

# Mauritius Football Association



# MFA DISCIPLINARY CODE

**PRELIMINARY TITLE**

- 6 1 – Object
- 6 2 – Scope of application: substantive law
- 6 3 – Scope of application: natural and legal persons
- 6 4 – Scope of application: time
- 6 5 – Definitions
- 6 6 – Gender and number

**FIRST TITLE. SUBSTANTIVE LAW**

**CHAPTER I. GENERAL PART**

**13 Section 1. Conditions for sanctions**

- 7 7 – Culpability
- 7 8 – Acts amounting to attempt
- 7 9 – Involvement

**14 Section 2. Disciplinary measures**

- 7 10 – Sanctions common to natural and legal persons
- 7 11 – Sanctions applicable to natural persons
- 8 12 – Sanctions applicable to legal persons
- 8 13 – Warning
- 8 14 – Reprimand
- 8 15 – Fine
- 8 16 – Return of awards
- 8 17 – Caution
- 9 18 – Expulsion
- 9 19 – Match suspension
- 9 20 – Ban from dressing rooms and/or substitutes' bench
- 10 21 – Stadium ban
- 10 22 – Ban on taking part in any football-related activity
- 10 23 – Transfer ban
- 10 24 – Playing a match without spectators
- 10 25 – Playing a match on neutral ground
- 10 26 – Ban on playing in a particular stadium
- 10 27 – Annulment of the result of a match
- 10 28 – Expulsion from a competition
- 10 29 – Relegation to a lower division
- 10 30 – Deduction of points
- 10 31 – Forfeit
- 11 31bis – Replay of a match

**21 Section 3. Common rules**

- 11 32 – Combined sanctions
- 11 33 – Partial suspension of implementation of sanctions
- 11 34 – Time sanctions: calculation of time limit
- 11 35 – Centralisation of sanctions

**24 Section 4. Carrying over and cancelling cautions and match suspensions**

- 12 36 – Carrying over cautions
- 12 37 – Cancellation of cautions
- 12 38 – Carrying over match suspensions

**26 Section 5. Determining the sanction**

- 13 39 – General rule
- 13 40 – Repeated infringements
- 13 41 – Concurrent infringements

**27 Section 6. Limitation period**

- 13 42 – Limitation period for prosecution
- 13 43 – Commencement of the limitation period
- 14 44 – Interruption
- 14 45 – Limitation period for the enforcement of sanctions

## CHAPTER II. SPECIAL PART

### Page Article

- 29 **Section 1.** Infringements of the Laws of the Game  
14 46 – Minor infringements  
14 47 – Serious infringements
- 30 **Section 2.** Disorderliness at matches and competitions  
15 48 – Misconduct against opponents or persons other than match  
15 49 – Misconduct against match officials  
15 50 – Brawl  
15 51 – Unidentified aggressors  
16 52 – Team misconduct  
16 53 – Inciting hatred and violence  
16 54 – Provoking the general public  
16 55 – Ineligibility  
16 56 – Unplayed match and abandonment
- 33 **Section 3.** Offensive and discriminatory behaviour  
17 57 – Offensive behaviour and fair play  
17 58 – Discrimination
- 34 **Section 4.** Infringements of personal freedom  
17 59 – Threats  
17 60 – Coercion
- 35 **Section 5.** Forgery and falsification  
17 61 – [only]
- 36 **Section 6.** Corruption  
18 62 – [only]
- 37 **Section 7.** Doping  
18 63 – Definition
- 37 **Section 8.** Failure to respect decisions  
18 64 – [only]
- 39 **Section 9.** Responsibilities of clubs and associations  
19 65 – Organisation of matches  
19 66 – Failure to comply  
19 67 – Liability for spectator conduct  
20 68 – Other obligations
- 41 **Section 10.** Unlawfully influencing match results  
20 69 – [only]

## SECOND TITLE. ORGANISATION AND PROCEDURE

### CHAPTER I. ORGANISATION

- 42 **Section 1.** Jurisdiction of FIFA, associations, confederations and other organisations  
20 70 – General rule  
20 71 – Friendly matches between two representative teams
- 43 **Section 2.** Authorities  
21 72 – Referee  
21 73 – Judicial bodies  
21 74 – Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS)  
21 75 – FIFA Medical Committee
- 44 **Section 3.** Disciplinary Committee  
21 76 – General jurisdiction  
21 77 – Specific jurisdiction  
21 78 – Jurisdiction of the chairman ruling alone

## **Page Article**

- 45 **Section 4.** Appeal Committee
  - 22 79 – Jurisdiction
  - 22 80 – Jurisdiction of the chairman ruling alone
- 46 **Section 5.** Common rules for the judicial bodies
  - 22 81 – Composition
  - 22 82 – Meetings
  - 23 83 – Chairman
  - 23 84 – Secretariat
  - 23 85 – Independence
  - 23 86 – Incompatibility of office
  - 23 87 – Withdrawal
  - 23 88 – Confidentiality
  - 24 89 – Exemption from liability

## **CHAPTER II. PROCEDURE**

- 50 **Section 1.** General rules
  - 24 **Subsection 1.** Time limits
    - 24 90 – Calculation
    - 24 91 – Compliance
    - 24 92 – Suspension
    - 24 93 – Extension
  - 52 **Subsection 2.** Right to be heard
    - 25 94 – Contents
    - 25 95 – Restrictions
  - 53 **Subsection 3.** Proof
    - 25 96 – Various types of proof
    - 25 97 – Evaluation of proof
    - 26 98 – Match officials' reports
    - 26 99 – Burden of proof
  - 54 **Subsection 4.** Representation and assistance
    - 26 100 – [only]
  - 55 **Subsection 5.** Language used in proceedings
    - 26 101 – [only]
  - 55 **Subsection 6.** Notification of decisions
    - 26 102 – Addressees
    - 27 103 – Form
  - 56 **Subsection 7.** Miscellaneous
    - 27 104 – Obvious errors
    - 27 105 – Costs and expenses
    - 27 106 – Enforcement of decisions
    - 27 107 – Baseless proceedings
- 58 **Section 2.** Disciplinary Committee
  - 58 **Subsection 1.** Commencement of proceedings and investigation
    - 27 108 – Commencement of proceedings
    - 28 109 – Investigation
    - 28 110 – Collaboration by the parties
  - 59 **Subsection 2.** Oral statements, deliberations, decision
    - 28 111 – Oral statements, principles
    - 28 112 – Oral statements, procedure
    - 28 113 – Deliberations
    - 29 114 – Passing the decision
    - 29 115 – Form and contents of the decision
    - 29 116 – Decisions without grounds

**Page Article**

62 **Subsection 3.** Proceedings before the chairman of the Disciplinary Committee acting alone

29 117 – [only]

62 **Section 3.** Appeal Committee

30 118 – Contestable decisions

30 119 – Eligibility to appeal

30 120 – Time limit for appeal

30 121 – Grounds for appeal

30 122 – Petition of appeal

30 123 – Deposit

31 124 – Effects of appeal

31 125 – Sequence in proceedings leading up to the decision

31 126 – Continuation of the proceedings

31 127 – Proceedings before the chairman of the Appeal Committee acting alone

66 **Section 4.** Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS)

31 128 – [only]

66 **Section 5.** Special procedures

66 **Subsection 1.** Provisional measures

31 129 – General rule

32 130 – Procedure

32 131 – Decision

32 132 – Duration

32 133 – Appeal

32 134 – Approval of appeal

68 **Subsection 2.** Deliberations and decision-taking without meeting

32 135 – [only]

68 **Subsection 3.** Extending sanctions to have worldwide effect

33 136 – Request

33 137 – Conditions

33 138 – Procedure

33 139 – Decision

33 140 – Effect

33 141 – Appeal

71 **Subsection 4.** Review

34 142 – [only]

**FINAL TITLE**

34 143 – Official languages

34 144 – Scope of the code, omissions, custom, doctrine and jurisprudence

34 145 – Specific disciplinary rules

34 146 – Associations' disciplinary codes

34 147 – Adoption and enforcement

**PRELIMINARY TITLE**

**MFA Disciplinary Code (MDC)**

30 May 2014

With specific reference to art. 59 par. 4 of the FIFA Statutes, the Executive Committee of the Mauritius Football Association (MFA) enforces the following code.

# 1 Object

This code describes infringements of the rules in MFA regulations, determines the sanctions incurred, regulates the organisation and function of the bodies responsible for taking decisions and the procedures to be followed before these bodies.

# 2 Scope of application: substantive law

This code applies to every match and competition organised by MFA. Beyond this scope, it also applies if a match official is harmed and, more generally, if the statutory objectives of MFA are breached, especially with regard to forgery, corruption and doping. It also applies to any breach of MFA regulations that does not fall under the jurisdiction of any other body.

# 3 Scope of application: natural and legal persons

The following are subject to this code:

- a) Regional Football Associations (RFA) and their respective affiliated member clubs and officials;
- b) members of the MFA, in particular the clubs and Regional Football Associations;
- c) officials;
- d) players;
- e) match officials;
- f) licensed match and players' agents;
- g) anyone with an authorisation from MFA, in particular with regard to a match, competition or other event organised by MFA;
- h) spectators.

# 4 Scope of application: time

This code applies to facts that have arisen after it has come into force. It also applies to previous facts if it is equally favourable or more favourable for the perpetrator of the facts and if the judicial bodies of MFA are deciding on these facts after the code has come into force. By contrast, rules governing procedure apply immediately upon the coming into force of this code

# 5 Definitions

1. **Post-match:** the time between the final whistle from the referee and the teams' departure from the confines of the stadium.
2. **Pre-match:** the time between the teams' arrival in the confines of the stadium and the whistle for kickoff from the referee.
3. **Friendly match:** a match organised by a football organisation, club or other person between teams chosen for the occasion and possibly belonging to different spheres of operation; the score has an effect only on the match or tournament in question and, in the case of representative teams, on the MFA rankings.
4. **Official match:** a match organised under the auspices of a football organisation for all of the teams or clubs in its sphere of operation; the score has an effect on the rights of participation in other competitions unless the regulations in question stipulate otherwise.
5. **Officials:** anyone, with the exception of players, performing an activity connected with football at an RFAs or club, regardless of his title, the type of activity (administrative, sporting or any other) and the duration of the activity; in particular, managers, coaches and support staff are officials.
6. **Match official:** the referee, assistant referees, fourth official, match commissioner, referee inspector, the person in charge of safety, and any other persons appointed by MFA to assume responsibility in connection with a match.
7. **MFA regulations:** the statutes, regulations, directives and circulars of MFA, FIFA as well as the Laws of the Game issued by the International Football Association Board.

# 6 Gender and number

Terms referring to natural persons are applicable to both genders. Any term in the singular applies to the plural and vice-versa.

## Section 1. Conditions for sanctions

---

### 7 Culpability

1. Unless otherwise specified, infringements are punishable regardless of whether they have been committed deliberately or negligently.
2. Exceptionally, a match may have to be played without spectators or on neutral territory, or a certain stadium may be banned purely for safety reasons, without an infringement having been committed.

### 8 Acts amounting to attempt

1. Acts amounting to attempt are also punishable.
2. In the case of acts amounting to attempt, the body may reduce the sanction envisaged for the actual infringement accordingly. It will determine the extent of the mitigation as it sees fit; it shall not go below the general lower limit of the fine (cf. art. 15 par. 2).

### 9 Involvement

1. Anyone who intentionally takes part in committing an infringement, either as instigator or accomplice, is also punishable.
2. The body will take account of the degree of guilt of the party involved and may reduce the sanction accordingly. It shall not go below the general lower limit of the fine (art. 15 par. 2).

## Section 2. Disciplinary measures

---

### 10 Sanctions common to natural and legal persons

Both natural and legal persons are punishable by the following sanctions:

- a) warning;
- b) reprimand;
- c) fine;
- d) return of awards.

### 11 Sanctions applicable to natural persons

The following sanctions are applicable only to natural persons:

- a) caution;
- b) expulsion;
- c) match suspension;
- d) ban from dressing rooms and/or substitutes' bench;
- e) ban from entering a stadium;
- f) ban on taking part in any football-related activity.

## 12 Sanctions applicable to legal persons

The following sanctions are applicable only to legal persons:

- a) transfer ban;
- b) playing a match without spectators;
- c) playing a match on neutral territory;
- d) ban on playing in a particular stadium;
- e) annulment of the result of a match;
- f) expulsion;
- g) forfeit;
- h) deduction of points;
- i) relegation to a lower division.

## 13 Warning

A warning is a reminder of the substance of a disciplinary rule allied with the threat of a sanction in the event of a further infringement.

## 14 Reprimand

A reprimand is an official written pronouncement of disapproval sent to the perpetrator of an infringement.

## 15 Fine

1. A fine is issued in Mauritian Ruppes (MRs). It shall be paid in the same currency.
2. The fine shall not be less than MRs 7,000, or in the case of a competition subject to an age limit not less than MRs 7,000.00, and not more than MRs 100,000.00.
3. The body that imposes the fine decides the terms and time limits for payment.
4. Clubs are liable for fines imposed in respect of their players and officials. The fact that a natural person has left a club does not cancel out joint liability.

## 16 Return of awards

The person required to return an award shall return the benefits received, in particular sums of money and symbolic objects (medal, trophy etc.).

## 17 Caution

1. A caution (yellow card) is a warning from the referee to a player during a match to sanction unsporting behaviour of a less serious nature (cf. Law 12 of the Laws of the Game).
2. Two cautions received during the same match incur an expulsion (indirect red card) and, consequently, automatic suspension from the next match (cf. art.18 par. 4). The two cautions that incurred the red card are rescinded.
3. If a player receives a caution in three separate matches of the same MFA competition, he is automatically suspended from the next match in that competition. If a player received a red card during a match he is directly suspended for the next following match of any following competition. Yellow cards are not cumulated for different competition, i.e.



**FIRST TITLE. SUBSTANTIVE LAW**  
**CHAPTER I. GENERAL PART**

League and Cup matches. The Disciplinary Committee may exceptionally depart from or amend this rule before the start of a particular competition. Any such decision reached by the Disciplinary Committee is final.

4. If an abandoned match is to be replayed, any caution issued during that match shall be annulled. If the match is not to be replayed, the cautions received by the team responsible for causing the match to be abandoned are upheld; if both teams are responsible, all of the cautions are upheld.
5. Cautions issued in a match that is subsequently forfeited shall not be annulled.
6. If a player is guilty of serious unsporting behaviour as defined in Law 12 of the Laws of the Game and is sent off (direct red card), any other caution he has previously received in the same match is upheld.

## 18 Expulsion

1. An expulsion is the order given by the referee to someone to leave the field of play and its surroundings, including the substitutes' bench, during a match. The person who has been sent off may be allowed into the stands unless he is serving a stadium ban.
2. Expulsion takes the form of a red card for players. The red card is regarded as direct if it sanctions serious unsporting behaviour as defined by Law 12 of the Laws of the Game; it is regarded as indirect if it is the result of an accumulation of three yellow cards.
3. An official who has been sent off may give instructions to the person replacing him on the substitutes' bench. He shall, however, ensure that he does not disturb the spectators or disrupt the flow of play.
4. An expulsion automatically incurs suspension from the subsequent match, even if imposed in a match that is later abandoned, annulled and/or forfeited.

The Disciplinary Committee may extend the duration of the suspension.

## 19 Match suspension

1. A suspension from a match is a ban on taking part in a future match or competition and on attending it in the area immediately surrounding the field of play.
2. An official who is suspended in application of par. 1 is automatically banned from the dressing rooms in accordance with art. 20.
3. The suspension is imposed in terms of matches, days or months. Unless otherwise specified, it may not exceed twenty-four matches or twenty-four months.
4. If the suspension is to be served in terms of matches, only those matches actually played count towards execution of the suspension. If a match is abandoned, cancelled or forfeited (except for a violation of art. 55), a suspension is only considered to have been served if the team to which the suspended player belongs is not responsible for the facts that led to the abandonment, cancellation or forfeit of the match.
5. A match suspension is regarded as no longer pending if a match is retroactively forfeited because a player took part in a match despite being ineligible (art. 55). This also applies to the match suspension imposed on the player who took part in the match despite being ineligible.
6. If a suspension is combined with a fine, the suspension may be prolonged until the fine has been paid in full.

## 20 Ban from dressing rooms and/or substitutes' bench

A ban from dressing rooms and/or substitutes' benches deprives someone of the right to enter a team's dressing rooms and/or the area immediately surrounding the field of play, and in particular to sit on the substitutes' bench.

## 21 Stadium ban

A stadium ban prohibits someone from entering the confines of one or several stadiums.

## 22 Ban on taking part in any football-related activity

A person may be banned from taking part in any kind of football-related activity (administrative, sports or any other).

## 23 Transfer ban

A transfer ban prevents a club from registering any player during the period in question.

## 24 Playing a match without spectators

The obligation to play a match behind closed doors requires an association or a club to have a certain match played without spectators.

## 25 Playing a match on neutral ground

The obligation to play a match on neutral ground requires an association or a club to have a certain match played in another country or in a different region of the same country.

## 26 Ban on playing in a particular stadium

A ban on playing in a certain stadium deprives an association or a club of the right to have its team play in a certain stadium.

## 27 Annulment of the result of a match

The result of a match is annulled if the result reached on the field of play is disregarded.

## 28 Expulsion from a competition

Expulsion is the deprivation of the right of a club to take part in the current and/or a future competition.

## 29 Relegation to a lower division

A club may be relegated to a lower division.

## 30 Deduction of points

A club may have points deducted from those already attained in the current or a future championship.

## 31 Forfeit

1. A team sanctioned with a forfeit is considered to have lost the match by 3-0.
2. If the goal difference at the end of the match is greater than three, the result on the pitch is upheld.

## 31bis **Replay of a match**

A match may be replayed if it could not take place or could not be played in full for reasons other than force majeure, but due to the behaviour of a team or behaviour for which an association or a club is liable.

### Section 3. Common rules

---

## 32 **Combined sanctions**

Unless otherwise specified, the sanctions provided for in Chapter I (General Part) and Chapter II (Special Part) of this code may be combined.

## 33 **Partial suspension of implementation of sanctions**

1. The body that pronounces a match suspension (cf. art. 19), a ban on access to dressing rooms and/or the substitutes' bench (cf. art. 20), a ban on taking part in any football-related activity (cf. art. 22), the obligation to play a match without spectators (cf. art. 24), the obligation to play a match on neutral ground (cf. art. 25) or a ban on playing in a certain stadium (cf. art. 26) may examine whether it is possible to suspend the implementation of the sanction partially.
2. Partial suspension is permissible only if the duration of the sanction does not exceed six matches or six months and if the relevant circumstances allow it, in particular the previous record of the person sanctioned.
3. The body decides which part of the sanction may be suspended. In any case, half of the sanction is definite.
4. By suspending implementation of the sanction, the body subjects the person sanctioned to a probationary period of anything from six months to two years.
5. If the person benefiting from a suspended sanction commits another infringement during the probationary period, the suspension is automatically revoked and the sanction applied; it is added to the sanction pronounced for the new infringement.
6. Special provisions may apply in certain circumstances. In the case of antidoping rule violations, this article is not applicable.

## 34 **Time sanctions: calculation of time limit**

The duration of a time sanction can be interrupted by rest periods during or between seasons.

## 35 **Centralisation of sanctions**

1. Records of cautions, expulsions and match suspensions are filed at the MFA. The Disciplinary Committee secretary confirms them in writing to the MFA or club concerned.
2. This communication serves only as confirmation: sanctions (cautions, expulsions, automatic match suspensions) have an immediate effect on subsequent matches even if the letter of confirmation reaches the association, club or head of delegation concerned later.
3. To ensure that the relevant records are complete, the RFA's shall inform MFA of all sanctions that have been pronounced during their own competitions and are likely to be carried over to a MFA competition (cf. art. 38 par. 2) or future competitions organised by the RFA's and MFA.

## Section 4. Carrying over and cancelling cautions and match suspensions

---

### 36 Carrying over cautions

1. Cautions received during one competition are not carried over to another competition.
2. They are, however, carried over from one round to the next in the same competition. The Disciplinary Committee may exceptionally depart from this rule before the start of a particular competition. This provision is subject to art. 37.

### 37 Cancellation of cautions

1. Upon its own initiative or at the request of MFA, the Disciplinary Committee may cancel cautions that have not resulted in an expulsion so as to restore the balance among several teams that have not played the same number of matches during the first round of a competition, or in other exceptional circumstances.
2. In any case, the committee may do this only once in any competition.
3. The Disciplinary Committee's decision is final.

### 38 Carrying over match suspensions

1. As a general rule, every match suspension (of players and other persons) is carried over from one round to the next in the same competition.
2. Match suspensions in relation to an expulsion pronounced on a player outside of a competition (separate match[es]) or not served during the competition for which they were intended (elimination or the last match in the competition) are carried over as follows:
  - a) MFA Cup matches: carried over to the representative team's subsequent official match;
  - b) Competitions subject to an age limit: carried over to the representative team's next official match in the same age group. Where the suspension cannot be served in the same age group, it shall be carried over to the next highest age category;
  - c) League competitions: carried over to the representative team's next official match;
  - d) Republic Cup: carried over to the club's next official match;
  - e) Confederation competitions for representative teams: carried over to the representative team's next official match in a competition organised by CAF;
  - f) competitions in which teams have been chosen in accordance with certain criteria (cultural, geographical, historical etc.): if the regulations of these competitions refer to the MFA or FIFA regulations for disciplinary sanctions, the suspension is carried over to the representative team's next official match;
  - g) Friendly matches: carried over to the representative team's next friendly match.
3. If a representative team is hosting a final competition and is consequently not required to participate in qualifying matches to reach the final competition of this tournament and its next official match is in that final competition, any match suspension pronounced in accordance with par. 2 of this article shall be carried over to the representative team's next friendly match.
4. In no case may match suspensions resulting from several cautions issued to a player in different matches of the same competition be carried over to another competition.
5. Par. 2 likewise applies to suspensions pronounced against persons other than players.

## Section 5. Determining the sanction

---

### 39 General rule

1. The body pronouncing the sanction decides the scope and duration of it.
2. Sanctions may be limited to a geographical area or to one or more specific categories of match or competition.
3. Unless otherwise specified, the duration of a sanction is always defined.
4. The body shall take account of all relevant factors in the case and the degree of the offender's guilt when imposing the sanction.

### 40 Repeated infringements

1. Unless otherwise specified, the body may increase the sanction to be pronounced as deemed appropriate if an infringement has been repeated.
2. These provisions are subject to the special rules governing repeated antidoping rule violations.

### 41 Concurrent infringements

1. If several fines are pronounced against someone as a result of one or more infringements, the relevant body bases the fine on the most serious offence committed and, depending on the circumstances, may increase the sanction by up to fifty per cent of the maximum sanction specified for that offence.
2. The same applies if a person incurs several time sanctions of a similar type (two or more match suspensions, two or more stadium bans etc.) as the result of one or several infringements.
3. The body that determines the fine in accordance with par. 1 is not obliged to adhere to the general upper limit of the fine (cf. art. 15 par. 2).

## Section 6. Limitation period

---

### 42 Limitation period for prosecution

1. Infringements committed during a match may no longer be prosecuted after a lapse of two years. As a general rule, other infringements may not be prosecuted after a lapse of ten years.
2. Anti-doping rule violations may not be prosecuted after eight years have elapsed.
3. Prosecution for corruption (cf. art. 62) is not subject to a limitation period.

### 43 Commencement of the limitation period

The limitation period runs as follows:

- a) from the day on which the perpetrator committed the infringement;
- b) if the infringement is recurrent, from the day on which the most recent infringement was committed;
- c) if the infringement lasted a certain period, from the day on which it ended.

## 44 Interruption

The limitation period is interrupted if the Disciplinary Committee commences proceedings before it has expired.

## 45 Limitation period for the enforcement of sanctions

1. The limitation period for sanctions is five years.
2. The limitation period begins on the day on which the decision comes into force.

## Section 1. Infringements of the Laws of the Game

---

### 46 Minor infringements

A player is cautioned if he commits any of the following offences (cf. Law 12 of the Laws of the Game and art. 17 of this code):

- a) unsporting behaviour;
- b) dissent by word or action;
- c) persistent infringement of the Laws of the Game;
- d) delaying the restart of play;
- e) failure to retreat the required distance when play is restarted with a corner kick, free kick or throw-in;
- f) entering or re-entering the field of play without the referee's permission;
- g) deliberately leaving the field of play without the referee's permission.

### 47 Serious infringements

A player is sent off if he commits any of the following offences (cf. Law 12 of the Laws of the Game and art. 18 of this code):

- h) serious foul play;
- i) violent conduct;
- j) spitting at an opponent or any other person;
- k) denying the opposing team a goal or an obvious goal-scoring opportunity by deliberately handling the ball (this does not apply to a goalkeeper within his own penalty area);
- l) denying an obvious goal-scoring opportunity to an opponent moving towards the player's goal by an offence punishable by a free kick or a penalty kick;
- m) using offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures;
- n) receiving a second caution in the same match (art. 17 par. 2).

## Section 2. Disorderliness at matches and competitions

---

### 48 Misconduct against opponents or persons other than match

1. Including the automatic suspension incurred in accordance with art. 18 par.4, any recipient of a direct red card shall be suspended as follows:
  - a) one match for denying the opposing team a clear goal-scoring opportunity (particularly by deliberately handling the ball);
  - b) at least one match for serious foul play (particularly in the case of excessive or brute force);
  - c) at least one match for unsporting conduct towards an opponent or a person other than a match official (subject to art. 53, 54 and 57-60);
  - d) at least two matches for assaulting (elbowing, punching, kicking etc.) an opponent or a person other than a match official;
  - e) at least six matches for spitting at an opponent or a person other than a match official.
2. A fine may also be imposed in all cases.
3. The right is reserved to punish an infringement in accordance with art. 77 a).

### 49 Misconduct against match officials

1. Including the automatic suspension incurred in accordance with art. 18 par. 4, the overall suspension imposed on any person receiving a direct red card shall be for:
  - a) at least four matches for unsporting conduct towards a match official (subject to art. 53, 54 and 57-60);
  - b) at least six months for assaulting (elbowing, punching, kicking etc.) a match official;
  - c) at least 12 months for spitting at a match official.
2. A fine may also be imposed in all cases.
3. The right is reserved to punish an infringement in accordance with art. 77 a).

### 50 Brawl

1. Involvement in a brawl is sanctioned with a suspension for at least six matches.
2. Anyone who has tried merely to prevent a fight, shield others or separate those involved in a brawl is not subject to punishment.

### 51 Unidentified aggressors

If, in the case of violence, it is not possible to identify the perpetrator(s), the body will sanction the club or RFA to which the aggressors belong.

## 52 Team misconduct

Disciplinary measures may be imposed on associations and clubs where a team fails to conduct itself properly. In particular:

- a) a fine may be imposed where the referee sanctions at least five members of the same team during a match (caution or expulsion);
- b) a fine of at least MRs 30,000 may be imposed where several players or officials from the same team threaten or harass match officials or other persons. Further sanctions may be imposed in the case of serious offences.

## 53 Inciting hatred and violence

1. A player or official who publicly incites others to hatred or violence will be sanctioned with match suspension for no less than twelve months and with a minimum fine of MRs 30,000.
2. In serious cases, in particular when the infringement is committed using the mass media (such as the press, radio or television) or if it takes place on a match day in or around a stadium, the minimum fine will be MRs 100,000.

## 54 Provoking the general public

Anyone who provokes the general public during a match will be suspended for two matches and sanctioned with a minimum fine of MRs 25,000.

## 55 Ineligibility

1. If a player takes part in an official match despite being ineligible, his team will be sanctioned by forfeiting the match (cf. art. 31) and paying a minimum fine of MRs 10,000.
2. If a player takes part in a friendly match despite being ineligible, his team will be sanctioned by forfeiting the match and paying a minimum fine of MRs 8,000.
3. MFA licensed player, is not authorised to play any competition or friendly match outside those approved or organized under the aegis of the MFA. If a player is found guilty by participating in an unauthorised match or competition he will be suspended for two consecutive matches and if repeated he may be sanctioned for a maximum of six month. Clubs must control the players respect this clause.
4. All National Clubs must register their Coach, Doctors and any other staff who will sit on the substitute bench during the match by using the MFA Licensing System at the main (First) transfer period and a license will be issued accordingly. Licenses will be controlled prior to kick off by match Referees. Without proof of license, no one can sit on the substitute bench. If a club has been found guilty of fielding an unlicensed staff, a fine on Rs 10,000 per staff will imposed on the club concerned.

## 56 Unplayed match and abandonment

1. If a match cannot take place or cannot be played in full for reasons other than force majeure, but due to the behaviour of a team or behaviour for which a club is liable, the club will be sanctioned with a minimum fine of MRs 30,000. The match will either be forfeited (cf. art. 31) or replayed (cf. art. 31bis).
2. In serious cases, additional sanctions pursuant to art. 12 may be imposed on the club concerned.



## Section 3. Offensive and discriminatory behaviour

---

### 57 Offensive behaviour and fair play

Anyone who insults someone in any way, especially by using offensive gestures or language, or who violates the principles of fair play or whose behaviour is unsporting in any other way may be subject to sanctions in accordance with art. 10 ff.

### 58 Discrimination

1.
  - a) Anyone who offends the dignity of a person or group of persons through contemptuous, discriminatory or denigratory words or actions concerning race, colour, language, religion or origin shall be suspended for at least five matches. Furthermore, a stadium ban and a fine of at least MRs 100,000 shall be imposed. If the perpetrator is an official, the fine shall be at least MRs 100,000.
  - b) Where several persons (officials and/or players) from the same club or association simultaneously breach par. 1 a) or there are other aggravating circumstances, the team concerned may be deducted three points for a first offence and six points for a second offence; a further offence may result in relegation to a lower division. In the case of matches in which no points are awarded, the team may be disqualified from the competition.
2.
  - a) Where supporters of a team breach par. 1 a) at a match, a fine of at least MRs 30,000 shall be imposed on the association or club concerned regardless of the question of culpable conduct or culpable oversight.
  - b) Serious offences may be punished with additional sanctions, in particular an order to play a match behind closed doors, the forfeit of a match, a points deduction or disqualification from the competition.
3. Spectators who breach par. 1 a) of this article shall receive a stadium ban of at least two years.

## Section 4. Infringements of personal freedom

---

### 59 Threats

Anyone who intimidates a match official with serious threats will be sanctioned with a fine of at least MRs 10,000 and a match suspension. These sanctions constitute a departure from art. 32, in that they may not be combined with others.

### 60 Coercion

Anyone who uses violence or threats to pressure a match official into taking certain action or to hinder him in any other way from acting freely will be sanctioned with a fine of at least MRs 25,000 and a match suspension. These sanctions constitute a departure from art. 32, in that they may not be combined with others.

## Section 5. Forgery and falsification

---

### 61 [only]

1. Anyone who, in football-related activities, forges a document, falsifies an authentic document or uses a forged or falsified document to deceive in legal relations will be sanctioned with a fine.
2. If the perpetrator is a player, a suspension of at least six matches will be pronounced.
3. If the perpetrator is an official, a players' agent or a match agent, a ban on taking part in any football-related activity for a period of at least twelve months will be pronounced.

4. RFA's may be held liable for an infringement as defined in par. 1 committed by one of its officials and/or players. In such a case, an expulsion from a competition may be pronounced in addition to a fine for the association concerned.

5. A club may be held liable for an infringement as defined in par. 1 committed by one of its officials and/or players. In such a case, an expulsion from a competition and/or a transfer ban may be pronounced in addition to a fine for the club concerned.

## Section 6. Corruption

---

### 62 [only]

1. Anyone who offers, promises or grants an unjustified advantage to a body of MFA, a match official, a player or an official on behalf of himself or a third party in an attempt to incite it or him to violate the regulations of FIFA and MFA will be sanctioned:

- a) with a fine of at least Mrs 80,000,
- b) with a ban on taking part in any football-related activity, and
- c) with a ban on entering any stadium.

2. Passive corruption (soliciting, being promised or accepting an unjustified advantage) will be sanctioned in the same manner.

3. In serious cases and in the case of repetition, sanction 1b) may be pronounced for life.

4. In any case, the body will order the confiscation of the assets involved in committing the infringement. These assets will be used for football development programmes.

## Section 7. Doping

---

### 63 Definition

Doping is prohibited. Doping and anti-doping rule violations are defined in the FIFA Anti-Doping Regulations and sanctioned in accordance with the FIFA Anti- Doping Regulations and the FIFA Disciplinary Code.

## Section 8. Failure to respect decisions

---

### 64 [only]

1. Anyone who fails to pay another person (such as a player, a coach or a club) or MFA a sum of money in full or part, even though instructed to do so by a body, a committee or an instance of MFA or a subsequent CAS appeal decision (financial decision), or anyone who fails to comply with another decision (nonfinancial decision) passed by a body, a committee or an instance of MFA, FIFA, or by CAS (subsequent appeal decision):

- a) will be fined for failing to comply with a decision;
- b) will be granted a final deadline by the judicial bodies of MFA in which to pay the amount due or to comply with the (non-financial) decision;
- c) (only for clubs:) will be warned and notified that, in the case of default or failure to comply with a decision within the period stipulated, points will be deducted or relegation to a lower division ordered. A transfer ban may also be pronounced;
- d) (only for clubs) will be warned and notified that, in the case of default or failure to comply with a decision within the period stipulated, further disciplinary measures will be imposed. An expulsion from a MFA competition may also be pronounced.

2. If a club disregards the final time limit, the MFA shall be requested to implement the sanctions threatened.

3. If points are deducted, they shall be proportionate to the amount owed.

4. A ban on any football-related activity may also be imposed against natural persons.
5. Any appeal against a decision passed in accordance with this article shall be lodged **with CAS directly**.
6. Any financial or non-financial decision that has been pronounced against a club by the body or the MFA Arbitration Tribunal, both duly recognised by MFA, shall be enforced by the MFA in accordance with the principles established in this article and in compliance with the applicable disciplinary regulations.
7. Any financial or non-financial decision that has been pronounced against a natural person by MFA Arbitration Tribunal, both duly recognised by MFA, shall be enforced by the Club or by the natural person's new Club if the natural person has in the meantime registered (or otherwise signed a contract in the case of a coach) with a club affiliated to another Club, in accordance with the principles established in this article and in compliance with the applicable disciplinary regulations.

## Section 9. Responsibilities of clubs and Officials

---

### 65 Organisation of matches

Associations that organise matches shall:

- a) assess the degree of risk posed by matches and notify the MFA bodies of those that are especially high-risk;
- b) comply with and implement existing safety rules (MFA and FIFA regulations, national laws, international agreements) and take every safety precaution demanded by circumstances before, during and after the match and if incidents occur;
- c) ensure the safety of match officials, players and officials of the visiting team two hours before and four hours after the kick-off time;
- d) keep local authorities informed and collaborate with them actively and effectively;
- e) ensure that law and order are maintained in the stadiums and immediate surroundings and that matches are organised properly.

### 66 Failure to comply

1. Any Club that fails to fulfil its obligations in accordance with art. 65 shall be fined.
2. In the case of a serious infringement of art. 65, additional sanctions may be imposed, such as a stadium ban (cf. art. 26) or ordering a team to play on neutral ground (cf. art. 25).
3. The right is reserved to pronounce certain sanctions for safety reasons, even if no infringement has been committed (cf. art. 7, par. 2).

### 67 Liability for spectator conduct

1. The home club is liable for improper conduct among spectators, regardless of the question of culpable conduct or culpable oversight, and, depending on the situation, may be fined. Further sanctions may be imposed in the case of serious disturbances.
2. The visiting club is liable for improper conduct among its own group of spectators, regardless of the question of culpable conduct or culpable oversight, and, depending on the situation, may be fined. Further sanctions may be imposed in the case of serious disturbances. Supporters occupying the away sector of a stadium are regarded as the visiting club's supporters, unless proven to the contrary.
3. Improper conduct includes violence towards persons or objects, letting off incendiary devices, throwing missiles, displaying insulting or political slogans in any form, uttering insulting words or sounds, or invading the pitch.
4. The liability described in par. 1 and 2 also includes matches played on neutral ground, especially during final competitions.

## 68 Other obligations

Clubs shall also:

- a) actively vet the age of players shown on the players licences they produce at competitions that are subject to age limits;
- b) ensure that no-one is involved in the management of clubs itself who is under prosecution for action unworthy of such a position (especially doping, corruption, forgery etc.) or who has been convicted of a criminal offence in the past five years.
- c) Clubs shall also ensure that none of their officials/members not to bring any such action against the MFA or to any of it's bodies to Ordinary Court or to the Press, TV, Emails, Internet, and any other medias, that would to bring or causes directly or indirectly,disrepute to the MFA. Clubs and/or officials which are found guilty of such action will be severely reprimanded and sanctioned from fines, transfer ban, removal of points in league matches to relegation to the next inferior division, depending on gravity of the issue.

## Section 10. Unlawfully influencing match results

---

### 69 [only]

1. Anyone who conspires to influence the result of a match in a manner contrary to sporting ethics shall be sanctioned with a match suspension or a ban on taking part in any football-related activity as well as a fine of at least MRs 100,000. In serious cases, a lifetime ban on taking part in any football related activity shall be imposed.
2. In the case of a player or official unlawfully influencing the result of a match in accordance with par. 1, the club to which the player or official belongs may be fined. Serious offences may be sanctioned with expulsion from a competition, relegation to a lower division, a points deduction and the return of awards.

## Section 1. Jurisdiction of MFA, Regional Football Associations, and other organisations

---

### 70 General rule

1. With regard to matches and competitions not organised by MFA (cf. art. 2), Clubs and sports organisations that organise matches for cultural, geographical, historical or other reasons are responsible for enforcing sanctions imposed against infringements committed in their area of jurisdiction. If requested, the sanctions passed may be extended to have nationwide effect (cf. art.136 ff.).
2. The judicial bodies of MFA reserve the right to sanction serious infringements of the statutory objectives of MFA and FIFA (cf. final part of art. 2) if clubs and other sports organisations fail to prosecute serious infringements or fail to prosecute in compliance with the fundamental principles of law.
3. Clubs , RFA's and other sports organisations shall notify the judicial bodies of MFA of any serious infringements of the statutory objectives of MFA and FIFA (cf. final part of art. 2).

### 71 Friendly matches between two representative teams

1. Any disciplinary action to be taken at friendly matches between two representative teams of RFA's is the responsibility of that RFA's to which the sanctioned player belongs. However, in serious cases, the Disciplinary Committee may intervene ex officio.
2. The RFA's shall inform MFA of the sanctions pronounced.
3. MFA ensures compliance with the sanctions by means of this code.

## Section 2. Authorities

---

### 72 Referee

1. During matches, disciplinary decisions are taken by the referee.
2. These decisions are final.
3. In certain circumstances, the jurisdiction of the judicial bodies may apply (cf.art. 77).

### 73 Judicial bodies

The judicial bodies of MFA are the Disciplinary Committee, the Appeal Committee and the Ethics Committee.

### 74 MFA Arbitration Tribunal (AT)

Certain decisions passed by the Disciplinary Committee may be appealed against before the Appeal Committee and at last local resort the MFA Arbitration Tribunal .

### 75 MFA Medical Committee

In compliance with the MFA Anti-Doping Regulations, the MFA Medical Committee, or other bodies under its supervision, carries out the doping test, analyses of samples and examination of medical certificates.

## Section 3. Disciplinary Committee

---

### 76 General jurisdiction

The MFA Disciplinary Committee is authorised to sanction any breach of MFA regulations which does not come under the jurisdiction of another body.

### 77 Specific jurisdiction

The Disciplinary Committee is responsible for:

- a) sanctioning serious infringements which have escaped the match officials' attention;
- b) rectifying obvious errors in the referee's disciplinary decisions;
- c) extending the duration of a match suspension incurred automatically by an expulsion (cf. art 18, par. 4);
- d) pronouncing additional sanctions, such as a fine.

### 78 Jurisdiction of the chairman ruling alone

1. The chairman of the Disciplinary Committee may take the following decisions alone:

- a) suspend a person for up to three matches or for up to two months;
- b) pronounce a fine of up to MRs 100,000;
- c) rule on extending a sanction (art. 136);
- d) settle disputes arising from objections to members of the Disciplinary Committee;
- e) pronounce, alter and annul provisional measures (cf. art. 129).

2. Whenever the Disciplinary Committee meets on such occasions as a final competition, the chairman may decide that the decisions mentioned under par. 1 be taken by the committee.

## Section 4. Appeal Committee

---

### 79 Jurisdiction

The Appeal Committee is responsible for deciding appeals against any of the Disciplinary Committee's decisions that MFA regulations do not declare as final or referable to another body.

### 80 Jurisdiction of the chairman ruling alone

1. The chairman of the Appeal Committee may take the following decisions alone:
  - a) decide on an appeal against a decision to extend a sanction (art. 141);
  - b) resolve disputes arising from objections to members of the Appeal Committee;
  - c) rule on appeals against provisional decisions passed by the chairman of the Disciplinary Committee;
  - d) pronounce, alter and annul provisional measures (cf. art. 129).
2. Whenever the Appeal Committee meets on such occasions as a final competition, the chairman may decide that the decisions mentioned under par. 1 be taken by the committee.

## Section 5. Common rules for the judicial bodies

---

### 81 Composition

1. The Executive Committee appoints the members of the Disciplinary Committee and the Appeal Committee for a period of eight years. It designates the number of members deemed necessary for the committees to function properly.
2. The Executive Committee appoints the chairman of each committee from among the members for the same period of eight years.
3. **The Executive Committee shall also designate** two assessors from among the members present by a simple majority for the same period of eight years. The candidates are not entitled to vote.
4. The chairman of each committee shall have legal qualifications.

### 82 Meetings

1. The committee meetings are deemed to be valid if at least three members are present.
2. At the behest of the chairman, the secretariat shall call the number of members deemed necessary to each meeting. The chairman shall, as far as possible, ensure that the confederations are equitably represented among the members called to the meeting.

## 83 Chairman

1. The chairman conducts the meetings and delivers the decisions which this code empowers him to take.
2. If the chairman is prevented from attending the sitting is postponed to a later date.

## 84 Secretariat

1. The general secretariat of MFA provides the judicial bodies with a secretariat and the necessary staff at MFA headquarters.
2. The general secretariat of MFA designates the secretary.
3. The secretary takes charge of the administrative work and writes the minutes and decisions of the meetings.
4. The secretary takes care of the filing. The decisions passed and the relevant files shall be kept for at least ten years.

## 85 Independence

1. The judicial bodies of MFA pass their decisions entirely independently; in particular, they shall not receive instructions from any other body.
2. A member of another MFA body may not stay in the meeting room during the judicial bodies' deliberations unless they have explicitly summoned him to attend.

## 86 Incompatibility of office

The members of the judicial bodies may not belong either to the Executive Committee or a standing committee of MFA.

## 87 Withdrawal

1. Members of the judicial bodies of MFA must decline to participate in any meeting concerning a matter where there are serious grounds for questioning their impartiality.
2. This applies in the following cases (among others):
  - a) if the member in question has a direct interest in the outcome of the matter;
  - b) if he is associated with any of the parties;
  - c) if he has already dealt with the case under different circumstances.
3. Members who decline to participate in a meeting on any of the above grounds shall notify the chairman immediately. The parties involved may also raise an objection to a member they believe to be biased.
4. The chairman shall decide on any such claim of bias.
5. Proceedings that have involved someone whom the chairman has ordered not to participate will be considered null and void.

## 88 Confidentiality

1. The members of the judicial bodies shall ensure that everything disclosed to them during the course of their duty remains confidential (facts of the case, contents of the deliberations and decisions taken).
2. Only the contents of those decisions already notified to the addressees may be made public.

## 89 Exemption from liability

Except in the case of gross culpability, neither the members of the judicial bodies of MFA nor the secretariat may be made liable for any deeds or omissions relating to any disciplinary procedure.

## Section 1. General rules Subsection 1. Time limits

---

### 90 Calculation

1. Time limits to which the clubs shall adhere commence the day after they have received the relevant document.
2. Time limits to which other persons shall adhere commence four days after receipt of the document by the association responsible for forwarding it, except when the document is not also or solely sent to the person concerned or his legal representative. If the document was also or solely sent to the parties or their legal representatives, the time limit commences on the day after receipt of the document in question.
3. If the last day of the time limit coincides with a public holiday in the place of domicile of the person required to comply with the document by a certain deadline, the time limit will expire on the next day that is not a public holiday.
4. In all other cases, the provisions of the Mauritian Civil Code of Obligations apply to calculate the time limits.

### 91 Compliance

1. The time limit has been met only if the action required has been carried out before expiry of the time limit.
2. The document must be submitted to the relevant body or its address with the Mauritian post office by registered mail no later than midnight on the last day of the time limit.
3. If the document is sent by telefax, the time limit has been met if the document reaches the body on the last day of the time limit and the original document reaches it within another five days.
4. Parties are not permitted to observe time limits by sending electronic mail.
5. In the case of appeals, the deposit demanded (cf. art. 123) is considered to have been paid in time if the payment has irreversibly been made to MFA's account by midnight on the last day of the time limit.

### 92 Suspension

1. Time limits are suspended:
  - a) from 10 December to 15 January inclusive;
  - b) during the period starting two days before the MFA Annual General Assembly up to two days after.
2. Special provisions may apply in certain circumstances.

### 93 Extension

1. The chairman may extend the time limits he has set, upon request. The time limits fixed in this code may not, however, be extended.
2. A time limit may not be extended more than twice and, the second time, only in exceptional circumstances.



3. If the chairman refuses to extend the time limit, the applicant will be granted two extra days. In emergencies, the chairman may announce his negative decision to the applicant orally.

## Subsection 2. Right to be heard

---

### 94 Contents

1. The parties shall be heard before any decision is passed.
2. They may, in particular:
  - a) refer to the file;
  - b) present their argument in fact and in law;
  - c) request production of proof;
  - d) be involved in the production of proof;
  - e) obtain a reasoned decision.
3. Special provisions may apply in certain circumstances.

### 95 Restrictions

1. The right to be heard may be restricted in exceptional circumstances, such as when confidential matters need to be safeguarded or the proceedings need to be conducted properly.
2. Special provisions may apply in certain circumstances.

## Subsection 3. Proof

---

### 96 Various types of proof

1. Any type of proof may be produced.
2. Proof that violates human dignity or obviously does not serve to establish relevant facts shall be rejected.
3. The following are, in particular, admissible: reports from referees, assistant referees, match commissioners and referee inspectors, declarations from the parties and witnesses, material evidence, expert opinions and audio or video recordings.

### 97 Evaluation of proof

1. The bodies will have absolute discretion regarding proof.
2. They may, in particular, take account of the parties' attitudes during proceedings, especially the manner in which they cooperate with the judicial bodies and the secretariat (cf. art. 110).
3. They decide on the basis of their personal convictions.

## 98 Match officials' reports

1. Facts contained in match officials' reports are presumed to be accurate.
2. Proof of the inaccuracy of the contents of these reports may be provided.
3. If there is any discrepancy in the reports from the various match officials and there are no means of resolving the different versions of the facts, the referee's report is considered authoritative regarding incidents that occurred on the field of play; the match commissioner's report is considered authoritative regarding incidents that took place outside the field of play.

## 99 Burden of proof

1. The burden of proof regarding disciplinary infringements rests on MFA.
2. In the case of an anti-doping rule violation, it is incumbent upon the suspect to produce the proof necessary to reduce or cancel a sanction. For sanctions to be reduced, the suspect must also prove how the prohibited substance entered his body.

### Subsection 4. Representation and assistance

---

## 100 [only]

1. The parties may arrange to have legal representation.
2. If they are not required to appear personally, they may be represented.
3. The parties are free to choose their own representation and legal representation.

### Subsection 5. Language used in proceedings

---

## 101 [only]

1. The languages used in proceedings are the three official languages of MFA (English, French and Creole). The body and parties may choose any of these languages.
2. MFA may, if necessary, use the services of an interpreter.
3. Decisions are passed in one of the languages

### Subsection 6. Notification of decisions

---

## 102 Addressees

1. All of the parties are notified of the decisions.
3. Decisions and other documents intended for players, clubs and officials are addressed to the clubs and where applicable to the respective RFA's concerned on condition that it forwards the documents to the parties concerned. In the event that the documents were not also or solely sent to the party concerned, these documents are considered to have been communicated properly to the ultimate addressee four days after communication of the documents to the association (cf. art. 90).

**SECOND TITLE. ORGANISATION AND PROCEDURE**  
**CHAPTER I. ORGANISATION**

3. If an appeal has not been lodged by the specified deadline, doping decisions passed by the Disciplinary Committee shall be notified to the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA). Doping decisions passed by the Appeal Committee shall be notified simultaneously to the parties and the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA). MFA will announce anti-doping rule violations within 30 days.

## 103 Form

1. Decisions communicated by telefax shall be legally binding. Alternatively, decisions may be communicated by registered letter, which shall also be legally binding.
2. The communication of decisions by electronic mail is not permitted.

### Subsection 7. Miscellaneous

---

## 104 Obvious errors

A body may rectify any mistakes in calculation or any other obvious errors at any time.

## 105 Costs and expenses

1. Costs and expenses shall be paid by the unsuccessful party.
2. If there is no unsuccessful party, they shall be borne by MFA.
3. If considered fair to do so, they may be split among several parties.
4. The body that rules on the substance of the matter decides how costs and expenses shall be allocated and the relevant amounts are stipulated by the chairman. These rulings are not subject to appeal.
5. The chairman may exceptionally decide to curtail or dispense with costs and expenses.
6. No procedural compensation shall be awarded in proceedings of the Disciplinary and Appeal Committees.

## 106 Enforcement of decisions

Decisions come into force as soon as they are communicated.

## 107 Baseless proceedings

Proceedings may be closed if:

- a) the parties reach an agreement;
- b) a party declares bankruptcy;
- c) they become baseless.

### Section 2. Disciplinary Committee

#### Subsection 1. Commencement of proceedings and investigation

---

## 108 Commencement of proceedings

1. Disciplinary infringements are prosecuted ex officio.
2. Any person or body may report conduct that he or it considers incompatible with the regulations of MFA or FIFA to the judicial bodies. Such complaints shall be made in writing.
3. Match officials are obliged to expose infringements which have come to their notice.

## 109 Investigation

The secretariat carries out the necessary investigation ex officio under the chairman's guidance.

## 110 Collaboration by the parties

1. The parties are obliged to collaborate to establish the facts. In particular, they shall comply with requests for information from the judicial bodies.
2. Whenever deemed necessary, the secretariat verifies the parties' versions of the facts.
3. If the parties are dilatory in responding, the chairman of the judicial body may, after warning them, impose a fine of up to MRs 25,000.
4. If the parties fail to collaborate, especially if they ignore the stipulated time limits, the judicial bodies will reach a decision on the case using the file in their possession.

### Subsection 2. Oral statements, deliberations, decision

---

## 111 Oral statements, principles

1. As a general rule, there are no oral statements and the Disciplinary Committee decides on the basis of the file.
2. At the request of one of the parties, the body may arrange for oral statements to be heard, to which all the parties shall be summoned.
3. Oral statements are always heard behind closed doors.

## 112 Oral statements, procedure

1. The chairman decides on the sequence of the oral statements.
2. Once the hearing of evidence has ended, the chairman allows the person against whom proceedings are being conducted a final opportunity to speak.
3. The oral statements terminate with the parties' closing statement.

## 113 Deliberations

1. The Disciplinary Committee deliberates behind closed doors.
2. If any oral statements have been heard, they will immediately be followed by deliberations.
3. Deliberations are conducted without interruption, unless there are exceptional circumstances.
4. The chairman decides in which order the various questions will be submitted for deliberation.
5. The members present express their opinions in the order set out by the chairman, who always speaks last.
6. The committee secretary has consultative powers only.

## 114 **Passing the decision**

1. Decisions are passed by a simple majority of the members present.
2. Every member present shall vote.
3. If votes are equal, the chair has the casting vote.

## 115 **Form and contents of the decision**

1. Without prejudice to the application of art. 116 below, the decision contains:

- a) the composition of the committee;
- b) the names of the parties;
- c) a summary of the facts;
- d) the grounds of the decision;
- e) the provisions on which the decision was based;
- f) the terms of the decision;
- g) notice of the channels for appeal.

2. The decisions are signed by the committee secretary.

## 116 **Decisions without grounds**

1. The judicial bodies may decide not to communicate the grounds of a decision and instead communicate only the terms of the decision. At the same time, the parties shall be informed that they have ten days from receipt of the terms of the decision to request, in writing, the grounds of the decision, and that failure to do so will result in the decision becoming final and binding.
2. If a party requests the grounds of a decision, the motivated decision will be communicated to the parties in full, written form. The time limit to lodge an appeal, where applicable, begins upon receipt of this motivated decision.
3. If the parties do not request the grounds of a decision, a short explanation of the decision shall be recorded in the case files.

### **Subsection 3. Proceedings before the chairman of the Disciplinary Committee acting alone**

---

## 117 **[only]**

The rules governing the Disciplinary Committee apply in the same way whenever the chairman decides alone.

## Section 3. Appeal Committee

---

### 118 Contestable decisions

An appeal may be lodged with the Appeal Committee against any decision passed by the Disciplinary Committee, unless the disciplinary measure pronounced is:

- a) a warning;
- b) a reprimand;
- c) a suspension for fewer than three matches or of up to two months;
- d) a fine of up to Mrs 25,000 imposed on an RFA or a club or of up to MRs 15,000 in other cases;
- e) decisions passed in compliance with art. 64 of this code.

### 119 Eligibility to appeal

1. Anyone who has been a party to the proceedings before the first instance and has a legally protected interest justifying amendment or cancellation of the decision may lodge an appeal with the Appeal Committee.

2. Associations may appeal against decisions sanctioning their players, officials or members. They shall have the written agreement of the person concerned.

### 120 Time limit for appeal

1. Any party intending to appeal must inform the MFA Appeal Committee of its intention to do so in writing within three days of notification of the decision.

2. Reasons for the appeal must then be given in writing within a further time limit of seven days. This seven-day period begins after the first deadline of three days has expired.

3. If these requirements have not been complied with, the appeal is not admissible.

4. In urgent cases, the chairman may shorten the deadline for the submission of the reasons for appeal.

### 121 Grounds for appeal

The appellant may object to inaccurate representation of the facts and/or wrong application of the law.

### 122 Petition of appeal

1. The appellant shall submit his petition of appeal in writing.

2. The petition shall include the claim as well as the reasons and means of proof and be signed by the appellant or his representative, subject to art. 119 par. 2.

### 123 Deposit

1. Anyone wishing to lodge an appeal shall transfer an appeal fee of MRs 60,000 to MFA's bank account before expiry of the time limit for submitting the reasons for appeal.

2. If this requirement has not been complied with, the appeal is not admissible.

## SECOND TITLE. ORGANISATION AND PROCEDURE

### CHAPTER I. ORGANISATION

3. This amount will be reimbursed to the appellant if he wins the case. Costs and expenses payable by an appellant who loses the case are deducted from this amount. Any remaining amount is reimbursed to him. If the deposit is insufficient, the appellant will be ordered to pay the difference.

4. If the appeal is considered to be improper, costs and expenses shall be paid in addition to the deposit.

## 124 Effects of appeal

1. An appeal results in the case being reviewed by the Appeal Committee.

3. The appeal does not have a suspensive effect except with regard to orders to pay a sum of money.

## 125 Sequence in proceedings leading up to the decision

1. The sequence in proceedings is determined as described in this code.

2. The decisions are signed by the secretary.

3. Decisions may not be amended to the detriment of the party contesting them.

## 126 Continuation of the proceedings

1. The Appeal Committee rules, in principle, as a body in the last instance.

2. The right is reserved for an appeal to be made to the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) as set out in art. 128.

## 127 Proceedings before the chairman of the Appeal Committee acting alone

The rules governing the Appeal Committee apply in the same way whenever the chairman of the committee decides alone.

## Section 4. MFA Arbitration Tribunal & Court of Arbitration for Sports (CAS) in Lausanne

---

## 128 [only]

The MFA Statutes stipulate which decisions passed by the judicial bodies of MFA may be taken before the Court of Arbitration Sports (CAS) in Lausanne at very last resort.

## Section 5. Special procedures

### Subsection 1. Provisional measures

---

## 129 General rule

1. If an infringement appears to have been committed and a decision on the main issue cannot be taken early enough, the chairman of the judicial body may, in emergencies, provisionally pronounce, alter or revoke a sanction.

2. In similar circumstances, he may take other provisional measures at his discretion, especially to ensure compliance with a sanction already in force.

3. He will take action upon request or ex officio.

## 130 Procedure

1. The chairman shall make his decision based on the evidence available at the time.
2. He is not obliged to hear the parties.

## 131 Decision

1. The chairman delivers his decision immediately.
2. That decision is implemented immediately.

## 132 Duration

1. Provisional measures may not be valid for longer than 30 days.
2. This period may be extended only once by 20 days.
3. If a sanction has been pronounced provisionally, the duration shall be offset against any final sanction.

## 133 Appeal

1. An appeal against a decision regarding provisional measures may be lodged with the chairman of the Appeal Committee.
2. The time limit for lodging the appeal is two days commencing from the communication of the decision.
3. The petition of appeal shall be sent direct to MFA by telefax within the same time limit.
4. The appeal shall not have a suspensive effect.

## 134 Approval of appeal

The appeal will be admitted if the facts stated in the contested decision are inaccurate or if the law has been violated.

### Subsection 2. Deliberations and decision-taking without meeting

---

## 135 [only]

1. If the circumstances so require, the secretariat may arrange the deliberations and decision-taking to be conducted via telephone conference, videoconference or any other similar method.
2. Art. 111 par. 2 is, in this case, not applicable.
3. The secretary takes minutes as if it were an ordinary meeting.



## Subsection 3. Extending sanctions to have worldwide effect

---

### 136 Request

1. If the infringement is serious, in particular but not limited to doping (cf. art. 63), unlawfully influencing match results (cf. art. 69), misconduct against match officials (cf. art. 49), forgery and falsification (cf. art. 61) or violation of the rules governing age limits (cf. art. 68 a), the RFA and other organising sports bodies shall request MFA to extend the sanctions they have imposed so as to have nationwide effect.
2. Any doping-related legally binding sanction imposed by another international sports association, national anti-doping organisation or any other state body that complies with fundamental legal principles shall automatically be adopted by MFA and, provided that the requirements described hereunder are met, may in principle be extended by MFA to have nationwide effect.
3. The request shall be submitted in writing and enclose a certified copy matching the decision. It shall show the name and address of the person who has been sanctioned and that of the club concerned.
4. If the judicial bodies of MFA discover that RFA's and other sports organisations have not requested a decision to be extended to have nationwide effect, these bodies may themselves pass a decision.

### 137 Conditions

The request for sanctions to be extended will be approved if:

- a) the person sanctioned has been cited properly;
- b) he has had the opportunity to state his case (with the exception of provisional measures);
- c) the decision has been communicated properly;
- d) the decision complies with the regulations of MFA;
- e) extending the sanction does not conflict with public order and accepted standards of behaviour.

### 138 Procedure

1. The chairman makes his decision, in principle, without negotiations or hearing any of the parties, using only the file.
2. He may exceptionally decide to summon the parties concerned.

### 139 Decision

1. The chairman is restricted to ascertaining that the conditions of art. 137 have been fulfilled. He may not review the substance of the decision.
2. He either grants or refuses to grant the request to have the sanction extended.

### 140 Effect

1. A sanction imposed by MFA has the same effect in each RFA as if the sanction had been imposed by any one of them.
3. If a decision that is not yet final in a legal sense is extended to have nationwide effect, any decision regarding extension shall always be based on the content of the MFA's current decision.

### 141 Appeal

1. The provisions of art. 119ff. shall apply, subject to par. 2 of this article, to any appeal lodged against a decision passed in accordance with art. 139.
2. Any grounds for complaint may only refer to the terms set out in art. 136 and 137. It is inadmissible to question the substance of the initial decision.

## Subsection 4. Review

---

### 142 [only]

1. A review may be requested after a legally binding decision has been passed if a party discovers facts or proof that would have resulted in a more favourable decision and that, even with due diligence, could not have been produced sooner.
2. A request for review shall be made within ten days of discovering the reasons for review.
3. The limitation period for submitting a request for review is one year after the enforcement of the decision.

## 72 FINAL TITLE

### 143 Official languages

1. The code exists in English language only.

### 144

#### Scope of the code, omissions, custom, doctrine and jurisprudence

1. This code governs every subject to which the text or the meaning of its provisions refers.
2. If there are any omissions in this code, the judicial bodies will decide in accordance with the association's custom or, in the absence of custom, in accordance with rules they would lay down if they were acting as legislators.
3. During all their operations, the judicial bodies of MFA draw on settlements already established by sports doctrine and jurisprudence.

### 145 Specific disciplinary rules

Specific disciplinary rules may be introduced for the duration of a MFA final competition. Such rules shall be communicated to the participating member clubs before the first match of the final competition at the latest.

### 146 Adoption and enforcement

1. The MFA Executive Committee adopted this code on \_\_\_\_\_.
2. This code comes into force on the next following day.

---

**Pathak BALLGOBIN**  
Acting General Secretary

---

**Samir SOBHA**  
President of MFA