5 MEMBERS' OBLIGATIONS

- 5.1 The Members of the RFA have the following obligations:
- 5.1.1 to comply fully with the RFA By-Laws, directives and decisions of FIFA, CAF and the MFA at all times and to ensure that these are also respected by its members;
 - 5.1.2 to ensure the election of its decision-making bodies;
 - 5.1.3 to take part in competitions and other sports activities organised by the RFA;

- 5.1.4 to pay their membership subscriptions;
- 5.1.5 to respect the Laws of the Game as laid down by IFAB and to ensure that these are also respected by its members through a statutory provision;
- 5.1.6 to adopt a statutory clause specifying that any dispute requiring arbitration involving itself or one of its members and relating to the Statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of FIFA, CAF, the MFA or the League(s) shall come solely under the jurisdiction of the appropriate Arbitration Tribunal of FIFA, CAF or the MFA and that any recourse to Ordinary Courts is prohibited;
- 5.1.7 to communicate to the RFA any amendment of its statutes and regulations as well as the list of its office bearers and persons who are authorised signatories with the right to enter into legally binding agreements with third parties;
- 5.1.8 not to maintain any relations of a sporting nature with entities that are not recognised or with Members that have been suspended or expelled;
- 5.1.9 To observe the principles of loyalty, integrity and good sporting behaviour as an expression of fair play through a statutory provision;
- 5.1.10 to observe the mandatory items specified under article 3 paragraph 3 for the duration of their affiliation;
- 5.1.11 to administer a register of members which shall regularly be updated;
- 5.1.12 to comply fully with all other duties arising from the Statutes and other regulations of FIFA, CAF and the MFA.
- 5.1.13 Violation of the above-mentioned obligations by any Member may lead to sanctions provided for in these by - laws

ARTICLE 4 DECISION ON AFFILIATION

- 4.1 The Regional Annual General Assembly of the respective Regional Football Committee has the sole right to decide on the affiliation of a member. The Regional football Association reserves the right to reject any application without having to give any reason.

ARTICLE 5 ADMISSION, SUSPENSION AND EXPULSION

- 5.1 The Regional General Assembly shall decide whether to admit, suspend or expel a Member.
- 5.2 Admission may be granted if the applicant fulfils the requirements of the MFA
- 5.3 Membership is terminated by resignation or expulsion. Loss of membership does not relieve the Member from its financial obligations towards the MFA or other Members of the MFA, but leads to cancellation of all rights in relation to the MFA.

ARTICLE 6 SUSPENSION

- 6.1 The Regional General Assembly is responsible for suspending a Member. The Regional Managing Committee may, however, suspend a Member that seriously violates its obligations as a Member with immediate effect. The suspension shall last until the next Regional General Assembly, unless the Regional Managing Committee has lifted it in the meantime.
- 6.2 A suspension shall be confirmed at the next Regional General Assembly by 2/ 3 of the votes taken. If it is not confirmed, the suspension is automatically lifted.

6.3 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.

6.4 Members that do not participate in the sports activities of the RFA for two consecutive years shall be suspended from voting at the Regional General Assembly and their representatives shall not be eligible for any election or appointment until they have fulfilled their obligations in this respect.

ARTICLE 7 EXPULSION

7.1 The Regional General Assembly may expel a Member if:

- (a) It fails to fulfill its financial obligations towards the MFA
- (b) It seriously violates the Statutes, regulations, directives or decisions of FIFA, CAF and the MFA

7.2 The presence of 2/3 of Members entitled to vote at the Regional General Assembly is necessary for an expulsion to be valid, and the motion for expulsion must be adopted by a three-quarter majority of the valid votes cast.

ARTICLE 8 NEUTRALITY AND NON DISCRIMINATION

8.1 The RFA is neutral in matters of politics and religion.

8.2 Discrimination of any kind against a country, private person or group 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 9 DEFINITION AND COMPOSITION OF THE REGIONAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY

9.1 The Regional General Assembly is the meeting at which all of the Members of the RFA are regularly convened. It represents the supreme and legislative authority of the RFA. Only a Regional General Assembly that is regularly convened has the authority to make decisions.

9.2 A Regional General Assembly may be Annual or Extraordinary

9.3 The President shall conduct the Regional General Assembly business in compliance with the standing orders of the Regional General Assembly

9.4 The Regional General Assembly may appoint observers who may attend the Regional General Assembly without the right to debate or to vote.

ARTICLE 10 DELEGATES AND VOTES

10.1 The Regional General Assembly shall compose of the number of delegates depending on the number of the members registered clubs.

- 10.2 Delegates must belong to the Member that they represent and be appointed or elected by the appropriate body of that Member. They must also be able to produce evidence of this upon request.
- 10.3 Only a member who has been in his club for a minimum of two years shall be able to represent the club as delegate at the RFA
- 10.4 Only the delegates present are entitled to vote. Voting by proxy or by letter is not permitted.
- 10.5 The Regional Managing Committee shall take part in the Regional General Assembly without voting rights. During their terms of office, members of the Regional Managing Committee shall not be appointed as delegates for their clubs.

ARTICLE 11 AREAS OF AUTHORITY

The Regional General Assembly has the following authority :

- (a) adopting or amending with the consent of the MFA the by - laws, regulations governing the application of the Statutes and the standing orders of the Regional General Assembly.
- (b) appointing 3 Members to check the minutes and approving the minutes of the last Regional General Assembly
- (c) electing the members of the Regional Managing Committee
- (d) approving the financial statements
- (e) approving the budget
- (f) approving the President’s activity report
- (g) appointing the independent auditors upon the proposal of the Regional Managing Committee
- (h) fixing the membership subscriptions, as per article 2.2
- (i) deciding, upon the nomination of the Regional Managing Committee, whether to bestow the title of honorary president or honorary member
- (j) admitting, suspending or expelling a Member
- (k) revoking the mandate of one or a number of members of a body of the RFA
- (l) dissolving the RFA, with the prior approval of MFA
- (m) passing decisions at the request of a Member in accordance with these by - laws

ARTICLE 12 QUORUM OF THE REGIONAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY

- 12.1 Decisions passed by the Regional General Assembly shall only be valid if the absolute majority (50% + 1) of the Members who are entitled to vote are represented.
- 12.2 If a quorum is not achieved, a second Regional General Assembly shall take place 14 days after the first, with the same agenda.
- 12.3 A quorum is not required for the second meeting unless any item on the agenda proposes the amendment of the by – laws of the RFA, the election of the President and election of the vice – presidents and members of the Regional Managing Committee, the dismissal of one or a number of members of a body of RFA, the expulsion of a Member of the RFA or the dissolution of the RFA.

ARTICLE 13 DECISIONS OF THE REGIONAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY

- 13.1 Unless otherwise stipulated in the by - laws, a simple majority (50% + 1 of the valid votes) is sufficient for a vote to be valid. Spoiled or blank voting slips or any other forms of abstentions are disregarded in calculating the majority.
- 13.2 Decisions shall be taken by a show of hands unless a simple majority (50% + 1) of the official voting delegates request a secret ballot. If a show of hands does not result in a clear majority of a motion, the vote shall be taken by calling the roll in alphabetical order.
- 13.3 The Regional General Assembly shall not take a decision on any point not included on the agenda.
- 13.4 The members shall exercise their voting rights through their official delegates.
- 13.5 In the event of tied votes, the President shall have the casting vote. (Except for election of members)

ARTICLE 14 ELECTIONS

- 14.1 Elections shall be conducted by secret ballot.
- 14.2 For a person to be elected a simple majority (50%+1) of the votes recorded and valid is necessary in the first ballot.
- 14.3 As from the first ballot, if none of the candidates obtained the required majority, the candidate/s who obtained less than 10% of the votes recorded and valid are eliminated and additional ballots shall take place, with this system until a candidate obtains the majority. In the event none of the candidates obtained less than 10% following a ballot, the candidate who obtained the lowest number of votes will be automatically eliminated.
- 14.4 Should all candidates except one obtained less than 10% but with the candidate above 10% obtaining less than the absolute majority, only the candidate who obtained the lowest number of votes will be eliminated and all the others will remain for an additional ballot until a candidate obtains the absolute majority.

ARTICLE 15 ANNUAL REGIONAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The Annual Regional General Assembly shall be held every year at latest three months after the closing of the financial year of the Association.

The Regional Managing Committee shall fix the place and date. The Members shall be notified in writing at least one month in advance.

The formal convocation shall be made in writing at least one week before the date of the Regional General Assembly. This convocation shall contain the agenda, the President's activity report, the financial statements and the auditors' report and any other relevant documents.

ARTICLE 16 ANNUAL REGIONAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY AGENDA

16.1 The Secretary shall draw up the agenda based on proposals from the Regional Managing Committee and the Members. Any proposal that a Member wishes to submit to the Regional General Assembly shall be sent to the Secretary in writing, with a brief explanation, at least two weeks before the date of the Regional General Assembly.

16.2 The Regional General Assembly agenda shall include the following mandatory items :

- (a) A declaration that the Regional General Assembly has been convened and composed in compliance with the by – laws of the RFA
- (b) Approval of the agenda
- (c) An address by the President
- (d) Appointment of Members to check the minutes
- (e) Suspension or expulsion of Members (if applicable)
- (f) Approval of the minutes of the preceding Regional General Assembly
- (g) President's activity report (containing the activities since the last Regional General Assembly)
- (h) Presentation of the balance sheet and the profit and loss statement
- (i) Approval of the financial statements
- (j) Approval of the budget
- (k) Admission for membership (if applicable)
- (l) Votes on proposals for amendments to the by - laws, in accordance to Article 2.2, the regulations governing the application of the by – laws and the standing orders of the Regional General Assembly (if applicable)
- (m) Discussion of proposals submitted by the Members and the Regional Managing Committee in compliance with the procedure set forth in 16. 1
- (n) Appointment of independent auditors (if applicable) upon the proposal of the Regional Managing Committee
- (o) Dismissal of a person or a body (if applicable)
- (p) Election of the President , vice presidents and members of the Regional Managing Committee (if applicable)

16.3 The agenda of an Annual Regional General Assembly may be altered, provided 2/3 of the members present at the Regional General Assembly and eligible to vote agree to such a motion.

ARTICLE 17 EXTRAORDINARY REGIONAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY

17.1 The Regional Managing Committee may convene an Extraordinary Regional General Assembly at any time.

- 17.2 The Regional Managing Committee shall convene an Extraordinary Regional General Assembly if 50% of the Members of the RFA make such a request in writing. The request shall specify the items for the agenda. An Extraordinary Regional General Assembly shall be held within 21 days of receipt of the request. If an Extraordinary Regional General Assembly is not convened, the Members who requested it may convene the Extraordinary Regional General Assembly themselves. As a last resort, the Members may request assistance from MFA.
- 17.3 The Members shall be notified of the place, date and agenda at least 7 days before the date of an Extraordinary Regional General Assembly
- 17.4 When an Extraordinary Regional General Assembly is convened on the initiative of the Regional Managing Committee, it must draw up the agenda. When an Extraordinary Regional General Assembly is convened upon the request of Members, the agenda must contain the points raised by those Members.
- 17.5 The agenda of an Extraordinary Regional General Assembly may not be altered.

ARTICLE 18 AMENDMENTS TO THE BY - LAWS, REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE APPLICATION OF THE BY – LAWS AND THE STANDING ORDERS OF THE REGIONAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY

- 18.1 The Regional General Assembly is responsible for amending the by - laws, the regulations governing the application of the by-laws, the regulations governing the application of the by-laws and the standing orders of the Regional General Assembly, provided the approval of the MFA has been obtained.
- 18.2 Any proposals for any amendments to the by – laws must be submitted in writing with a brief explanation to the Secretary by a Member. A proposal submitted by a Member is valid, provided it has been supported in writing by at least 1/3 of the Members.
- 18.3 For a vote on an amendment to the by-laws to be valid, an absolute majority (50%+1) of the Members eligible to vote must be present.
- 18.4 A proposal for an amendment to the by-laws shall be adopted only if 2/3 of the Members present and eligible to vote agree to it.
- 18.5 Any proposal to amend the regulations governing the application of the by-laws and the standing orders of the Regional General Assembly must be submitted in writing with a brief explanation to the Secretary by a Member
- 18.6 A proposal for an amendment to the regulations governing the application of the by-laws and the standing orders of the Regional General Assembly shall be adopted only if a simple majority of the Members present and eligible to vote agree to it.

ARTICLE 19 MINUTES

The Secretary shall be responsible for recording the minutes at the Regional General Assembly. The minutes shall be checked by those Members designated and finally approved at the next Regional General Assembly.

ARTICLE 20 EFFECTIVE DATES OF DECISIONS

20.1 Decisions passed by the Regional General Assembly shall come into effect for the Members the day after the close of the Regional General Assembly, unless the Regional General Assembly fixes another date for a decision to take effect.

ARTICLE 21 CONDUCT OF THE REGIONAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY

21.1 The Regional General Assembly shall be chaired by the President of the Regional Managing Committee, or if the President is absent or unable to attend, by the first Vice President. If the latter is also absent or unable to attend, it is chaired by the second or third Vice President, and as a last resort by a member designated by those present.

21.2 The President is responsible for ensuring that the meeting is properly conducted. The minutes of the meeting must be recorded by the Secretary of the RFA.

Article 22 REGIONAL MANAGING COMMITTEE – COMPOSITION

22.1 The Regional Managing Committee shall consist of 13 members :

- * 1 President
- * 1st Vice President
- * 2nd Vice President
- * 3rd Vice President
- * 1 Secretary
- * 1 Assistant Secretary
- * 1 Treasurer
- * 1 Assistant Treasurer
- * 5 Members

22.2 The Regional Managing Committee shall elect among themselves the President, the first Vice Present, the 2nd Vice President, the 3rd Vice President, the Secretary, the Assistant Secretary, the Treasurer, the Assistant Treasurer

22.3 The 13 members of the Regional Managing Committee shall be elected by the Regional General Assembly

22.4 The elected Regional Managing Committee of each region shall elect amongst themselves one representative to the National General Assembly. The mandate shall be for a period of four years, unless in case of incapacity or resignation.

22.5 The mandate of the members of the Regional Managing Committee is for four years which shall begin after the end of the Regional General Assembly that has elected them. They may be re-elected.

22.6 The members of the Regional Managing Committee shall be no younger than 18. They shall have already been active in football at Managerial level for at least 2 years and must not have been previously found guilty of a criminal offence and must be a citizen of the territory of the Republic of Mauritius.

22.7 Candidatures must be sent to the Secretary of the RFA. The Members of the RFA shall be provided with the official list of candidates, along with the agenda for the Regional General Assembly at which the Regional Managing Committee will be elected.

- 22.8 A member of the Regional Managing Committee may not at the same time be a member of a judicial body of the RFA.
- 22.9 If less than 50% of the positions at the Regional Managing Committee should become vacant, the Regional Managing Committee itself shall fill that / these position(s) until the next Annual Regional General Assembly, when a replacement will be elected for the remaining term of mandate.
- 22.10 If 50% or more of the positions at the Regional Managing Committee should become vacant, the MFA General Secretary shall convene an Extraordinary Regional General Assembly one month from the day of the last resignation at the latest in order to elect all the members of the Regional Managing Committee for the remainder of the term of office.

Article 23 Meetings

- 23.1 The Regional Managing Committee shall meet at least once a month
- 23.2 The President shall convene the Regional Managing meetings. If 50% of the Regional Managing Committee members request a meeting, the President shall convene it within 7 days. In case of non-compliance, the Secretary shall convene the meeting within 3 days.
- 23.3 The President shall compile the agenda. Each member of the Regional Managing Committee is entitled to propose items for inclusion in the agenda. The members of the Regional Managing Committee must submit the points they wish to be included in the agenda for the meeting to the Secretary at least 7 days before the meeting. The agenda must be sent out to the members of the Regional Managing Committee at least 4 days before the meeting.
- 23.4 The General Secretary may take part in the meetings of the Regional Managing Committee in a consultative role.
- 23.5 The meeting of the Regional Managing Committee shall not be held in public. The Regional Managing Committee may, however, invite third parties to attend. Those third parties shall not have voting rights, and may only express an opinion with the permission of the Regional Managing Committee.

Article 24 Powers of the Regional Managing Committee

- 24.1 The Regional Managing Committee
 - (a) shall pass decisions on all cases that do not come within the sphere of responsibility of the Regional General Assembly or are not reserved for other bodies by law or under these by-laws.
 - (b) shall prepare and convene the Annual and Extraordinary Regional General Assemblies of the RFA
 - (c) shall appoint the chairmen, deputy chairmen and members of the standing committees
 - (d) shall appoint the chairmen, deputy chairmen and members of the judicial bodies
 - (e) may decide to set up ad-hoc committees if necessary at any time
 - (f) shall compile the regulations for the organization of standing committees and ad-hoc committees

- (g) shall propose the independent auditors to the Regional General Assembly
- (h) shall decide the place and dates of and the number of teams participating in the competitions of the RFA
- (i) shall approve regulations stipulating how the RFA shall be organised internally
- (j) shall ensure that the by-laws are applied and adopt the executive arrangements required for their application
- (k) may dismiss a person or body or suspend a Member of the RFA provisionally until the next Regional General Assembly
- (l) may delegates tasks arising out of its area of authority to other bodies of the RFA or third parties

Article 25 Decisions

- 25.1 The Regional Managing Committee shall not engage in valid debate unless an absolute majority (50%+1) of its members are present
- 25.2 The Regional Managing Committee shall reach decisions by a simple majority of the members present. In the event of a tied vote, the President shall have the casting vote. Voting by proxy or by letter is not permitted.
- 25.3 Any member of the Regional Managing Committee must withdraw from the debate and from taking a decision if there is any risk or possibility of a conflict of interests.
- 25.4 The decisions taken shall be recorded in the minutes
- 25.5 The decisions taken by the Regional Managing Committee shall come into effect immediately, unless the Regional Managing Committee decides otherwise.

Article 26 Dismissal of a person or body

- 26.1 The Regional General Assembly may dismiss a person or body. The Regional Managing Committee may place the dismissal of a person or body on the agenda for the Regional General Assembly. The Regional Managing Committee may also dismiss a person or body provisionally. Any Regional Managing Committee member may submit a proposal to place such a motion for dismissal on the agenda of the Regional Managing Committee or Regional General Assembly.
- 26.2 The motion for dismissal must be justified. It will be sent to the Members of the RFA along with the agenda.
- 26.3 The person or body in question has the right to speak in his or its own defence.
- 26.4 If the motion for dismissal is upheld, the Regional General Assembly or Regional Committee shall reach a decision by means of secret ballot. For the motion to be passed, a majority of two-thirds of the valid votes is required.
- 26.5 The person or body dismissed (provisionally) must be relieved of his or its functions with immediate effect.

ARTICLE 27 THE PRESIDENT

27.1 The President shall:

27.1.1 Preside over the Regional General Assembly and the Regional Managing Committee

27.1.2 Convene the Managing committee or the General assembly anytime he considers it necessary

27.1.3 Deliver a report annually to the General Assembly on the activities of the RFA during the year

27.1.4 Countersign the cheques signed by the Treasurer and the Secretary

27.1.5 See to it that the by-laws of the Association are complied with

27.1.6 Be responsible for the proper running of the RFA

27.1.7 have an ordinary vote on the Regional Managing Committee and, whenever votes are equal, shall have a casting vote

27.1.8 notify the MFA of any change effected to the membership of the Managing Committee within 2 weeks of the date of the change

27.2 The President is absent or unavailable, the appropriate vice president shall deputise.

ARTICLE 28 THE VICE PRESIDENTS

The vice President shall exercise all the rights and prerogatives of the President in any case and on any occasion when the president is unable to act.

ARTICLE 29 THE SECRETARY

1. The Secretary shall :

(a) Be responsible for the minute of all meetings of the RFA

(b) Prepare the agenda of the Managing committee, the General assembly , notify the member clubs and convene them to all meetings

(c) Be in charge of all documents of the RFA, specifically that the following be retained for a period of not less than 5 years after the last date to which they relate or after their date of origin:

- (i) All books, statement of accounts and auditors' reports;
 - (ii) All registers of members and member clubs, and all records of money paid by member clubs
 - (iii) All minutes of meetings, vouchers, receipts, correspondence and other documents relating to the affairs of the RFA
- (d) Be responsible for all correspondence, the drafting, posting and circulation of all notices and administrative rules and regulations
- (e) Keep up to date registers of member clubs of the RFA
- (f) Draw up at the end of each financial year an inventory of all equipment owned by the RFA and submit to the Auditors
- (g) Ensure that all books and documents of the RFA and the registers of member clubs are available for inspection by the General Secretary of the MFA or a member club or representative of a member club
- (h) Not later than the 30 September, forward to the General Secretary of the MFA a return containing:
- (i) The audited final accounts and balance sheet together with a declaration specifying that they have been approved at the Annual General Assembly
 - (ii) A statement of the names and postal addresses of the members of the Managing committee
 - (iii) A return of the membership of the RFA as on the 30th June of the preceding year
- (i) Within 14 days of any change among the Officers of the RFA, give written notice of the change to the General Secretary of the MFA

ARTICLE 30 THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY

The Assistant Secretary shall assist the Secretary and replace him whenever necessary and assume the same rights and privileges as the latter.

ARTICLE 31 THE TREASURER

The Treasurer shall:

- (a) Be in charge of the finance of the RFA and shall be responsible for all cash

- (b) Be in charge of any bank account/s and effect all payments of the RFA – any payment in excess of one hundred rupees shall be made by cheque signed by the President, the Secretary and the Treasurer
- (c) Obtain vouchers for all payments made
- (d) Keep all the books of accounts
- (e) Produce the books of accounts for examination periodically by the Auditors who shall have the right to compel him by written request to the Managing Committee to submit the books for auditing purposes
- (f) Draw up, once a year and at latest by the 31st July, an income and expenditure account for the year just ended and a balance sheet as at the 30th June which shall be certified by the Auditors and submitted to the General Assembly for approval
- (g) Draw up a draft budget for the next financial year
- (h) Cause to be paid in Bank all sums of money received and shall only keep a sum not exceeding two thousand five hundred rupees for petty expenses
- (i) Not be and employee, partner or shareholder of the party which shall be appointed as Auditors of the RFA

ARTICLE 32 THE ASSISTANT TREASURER

The Assistant Treasurer shall replace the Treasurer when necessary and shall assume the same right and privileges as the latter.

ARTICLE 33 AUDITORS

- 32.1 The Books, Inventory, Balance Sheet and all accounts of the RFA shall be examined periodically, at least once a year and not later than 2 months after accounting date, by two auditors, appointed for one year by the General Assembly
- 32.2 The Auditors shall produce the certificate and, if need be, a report on the finance of the RFA. They can be appointed anew and can be revoked and replaced by a decision of the General Assembly

ARTICLE 34 JUDICIAL BODY

34.1 The judicial body of the RFA is:

- (a) The Disciplinary Committee
- (b) The Appeal Committee

34.2 The responsibilities and functions of these bodies shall be stipulated in the Disciplinary Code of the MFA, which shall comply with the FIFA Disciplinary Code.

34.3 The decision – making powers of other committees remain unaffected.

34.4 The members of the judicial bodies shall not belong to any other body of the RFA at the same time.

ARTICLE 35 THE DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE

35.1 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.

35.2 The function of this body shall be governed by the Disciplinary Code of the MFA. The Committee shall pass decisions only when at least three members are present. In certain cases, the Chairman may rule alone in accordance with the Disciplinary Code of the MFA.

35.3 The Committee may pronounce the sanctions described in these by-laws and the Disciplinary Code of the MFA on Members, Officials, Players, Clubs and match and players' agents.

35.4 These provisions are subject to the disciplinary powers of the Regional General Assembly and the Regional Managing Committee with regard to the suspension and expulsion of Members.

ARTICLE 36 DISCIPLINARY MEASURES

36.1 The disciplinary measures are primarily:

36.1.1 For natural and legal persons

- (a) A warning
- (b) A reprimand
- (c) A fine
- (d) The return of awards

36.1.2 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

36.1.3 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 the match
- (f) Expulsion
- (g) A forfeit
- (h) Deduction of points
- (i) Relegation to a lower division

ARTICLE 37 APPEAL BODY

The Appeal Committee of the MFA is responsible for hearing appeals against decisions from the Disciplinary Committee of the RFA.

ARTICLE 38 FINANCIAL PERIOD

The financial period of the RFA shall be one year and shall begin on 1 July and end on 30 June. The revenue and expenses of the RFA shall be managed so that they balance out over the financial period. The RFA's major duties in the future shall be guaranteed through the creation of reserves.

ARTICLE 39 REVENUE

39.1 The revenue of the RFA arises specifically from:

- 39.1.1 Member's annual subscriptions
- 39.1.2 Receipts generated by the marketing of rights to which the RFA is entitled
- 39.1.3 Fines imposed by the authorized bodies
- 39.1.4 Other subscriptions and receipts in keeping with the objectives pursued by the RFA

ARTICLE 40 EXPENSES

40.1 The Regional Football Association bears:

40.1.1 The expenses stipulated in the budget

40.1.2 Other expenses approved by the Regional General Assembly and expenses that the Regional Managing Committee is entitled to incur within the scope of its authority

40.1.3 All other expenses in keeping with the objectives pursued by the RFA

ARTICLE 41 ACCOUNTING PRINCIPLES

The accounts shall be kept in accordance with the appropriate principles of accounting.

ARTICLE 42 ORGANISATION OF COMPETITIONS

42.1 The RFA is authorized to organize and coordinate official competitions held within its territory, and organises the following competitions, amongst others:

- 42.1.1 The Regional First division league
- 42.1.2 The Regional Second division league
- 42.1.3 The Regional Third division league
- 42.1.4 The Republic Cup
- 42.1.5 The RFA Cup
- 42.1.6 The Women’s Regional Football Competition

ARTICLE 43 DISMISSAL

43.1 The Regional Managing Committee may bring a motion for the dismissal of a member or any person related thereto to the Regional General Assembly.

43.2 Upon dismissal the aggrieved party shall be given a right of appeal on terms similar to what is provided

ARTICLE 44 SIGNATURE AND AUTHENTICATION OF DOCUMENTS

44.1 The President, the Treasurer and the Secretary shall sign all legal and financial documents

44.2 In case of absence or incapacity of the above – named, they shall be replaced by one of the three Vice Presidents, the Assistant Treasurer and the Assistant Secretary respectively.