

Rules of the Mauritius Football Association

2022 edition



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ANNEXE A – QUESTIONNAIRE FOR INTEGRITY CHECKS



Definitions

The terms given below denote the following:

MFA: Mauritius Football Association.

FIFA: Fédération Internationale de Football Association.

CAF: Confédération Africaine de Football.

Association: a football Association recognised as such by FIFA and the relevant Confederation. It is a member of FIFA, unless a different meaning is evident from the context.

Premier League: An internal organisation of Professional Clubs subordinate to the MFA.

National First Division: Clubs playing at national first division competitions of the Association.

National Second Division: Clubs playing at national second division competitions of the Association.

Regional Football Association: The Association of Regional Football clubs, subordinate to the MFA.

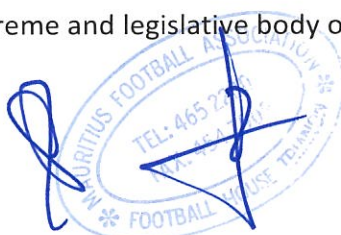
Confederation: a group of Associations recognised by FIFA and belonging to the same continent (or similar geographic area).

Club: Member of the MFA (that is itself a Member of FIFA) recognised by the MFA.

Officials: any members of the National Managing Committee, committee member, coach, referee and assistant referee, trainer as well as other people responsible for technical, medical and administrative matters at FIFA, a Confederation, Association, League or Club as well as any other persons obliged to comply with the FIFA Statutes (except players and intermediaries).

Player: a football player registered with a club.

National General Assembly: the supreme and legislative body of the MFA.



National Managing Committee: the strategic and oversight body of the MFA.

Member: a legal person that has been admitted into membership of the MFA by the National General Assembly.

Delegate: a natural person duly authorised by a member to act as its representative at the National General Assembly of the MFA.

Association Football: the game controlled by FIFA and organised by FIFA, the Confederations and/or the Associations in accordance with the Laws of the Game.

Laws of the Game: the laws of Association football issued by the IFAB in accordance with the relevant provisions of the FIFA Statutes.

Rules: the Statutes of MFA.

IFAB: the International Football Association Board.

Ordinary Courts: local courts of law which hear public and private legal disputes.

Arbitration Tribunal: the arbitration panel set up by the MFA in accordance with the Rules of MFA.

CAS (TAS): Court of Arbitration for Sport (Tribunal Arbitral du Sport) in Lausanne (Switzerland).

NB: References to natural persons include both genders. The singular case applies to the plural and vice-versa.



I. General Provisions

Article **1** Name, legal form, headquarters, and trademarks

- ¹ The name of the Association shall be: the Mauritius Football Association and its abbreviation is "MFA". MFA is a private organisation of an associative nature in compliance with the legislation of the Republic of Mauritius and registered with the Registrar of Associations in Mauritius.
- ² The address of the MFA is at the Football House, Trianon, Quatre-Bornes. Any change in address shall be notified in writing to FIFA, CAF, COSAFA, the Ministry, the Mauritius Olympic Committee and the Registrar of Association within fourteen days.
- ³ The MFA is a Member of FIFA, CAF and COSAFA.
- ⁴ The flag of the MFA has a pale blue background with the emblem in the middle.
- ⁵ The emblem of the MFA consists of the map of Mauritius supported by olive branches with the abbreviation "MFA" at the top and a scroll with the inscription Mauritius Football Association at the bottom.
- ⁶ The official colours of the MFA shall be "red" and "white"
- ⁷ The flag, emblem, seal, logo and abbreviation are legally registered with the Ministry of Commerce & Industry.
- ⁸ The duration of the MFA shall be unlimited.
- ⁹ The MFA shall be the only organisation for the promotion of football and organisation of football, futsal and Beach-Soccer in Mauritius.
- ¹⁰ The MFA shall;
 - a) Ensure that every club affiliated with the MFA or with its' Regional Football Association comply with the Sports Act; and



- b) Uphold and operate on the principles of good governance, transparency, democracy, fairness and non-discrimination.

Article **2** Objectives

The objectives of the MFA are:

- a) to improve the game of football constantly and promote, regulate and control it throughout the territory of Mauritius in the light of fair play and its unifying, educational, cultural and humanitarian values, particularly through youth and development programmes;
- b) to organise competitions in Association Football, futsal and beach soccer at a national level, by defining precisely, as required, the areas of authority conceded to the various Leagues and Regional Football Associations of which it is composed;
- c) to draw up regulations and provisions and ensure their enforcement;
- d) to protect the interests of its Members;
- e) to respect and prevent any infringement of the Rules, statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of FIFA, CAF and the MFA as well as the Laws of the Game and to ensure that these are also respected by its Members;
- f) to promote integrity, ethics and fair play with a view to preventing all methods or practices, such as corruption, doping or match manipulation, which might jeopardise the integrity of matches, competitions, Players, Officials and Members or give rise to abuse of Association football, futsal or beach soccer;
- g) to manage international sporting relations connected with Association Football, futsal and beach soccer;
- h) to host competitions at international and other levels;
- i) to promote the development of women's Association football, futsal and beach soccer and the full participation of women at all levels of football governance;
- j) to control and supervise all friendly football matches of all forms played throughout the territory of the MFA;
- k) to control and supervise Association football, futsal and beach soccer at national



level and to control and supervise all forms of international football matches played throughout the territory of the MFA, in accordance with the relevant Statutes and regulations of FIFA and of the Confederations.

Article **3** Human rights

The MFA is committed to respecting all internationally recognised human rights and shall strive to promote the protection of these rights.

Article **4** Non-discrimination and equality

Discrimination of any kind against a country, private person or group of people on account of race, skin colour, ethnic, national or social origin, gender, disability, language, religion, political opinion or any other opinion, wealth, birth or any other status, sexual orientation or any other reason is strictly prohibited and punishable by suspension or expulsion and/or other disciplinary measures.

Article **5** Neutrality and institutional independence

- ¹ The MFA is neutral in matters of politics and religion.
- ² The Members of the MFA shall also be neutral in matters of politics and religion and shall ensure that their own members remain neutral.
- ³ The MFA shall remain independent and shall avoid any form of undue political interference. The MFA shall manage its affairs independently and shall ensure that its own affairs are not influenced by any third parties.

Article **6** Promoting friendly relations

- ¹ The MFA shall promote friendly relations between its Members, Clubs, Officials and Players and in society for humanitarian objectives.



² The MFA shall provide the necessary institutional means to resolve any internal dispute that may arise between Members, Clubs, Officials and Players of the MFA.

Article **7** Players

¹ The status of Players and the provisions for their transfer shall be regulated by the National Managing Committee of the MFA in accordance with the FIFA Regulations for the Status and Transfer of Players.

² Players shall be registered in accordance with the regulations of the MFA.

Article **8** Laws of the Game

¹ The MFA and each of its Members shall play Association Football in compliance with the Laws of the Game issued by IFAB. Only IFAB may lay down and alter the Laws of the Game.

² The MFA and each of its Members shall play futsal in accordance with the Futsal Laws of the Game issued by FIFA. Only FIFA may lay down and alter the Futsal Laws of the Game.

³ The MFA and each of its Members shall play beach soccer in accordance with the Beach Soccer Laws of the Game issued by FIFA. Only FIFA may lay down and alter the Beach Soccer Laws of the Game.

Article **9** Conduct of bodies, Officials and others

¹ The bodies and Officials of the MFA must observe the Statutes, regulations, directives, decisions and the Code of Ethics of FIFA, of CAF and of the MFA in their activities.

² Every person and organisation involved in the game of Association football, futsal and beach soccer in the territory of the MFA is obliged to observe the



relevant Rules, statutes, regulations and the principles of fair play as well as the principles of loyalty, integrity and sportsmanship.

Article **10** **Official languages**

¹ The official language of the MFA shall be English. Official documents and texts shall be written in this language.

² The official languages at the National General Assembly and the National Managing Committee shall be English and French.



II. Membership

Article **11** Admission, suspension and expulsion

- ¹ The National General Assembly shall decide whether to admit, suspend or expel a Member.
- ² Admission may be granted if the applicant fulfils the requirements of the Rules of the MFA.
- 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.
- ⁴ The MFA shall ensure that all relevant stakeholders are represented within its National General Assembly.

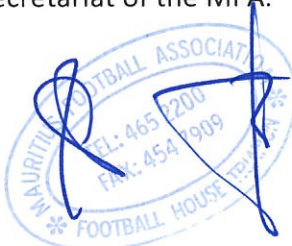
Article **12** Members

The Members of the MFA are: shall consist of sports clubs registered under the registered with the Registrar of Association Act , having a team that practices football at national level and Regional Football Associations affiliated with it as follows;

- a) The 10 National Premier League Clubs;
- b) The 8 National First Division Clubs;
- c) The 8 National Second Division Clubs; and
- d) The 13 Regional Football Association set-up by the MFA.

Article **13** Admission

- ¹ Any legal person wishing to become a Member of the MFA shall apply in writing to the general secretariat of the MFA.



- ² The application must be accompanied by the following mandatory items:
- a) a copy of its legally valid rules, statutes or constitutional document and, if applicable, regulations;
 - b) a declaration that it will always comply with the Rules, statutes, regulations and decisions of the MFA, FIFA and CAF and ensure that these are also respected by its own members, Clubs, Officials and Players;
 - c) a declaration that it will comply with the Laws of the Game in force as laid down by The IFAB, as well as the Beach Soccer Laws of the Game and the Futsal Laws of the Game as laid down by FIFA;
 - d) a declaration that it will not take matters of interpretation and application of the FIFA, CAF and the MFA Rules, statutes, regulations, decisions and directives to Ordinary Courts, unless the FIFA Statutes or regulations, the CAF Statutes or the MFA regulations provide for or stipulate recourse to Ordinary Courts;
 - e) a declaration that it recognises the Arbitration Tribunal and the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) in Lausanne, as specified in these Rules;
 - f) a declaration that it is located and registered in the territory of the Republic of Mauritius;
 - g) a declaration that it will play all official home matches in the territory of the Republic of Mauritius;
 - h) a declaration to the effect that the legal composition of the applicant guarantees that it can make decisions independently of any external entity;
 - i) a list of Officials, specifying those who are authorised signatories with the right to enter into legally binding agreements with third parties;
 - j) a declaration that it undertakes to organise or participate in friendly matches only with the prior consent of the MFA;
 - k) a copy of the minutes of its last general assembly or constitutional meeting;
 - l) if applicable, a declaration that it undertakes to organise or participate in friendly matches only with the prior consent of the MFA.

Article **14** Request and procedure for application

- ¹ The procedure for admission shall be regulated by special regulations



approved by the National Managing Committee of the MFA.

² The National Managing Committee shall request the National General Assembly either to admit or not to admit an applicant.

³ The new Member shall acquire membership rights and duties as soon as it has been admitted. Its delegates are eligible to vote with immediate effect.

⁴ A Club promoted to the National Second Division shall acquire direct MFA membership rights and duties as soon as it has been promoted and is in compliance with the Rules and regulations of the MFA. Its delegate is eligible to vote with immediate effect.

⁵ A Club which is relegated from the National Second Division loses its direct MFA membership and shall automatically be assigned to its region. This applies also to any club which loses its national status by any other means.

Article **15** Members' rights

¹ The Members of the MFA have the following rights:

- a) to take part in the National General Assembly of the MFA, to know its agenda in advance, to be called to the National General Assembly within the prescribed time and to exercise their voting rights;
- b) to draw up proposals for inclusion in the agenda of the National General Assembly;
- c) to nominate candidates for all bodies of the MFA to be elected;
- d) to be informed of the affairs of the MFA through the official bodies of the MFA;
- e) to take part in competitions and/or other sports activities organised by the MFA;
- f) to exercise all other rights arising from the Rules and regulations of the MFA.

² The exercise of these rights is subject to other provisions in these Rules and the applicable regulations of the MFA.



Article **16** Members' obligations

¹ The Members of the MFA have the following obligations:

- a) to comply fully with the Rules, statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of FIFA, CAF and the MFA at all times and to ensure that these are also respected by its members;
- b) to ensure the election of its decision-making bodies at least every four years;
- c) to take part in competitions and other sports activities organised by the MFA;
- d) to pay their membership subscriptions;
- e) to respect the Laws of the Game as laid down by IFAB and the Beach Soccer Laws of the Game and the Futsal Laws of the Game as laid down by FIFA and to ensure that these are also respected by its members through a statutory provision;
- f) to adopt a statutory clause specifying that any dispute requiring arbitration involving itself or one of its members and relating to the Rules, statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of FIFA, CAF, the MFA or the League(s) shall come solely under the jurisdiction of the MFA Arbitration Tribunal and to CAS, as specified in these Rules and that any recourse to Ordinary Courts is prohibited;
- g) to manage their affairs independently and ensure that their own affairs are not influenced by any third parties in accordance with art. 20 of these Rules;
- h) to ensure that their bodies are either elected or appointed according to a procedure that guarantees the complete independence of the election or appointment;
- i) to communicate to the MFA any amendment of its rules, statutes or 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;
- j) not to maintain any relations of a sporting nature with entities that are not recognised or with Members that have been suspended or expelled;
- k) to observe the principles of loyalty, integrity and good sporting behaviour as an expression of fair play through a statutory provision;
- l) to observe the mandatory items specified under article 13 paragraph 2



of these Rules for the duration of their affiliation;

- m) to administer a register of members which shall regularly be updated;
- n) to ratify rules or statutes that are in accordance with the requirements of the Rules of the MFA;
- o) to comply fully with all other duties arising from the Rules, statutes and other regulations of FIFA, CAF and the MFA.

² Violation of the above-mentioned obligations by any Member may lead to sanctions provided for in these Rules.

³ Violation of par. 1 (g) above may also lead to sanctions, even if the third-party influence was not the fault of the Member concerned. Each Member of the MFA is responsible towards the MFA for any and all acts of the members of their bodies caused by the gross negligence or wilful misconduct of such members.

Article **17** Suspension

¹ The National General Assembly is responsible for suspending a Member of the MFA. The National Managing Committee may, however, without a vote of the National General Assembly, suspend temporarily a Member of the MFA that seriously and/or repeatedly violates its obligations as a Member of the MFA with immediate effect. The suspension shall last until the next National General Assembly, unless the National Managing Committee has lifted it in the meantime.

² The presence of a majority (more than 50%) of the delegates representing the Members eligible to vote is necessary for a suspension to be valid and the motion for suspension must be adopted by a three-quarter of the majority of delegates present. A suspension of a Member by the National General Assembly or the National Managing Committee shall be confirmed at the next National General Assembly. If it is not confirmed, the suspension is automatically lifted.

³ A suspended Member of the MFA shall lose its membership rights. Other Members of the MFA may not entertain sporting contact with a suspended Member. The Disciplinary and Ethics Committee may impose further sanctions.



- ⁴ Members that do not participate in the sports activities of the MFA for two consecutive years shall be suspended from voting at the National General Assembly and their representatives shall not be elected or appointed until they have fulfilled their obligations in this respect.

Article **18** Termination of Membership and Expulsion

- ¹ A Club shall cease to be affiliated to the MFA:
- a) With the winding-up or voluntary withdrawal from the MFA;
 - b) Where it does not comply with the sports-act;
 - c) Where its registration as a registered association has been cancelled by the Registrar of Association.
- ² The National General Assembly, after hearing its defence, may expel (strike-off the roll) a member if:
- a) it repeatedly fails to fulfil its financial obligations towards the MFA;
 - b) it seriously and/or repeatedly violates the Rules, statutes, regulations, directives or decisions of FIFA, CAF and the MFA.
 - c) Pursuit of objectives contrary to the rules of the MFA or causing disrepute to the MFA;
 - d) Failure to pay to the MFA the required subscription fee.
 - e) Refusal to comply with the decision taken by the National General Assembly
- ³ The presence of a two-third majority of delegates representing the Members eligible to vote at the National 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 **19** Resignation

- ¹ A Member may resign from the MFA with effect from the end of the championship. Notice of resignation must reach the general secretariat no



later than 30 June.

- 2 The resignation is not valid until the Member wishing to resign has fulfilled its financial obligations towards the MFA and the other Members of the MFA.

Article **20** **Independence of Members and their bodies**

- 1 Each Member shall manage its affairs independently and with no undue influence from third parties.
- 2 The Members' bodies shall be either elected or appointed. The Members' rules shall provide for a democratic procedure that guarantees the complete independence of the election or appointment.
- 3 Any Members' bodies that have not been elected or appointed in compliance with the provisions of paragraph 2 above, even on an interim basis, shall not be recognised by the MFA.
- 4 Decisions passed by bodies that have not been elected or appointed in compliance with par. 2 above shall not be recognised by the MFA.

Article **21** **Status of Clubs, Leagues, Regional Associations and other groups of Clubs**

- 1 Clubs and Regional Football Associations affiliated to the MFA shall be subordinate to and recognised by the MFA. There shall only be one top-tier national league on the territory of Mauritius.
- 2 These Rules define the scope of authority and the rights and duties of the entities mentioned in par. 1 above. Their rules, statutes or regulations shall be in line with the requirements and obligations of the Rules and regulations of the MFA. The MFA shall have the primary responsibility to regulate matters relating to refereeing, the fight against doping, the registration of Players, club licensing, the imposition of disciplinary measures, including for ethical misconduct, and measures required to protect the integrity of competitions.

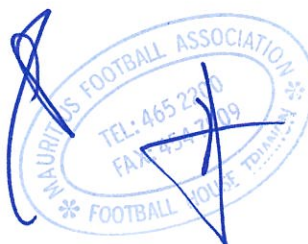
- 3 The entities mentioned in paragraph 1 above shall take all decisions on any



matters regarding their membership independently of any external body. This obligation applies regardless of their corporate structure.

⁴ In any case, no natural or legal person (including holding companies and subsidiaries) shall exercise control over more than one Club or group of Clubs whenever the integrity of any match or competition could be jeopardised.

⁵ The MFA shall set up a Regional Football Association in each sports region in which it operates, which shall consist of representatives of at least two sports clubs from each region of Mauritius. The Regional Football Associations shall be governed by their By-Laws, which shall be set up by the MFA.



III. Honorary president and honorary member

Article **22** Honorary president and honorary member

- ¹ The National General Assembly may bestow the title of honorary president or honorary member upon any persons for meritorious service to football.
- ² The National Managing Committee shall make these nominations.
- ³ The honorary president or honorary member may attend the National General Assembly. They may join the debates but are not entitled to vote.



IV. Organisation

Article **23** Bodies of the MFA

- ¹ The National General Assembly is the supreme and legislative body.
- ² The National Managing Committee is the strategic and oversight body.
- ³ Standing and ad-hoc committees shall advise the National Managing Committee and the general secretariat in fulfilling their duties.
- ⁴ The general secretariat is the executive, operational and administrative body.
- ⁵ The Club Licensing Bodies are in charge of the club licensing system within the MFA.
- ⁶ The independent committees fulfill their functions in accordance with these Rules and applicable regulations. The independent committees are the Audit and Compliance Committee, the electoral committees and the judicial bodies.
- ⁷ The judicial bodies are the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee and the Appeal Committee.
- ⁸ The members of the bodies of the MFA shall be either elected or appointed by the MFA itself without any external influence and in accordance with the procedures described in these Rules. The members of the bodies shall not have previously been found guilty of any criminal offence incompatible with the position.
- ⁹ Any member of the bodies of the MFA must withdraw from the debate and from taking a decision if there is any risk or possibility of a conflict of interest. In particular, members of the bodies of the MFA shall always be aware of, and comply with, the relevant provisions of the FIFA Code of Ethics on conflicts of interest and adjust their conduct as necessary (e.g. abstain from performing their duties, notify the chairperson in cases of potential conflicts of interest).



Article **24** Dismissal of a person of a body of the MFA

- 1 The National General Assembly may dismiss any person of a body. The National Managing Committee may place the dismissal of a person of a body on the agenda for the National General Assembly. The National Managing Committee may also dismiss a person of a body provisionally with the exception of the members of the Independent Committees. The provisional dismissal approved by the National Managing Committee shall be confirmed by the next National General Assembly, unless the National Managing Committee has lifted it in the meantime. If the next National General Assembly is of an elective nature, a dismissed member shall be allowed to be an elective candidate (provided that he fulfils the relevant eligibility criteria) on a conditional basis depending on the final decision of the National General Assembly on his dismissal which shall be taken before the election. Any National Managing Committee member may submit a proposal to place such a motion for dismissal on the agenda of the National Managing Committee or National General Assembly.
- 2 The motion for dismissal must be justified. It will be sent to the members of the National Managing Committee and/ or Members of the MFA along with the agenda.
- 3 The person in question has the right to speak in his own defence in front of the National Managing Committee and/or the National General Assembly.
- 4 If the motion for dismissal is upheld, the National General Assembly or National Managing Committee shall reach a decision by means of secret ballot. For the motion to be passed a majority of three-quarters of the valid votes is required.
- 5 The person dismissed (provisionally or not) is relieved of his functions with immediate effect.



A. NATIONAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Article 25 Definition and composition of the National General Assembly

- ¹ The National General Assembly is the meeting at which all of the Members of the MFA regularly convened. It represents the supreme and legislative authority of the MFA. Only a National General Assembly that is regularly convened has the authority to make decisions.
- ² The National General Assembly of the MFA shall be constituted in accordance with the principles of representative democracy.
- ³ A National General Assembly may be Annual or Extraordinary.
- ⁴ The President shall conduct the National General Assembly business in compliance with these Rules, the standing orders of the National General Assembly as well as any applicable regulations
- ⁵ The National General Assembly may appoint observers who may attend the National General Assembly without the right to debate or to vote.

Article 26 Delegates and votes

- ¹ The National General Assembly is composed of 39 delegates as follows:
 - a) for each of the 10 National Premier League Clubs, one delegate with one vote;
 - b) for each of the 8 National First Division Clubs, one delegate with one vote;
 - c) for each of the 8 National Second Division Clubs, one delegate with one vote
 - d) for each of the 13 Regional Football Associations, one delegate with one vote.
- 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. The Members of MFA shall send to the general secretariat of MFA the names of their respective delegates, no later than 10 days before the date of the relevant National General Assembly.



³ Only an office bearer (i.e., member of the executive committee—or managing committee) who has been in his club for a minimum of two consecutive years shall be able to represent the club as delegate at the MFA.

⁴ Each delegate has an equal number of votes in the National General Assembly. Only the delegates present are entitled to vote. Voting by proxy or by letter is not permitted.

⁵ The National Managing Committee and the General Secretary shall take part in the National General Assembly without voting rights. During their terms of office, members of the National Managing Committee may not be appointed as delegates to the National General Assembly.

Article **27** Areas of authority

The National General Assembly has the following authority:

- a) adopting or amending the Rules of the MFA and the standing orders of the National General Assembly;
- b) appointing three Members to check the minutes and approving the minutes of the last meeting;
- c) electing or dismissing the President, the vice-presidents and the members of the National Managing Committee;
- d) electing the chairpersons, the deputy chairpersons and members of the independent committees [i.e. Audit and Compliance Committee, electoral committees and judicial bodies], upon proposal of the National Managing Committee;
- e) appointing the scrutineers to count the votes and to assist the General Secretary in distributing the ballot papers issued for the elections;
- f) approving the financial statements including the consolidated financial statements and the annual report;
- g) approving the budget;



- h) approving the activity report (containing the activities of the MFA since the last National General Assembly);
- i) appointing the independent auditors upon the proposal of the National Managing Committee;
- j) fixing the membership subscriptions;
- k) deciding, upon the nomination of the National Managing Committee, whether to bestow the title of honorary president or honorary member;
- l) admitting, suspending or expelling a Member;
- m) dismissing a member of a body of the MFA;
- n) dissolving the MFA;
- o) passing decisions at the request of a Member in accordance with these Rules or passing any decision entrusted to the National General Assembly in accordance with these Rules.

Article **28** Quorum of the National General Assembly

- 1 The quorum of the National General Assembly shall consist of the majority (more than 50%) of the delegates representing the Members eligible to vote that are present at the start of the relevant National General Assembly.
- 2 Decisions passed by the National General Assembly shall only be valid if a majority (more than 50%) of the delegates representing the Members eligible to vote are present.
- 3 If a quorum is not achieved, a second National General Assembly shall take place 14 days after to the first, with the same agenda.
- 4 A quorum is not required for the second meeting unless any item on the agenda proposes the amendment of the Rules of the MFA, the election of the President, the vice- presidents or the members of the National Managing Committee, the dismissal of one or a number of members of a body of the MFA, the suspension or expulsion of a Member of the MFA or the dissolution of the MFA.



- ⁵ Once it is declared that the National General Assembly has been convened and composed in accordance with the Rules of the MFA, the quorum shall not be influenced by departing delegates.

Article **29** Decisions of the National General Assembly

- ¹ Unless otherwise stipulated in these Rules, a majority (more than 50%) of the Members entitled to vote is sufficient for a vote to be valid. The number of valid votes counted shall decide the majority. Spoiled or blank voting slips or any other forms of abstentions are disregarded in calculating the majority.
- ² A decision that requires a vote shall be reached by a show of hands or by means of an electronic count. If a show of hands does not result in a clear majority in favour of a motion, the vote shall be taken by calling the roll in alphabetical order. Voting for a particular item shall be by secret ballot if a majority (more than 50%) of the delegates representing the Members present and eligible to vote requires it.

Article **30** Elections

- ¹ Elections shall be conducted by secret ballot.
- ² Elections within the MFA shall be conducted in accordance with the Electoral Code of MFA and shall be supervised by the Electoral Committee of MFA.
- ³ The election for the positions of the National Managing Committee shall take place by position. At least two positions shall be reserved for a female candidate. Every candidate for the position of President shall be proposed by at least 5 Members. Every candidate in the election for the other positions of the National Managing Committee shall be proposed by at least 1 Member. Each Member shall support one candidate for each given position only. If a Member supports more than one candidate, none of its expressions of support shall be considered valid. A candidate may be run for several positions during the same election.
- ⁴ A majority (more than 50%) of the valid votes cast is necessary for the election of the President and vice-presidents of the MFA. If there are more than two



candidates for the office of President or for any of the offices of vice-presidents, whoever obtains the lowest number of votes is eliminated after each ballot until only two candidates are left.

⁵ For the election of the other members of the National Managing Committee, the candidate(s) who receive(s) the most votes in respect of the free seat(s) shall be elected.

⁶ For the election of the chairpersons, deputy chairpersons and members of all other bodies of the MFA [Audit and Compliance Committee, electoral committees and judicial bodies], the candidate(s) who receive(s) the most votes in respect of the free seat(s) shall be elected. These elections may be conducted en bloc. However, at the request of at least 5 delegates representing the Members, a separate vote for a specific candidate shall take place.

⁷ In case of a tied vote in any elections of any body of the MFA, two new ballots shall be conducted in accordance with the procedure set forth in this article. If the tied vote remains, the relevant position shall be filled by a drawing of lots unless one of the candidates for the position voluntarily withdraws.

⁸ Blank ballot papers, invalid votes or electronic votes manipulated in any way as well as abstentions shall be disregarded when calculating the majority.

⁹ Candidatures for any of the positions of the National Managing Committee shall be sent to the general secretariat of the MFA at least 30 days before the relevant elective National General Assembly. The official list of candidates must be passed to the Members of the MFA at least 10] days before the National General Assembly at which the National Managing Committee will be elected. The provisions of this paragraph shall also apply when elections take place during an Extraordinary National General Assembly.

¹⁰ Candidatures for any of the positions of all other bodies of the MFA [Audit and Compliance Committee, electoral committees and judicial bodies] must be passed to the Members of the MFA at least 10 days before the National General Assembly at which the members in question will be elected.

Article **31** Annual National General Assembly

¹ The Annual National General Assembly shall be held every year at the latest three months after the closing of the financial year of the MFA.



² The National Managing Committee shall fix the place and date. The Members shall be notified in writing at least 45 days in advance.

³ Any proposal that a Member wishes to submit to the National General Assembly shall be sent to the general secretariat in writing, with a brief explanation, at least 30 days before the date of the National General Assembly.

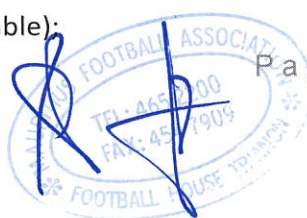
⁴ The formal convocation shall be made in writing at least 10 days before the date of the National General Assembly. This convocation shall contain the agenda, the activity report, the financial statements and the auditors' report and any other relevant documents.

Article **32** Annual National General Assembly agenda

¹ The General Secretary shall draw up the agenda based on proposals from the National Managing Committee and the Members.

² The National General Assembly agenda shall include the following mandatory items (in chronological order):

- a) a declaration that the National General Assembly has been convened and composed in compliance with the Rules of the MFA;
- b) approval of the agenda;
- c) an address by the President;
- d) appointment of Members to check the minutes;
- e) appointment of scrutineers;
- f) suspension or expulsion of Members (if applicable);
- g) approval of the minutes of the preceding National General Assembly;
- h) Activity report (containing the activities since the last National General Assembly);
- i) presentation of the consolidated and revised balance sheet and the profit and loss statement, as well as the report of the independent and external auditors;
- j) approval of the audited financial statements;
- k) approval of the budget;
- l) admission for membership (if applicable);



- m) votes on proposals for amendments to the Rules and the standing orders of the National General Assembly (if applicable);
- n) discussion of proposals submitted by the Members and the National Managing Committee In compliance with the procedure set forth in article 31 paragraph 3 of these Rules;
- o) appointment or dismissal of independent auditors (if applicable) upon the proposal of the National Managing Committee (dismissal can take place without the proposal of the National Managing Committee);
- p) dismissal of a member of a body (if applicable);
- q) elections of the members of the independent committees [Audit and Compliance Committee, electoral committees and judicial bodies] (if applicable);
- r) election of the President, vice-presidents and members of the National Managing Committee (if applicable).

³ The National General Assembly shall not make a decision on any point not included in the agenda.

⁴ The agenda of an Annual National General Assembly may be altered, provided 2/3 of the delegates representing the Members present at the National General Assembly and eligible to vote agree to such a motion.

Article **33** Extraordinary National General Assembly

¹ The National Managing Committee may convene an Extraordinary National General Assembly at any time.

² The National Managing Committee shall convene an Extraordinary National General Assembly if a majority (more than 50%) of the delegates representing the Members of the MFA make such a request in writing. The request shall specify the items for the agenda. An Extraordinary National General Assembly shall be held within 21 days of receipt of the request. If an Extraordinary National General Assembly is not convened, the delegates representing the Members who requested it may convene the National General Assembly themselves. In doing so, they shall inform all other Members of the MFA and the National Managing Committee of the MFA of the date and location of the Extraordinary National General Assembly, along with the items to be included



on the agenda in accordance with par. 3 below.

³ The Members shall be notified of the place, date and agenda at least 10 days before the date of an Extraordinary National General Assembly.

⁴ When an Extraordinary National General Assembly is convened on the initiative of the National Managing Committee, it must draw up the agenda. When an Extraordinary National General Assembly is convened upon the request of Members, the agenda must contain the points raised by those Members.

⁵ The agenda of an Extraordinary National General Assembly may not be altered.

Article **34** Amendments to the Rules, and the standing orders of the National General Assembly

¹ The National General Assembly is responsible for amending the Rules and the standing orders of the National General Assembly.

² Any proposals for an amendment to the Rules, or to the standing orders of the National General Assembly must be submitted in writing with a brief explanation to the general secretariat by a Member or by the National Managing Committee. A proposal submitted by delegates representing a Member is valid, provided it has been supported in writing by at least 50% of the delegates representing the Members.

³ For a vote on an amendment to the Rules, or to the standing orders of the National General Assembly to be valid, a majority (more than 50%) of the delegates representing the Members eligible to vote must be present.

⁴ A proposal for an amendment to the Rules, or to the standing orders of the National General Assembly shall be adopted only if 3/4 of delegates representing the Members present and eligible to vote agree to it.

⁵ MFA shall inform FIFA and CAF of any amendments to its Rules.



Article **35** Minutes

The General Secretary shall be responsible for recording the minutes at the National General Assembly. The minutes recorded by the General Secretary shall be sent to the Members and to FIFA within 3 months upon closure of the relevant National General Assembly. The minutes shall be checked by those Members designated and finally approved at the next National General Assembly.

Article **36** Effective dates of decisions

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



B. NATIONAL MANAGING COMMITTEE

Article **37** Composition

- ¹ The National Managing Committee consists of 15 members:
 - **1 President**
 - **1 Vice-President from Premier League**
 - **1 Vice-President from National First Division**
 - **1 Vice-President from National Second Division**
 - **1 Vice-President from Regional Football Association**
 - **10 members as follows;**
 - **3 from Premier League**
 - **2 from National First Division**
 - **2 from National Second Division**
 - **3 from Regional Football Associations**
- ² The National Managing Committee shall co-opt 4 members as follows:
 - **1 member representing women's football**
 - **1 member representing players**
 - **1 member representing referees**
 - **1 member representing coaches**
- ³ The four co-opted members shall attend the meetings of the National Managing Committee with a right to debate but no right to vote
- ⁴ The President, the vice-presidents and the other members of the National Managing Committee shall be elected by the National General Assembly in accordance with article 30 of these Rules. They shall undergo an integrity check, to be conducted by the Electoral Committee, prior to their election or re-election (see annexe A).
- ⁵ Any candidate running for a position in the National Managing Committee shall not be eligible to stand unless he has signed a declaration in the form set out in the Third Schedule of the Sports Act 2016 and communicated that



declaration to the MFA no later than 15 days before the date of the relevant elective National General Assembly. Any such candidate shall also send a written and signed notification to that effect by registered post to the MFA no later than 21 days before the date of the relevant elective National General Assembly.

⁶ The mandate of the President, vice-presidents and members of the National Managing Committee is for four years which shall begin after the end of the National General Assembly that has elected them. No person may serve as President for more than three terms of office (whether consecutive or not). Partial mandates shall be considered full mandates.

⁷ The members of the National Managing Committee, or, as the case may be, any person running for any position within the National Managing Committee, shall:

- a) not be younger than 18 years old;
- b) be domiciled in Mauritius and reside for more than 9 months in a year in Mauritius;
- c) be active in football at Officer level (as defined by the Registry of Associations Act) for at least 2 consecutive years with the same club or association prior to the date of the elections;
- d) fulfil the prerequisites stipulates in article 23 paragraph 8 of these Rules;
- e) not actively engage in politics or be a public officer posted at or employed by the ministry of youth empowerment, sports and recreation;
- f) not have been sentenced to imprisonment by an Ordinary Court for an offence;
- g) not be an officer or staff member of another national sports federation in Mauritius;
- h) not engage in coaching and not have been tested positive for doping for the last two years preceding the elective General Assembly.

⁸ All members of the National Managing Committee shall not at the same time be a member of an independent committee of the MFA and may not be appointed/elected as delegate representing a Member at the National General Assembly of the MFA.

⁹ If less than 50% of the positions at the National Managing Committee



become vacant, the National Managing Committee itself shall fill that/these position(s) until the next Annual National General Assembly, when a replacement will be elected for the remaining term of mandate.

¹⁰ If 50% or more of the positions at the National Managing Committee become vacant, the General Secretary shall convene an Extraordinary National General Assembly within the prescribed period of time.

¹¹ Any position within the National Managing Committee will be considered vacant in case of death, resignation or if the member concerned is permanently prevented from performing his official function or if any member of the National Managing Committee does not participate in three consecutive ordinary meetings.

Article **38** Meetings

¹ The National Managing Committee shall meet at least once a month. Meetings of the National Managing Committee may be held in person or by videoconference.

² The President shall convene the National Managing Committee meetings. If more than 50% of the National Managing Committee members request a meeting, the President shall convene it within 7 days. If the President does not convene the requested meeting by the aforementioned deadline, the other members of the National Managing Committee shall convene it themselves through the General Secretary, but must send the agenda to all members of the National Managing Committee at least 3 days before the meeting in line with par. 3 below.

³ The President, assisted by the general secretariat, shall compile the agenda. Each member of the National Managing Committee is entitled to propose items for inclusion in the agenda. The members of the National Managing Committee must submit the points they wish to be included in the agenda for the meeting to the general secretariat at least 7 days before the meeting. The agenda must be sent out to the members of the National Managing Committee at least 4 days before the meeting.

⁴ The General Secretary shall take part in the meetings of the National



Managing Committee in a consultative role and without voting right. If the General Secretary is unable to attend a meeting, he shall nominate a representative to attend the meeting on his behalf, subject to the approval of the National Managing Committee.

⁵ The meetings of the National Managing Committee shall not be held in public. The National 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 National Managing Committee.

⁶ The President may also convene the National Managing Committee on an urgent basis to deal with any matter requiring immediate settlement between two meetings of the National Managing Committee within a period of no more than 36 hours. In such cases, the deadlines mentioned in par. 3 above may be either reduced or disregarded if the urgency so requires, and decisions may be passed through other modern means of written communication (e.g. emails, messaging apps).

Article **39** Powers of the National Managing Committee

The National Managing Committee:

- a) shall pass decisions on all cases that do not come within the sphere of responsibility of the National General Assembly or are not reserved for other bodies by law or under these Rules;
- b) shall prepare and convene the Annual and Extraordinary National General Assembly of the MFA;
- c) shall appoint the chairmen, deputy chairmen and members of the standing committees;
- d) may decide to set up ad-hoc committees if necessary at any time;
- e) shall approve and issue the regulations for the organisation of standing committees and ad-hoc committees;
- f) shall appoint the General Secretary on the proposal of the President. The General Secretary may be dismissed by National Managing Committee acting alone;
- g) shall appoint replacements for vacancies in the independent committees until the next National General Assembly;



- h) shall approve and issue regulations governing the conditions of participation in and the staging of competitions organised by the MFA;
- i) shall appoint a qualified accountant for the preparation of the financial accounts of the MFA;
- j) shall propose the independent auditors to the National General Assembly;
- k) shall decide the place and dates of and the number of teams participating in the competitions of the MFA;
- l) shall appoint the coaches for the representative teams and other technical staff;
- m) shall approve and issue regulations stipulating how the MFA shall be organised internally;
- n) shall ensure that the Rules are applied and adopt the executive arrangements required for their application;
- o) may dismiss a person of a body or suspend a Member of the MFA provisionally until the next National General Assembly;
- p) may delegate tasks arising out of its area of authority to other bodies of the MFA or third parties;
- q) may appoint observers who may take part in the National General Assembly without the right to debate or to vote;
- r) may invest the funds of the MFA;
- s) may lease or to take on lease or to let movable or immovable property;
- t) may accept donations and legacies from any source provided that such donations and legacies are free from any conditions detrimental to the objectives of the MFA.

Article **40** Decisions

¹ The National Managing Committee shall not engage in valid debate unless a majority (more than 50%) of its members are present. Attendance by videoconference shall constitute presence.

² The National Managing Committee shall reach decisions by a majority (more than 50%) of the valid votes cast. In the event of a tied vote, the President shall have a casting vote. Voting by proxy or by letter is not permitted. Decisions shall be taken by a show of hands. However, voting shall, where a majority (more



than 50%) of the members present so request, be by secret ballot. When a meeting of the National Managing Committee is held by videoconference, voting online is permitted.

³ Any member of the National Managing Committee must withdraw from the debate and from taking a decision if there is any risk or possibility of a conflict of interests.

⁴ The decisions taken shall be recorded in the minutes.

⁵ The decisions taken by the National Managing Committee shall come into effect immediately, unless the National Managing Committee decides otherwise.



C. PRESIDENT

Article 41 President

- ¹ The President is primarily responsible for:
 - a) Ensuring that the statutory objectives, mission, strategic direction, policies and values of the MFA are sustainably pursued and fostering a positive image of the MFA;
 - b) implementing the decisions passed by the National General Assembly and the National Managing Committee through the general secretariat;
 - c) ensuring the effective functioning of the bodies of the MFA in order that they achieve the objectives described in these Rules;
 - d) supervising the work of the general secretariat;
 - e) relations between the MFA and its Members, FIFA, CAF, COSAFA, political bodies and other organisations.
- ² Only the President may propose the appointment of the General Secretary. The President may however also propose to the National Managing Committee the dismissal of the General Secretary.
- ³ The President shall preside over the National General Assembly and the National Managing Committee meetings and those committees of which he has been appointed chairman.
- ⁴ The President shall have an ordinary vote on the National Managing Committee
- ⁵ If the President is absent or unavailable, the longest-serving vice-president shall deputise.
- ⁶ Any additional powers of the President may be contained in the Internal Organisation Regulations of the MFA.



Article **42** Representation and signature

¹ The President represents the MFA generally. The National Managing Committee shall issue directives regarding the joint signature of officers, in particular, in case of the President's absence and concerning all important business of the MFA.

² The President, the President of the Finance Committee and the Secretary General shall sign all financial documents. In the absence of any of the above, they shall be replaced by the longest-serving Vice President as decided by the National Managing Committee, the deputy chairman of the Finance Committee and the deputy General Secretary respectively.

³ The President, vice-presidents, Treasurer (who shall be the chairman of the Finance Committee) and the Assistant Treasurer (who shall be the Deputy Chairman of the Finance Committee) shall each become bound with two sureties in the sum of one thousand rupees (Rs 1000) jointly and severally for the true performance of their duties. The security bonds shall be filed in the office of the Registrar of Associations without undue delay.



D. GENERAL SECRETARIAT

Article 43 General Secretariat

¹ The general secretariat is the executive, operational and administrative body and shall carry out the work of the MFA under the direction of the General Secretary. The members of the general secretariat are bound by the Internal Organisational Regulations of the MFA and shall fulfil the given tasks in the best manner possible and with the utmost good faith.

² Communications addressed to the general secretariat may be sent by email, except for communications sent in the context of elections of the National Managing Committee which shall be sent by recorded post or delivered by hand in exchange of a confirmation of receipt.

Article 44 General Secretary

¹ The General Secretary is the chief executive officer of the MFA

² The General Secretary shall be appointed on the basis of an agreement governed by private law and shall have the necessary professional qualifications and/or experience.

³ The General Secretary represents the MFA legally. He shall be responsible for:

- a) The day-to-day business and activities of the MFA;
- b) implementing decisions passed by the National General Assembly and National Managing Committee in compliance with the President's directives;
- c) attending the National General Assembly and meetings of the National Managing Committee and the standing and ad-hoc committees;
- d) organising the National General Assembly and meetings of the National Managing Committee and other bodies of the MFA;
- e) compiling the minutes for the meetings of the National General Assembly, National Managing Committee and standing and ad-hoc committees;



- f) managing and keeping the accounts of the MFA;
- g) the correspondence of the MFA;
- h) the relations with the Members, committees, FIFA, CAF and COSAFA, under the direction of the President of the MFA;
- i) organising the general secretariat;
- j) the appointment and dismissal of staff working in the general secretariat;
- k) providing the electoral committees with logistic and operative support for the elections.

⁴ The General Secretary and all MFA Staff shall not be a National General Assembly delegate or a member of any body of the MFA.

⁵ The General Secretary shall keep a Register of Members, which shall record, for each Member, the following information:

- a) its full official name;
- b) its registration number and date of registration;
- c) its full address;
- d) its date of admission as a Member;
- e) any other particulars as required by the National Managing Committee.

⁶ Any additional responsibilities and duties assigned to the General Secretary may be stipulated in the Internal Organisation Regulations (IOR) of the MFA.



E. STANDING COMMITTEES

Article 45 Standing Committees

¹ The standing committees of the MFA are:

- a) Finance Committee;
- b) Organising Committee for the MFA competitions;
- c) Technical, Youth and Development Committee;
- d) Referees' Committee;
- e) Women's Football Development Committee;
- f) Youth Football Committee;
- g) Futsal Committee;
- h) Beach Soccer Committee;
- i) Sports Medical Committee;
- j) Players' Status Committee;
- k) Media, Marketing and Television Advisory Board Committee;
- l) Regional Football Development Committee.

² The chairmen of the standing committees shall be members of the National Managing Committee. The members of each standing committee shall be appointed by the National Managing Committee on the proposal of the Members of the MFA or the President of the MFA. The National Managing Committee shall ensure appropriate female representation on standing committees and that they are composed in such a way that the members, together, have the knowledge, abilities and specialist experience that is necessary for the due completion of their tasks and duties. The chairmen, deputy chairmen and the members of the standing committees shall be designated for a term of office of four years. They may be appointed or dismissed by the National Managing Committee at any time without the approval of the National General Assembly.

³ Each chairman shall represent his committee and conduct business in compliance with the relevant provisions of the Internal Organisation Regulations (IOR) of the MFA approved by the National Managing Committee.

⁴ Each chairman shall fix the dates of meetings in collaboration with the General



Secretary, ensure that all tasks are carried out and report back to the National Managing Committee. Meetings may take place in person or by videoconference.

⁵ The National Managing Committee and each standing committee, the latter with the approval of the National Managing Committee, may, if necessary, set up a bureau and/or sub-committee to settle urgent matters. Any discussions and decisions of the bureau and/or sub-committee shall be reported to the relevant standing committee as soon as it is practicable to do so. Each committee may propose amendments to the National Managing Committee to the relevant provisions of the Internal Organisation Regulations (IOR) of the MFA that concern its committee.

Article **46** Finance Committee

The Finance Committee shall monitor the financial management and advise the National Managing Committee on financial matters and asset management. It shall analyse the budget of the MFA and the financial statements prepared by the General Secretary and submit them to the National Managing Committee for approval. It shall consist of a chairman, a deputy chairman and three members.

Article **47** Organising Committee for the MFA competitions

The Organising Committee for the MFA competitions shall organise the competitions of the MFA Of Association football, futsal and beach soccer at any level within the MFA in compliance with the provisions of these Rules and the regulations applicable to the MFA competitions. It shall consist of a chairman, a deputy chairman and a maximum of five members.

Article **48** Technical, Youth and Development Committee

The Technical and Development Committee shall primarily analyse the basic aspects of football training and technical development in football. It shall also be in charge of MFA's development programmes, devising and proposing



appropriate strategies, monitoring these strategies and analysing the support and programmes provided to the Members of the MFA and providing advice to the National Managing Committee on development matters in general. It shall consist of a chairman, a deputy chairman and a maximum of five members. The Technical Director and the Women Football Development Officer shall members of the Technical and Development Committee.

Article **49** **Referees' Committee**

The Referees' Committee shall implement the Laws of the Game. It shall appoint the referees for matches in competitions organised by the MFA, organise refereeing matters within the MFA in collaboration with the administration of the MFA and monitor the education and training of referees. It shall consist of a chairman, a deputy chairman and the number of members deemed necessary. All members of the Referees' Committee must be ex-referees, who were, if possible, active at the highest level.

Article **50** **Women's Football Committee**

The Committee for Women's Football shall organise women's football competitions and deal with all matters relating to women's football. It shall consist of a chairman, a deputy chairman and the number of members deemed necessary. The Technical Director and the Women Football Development Officer shall members of the Technical and Development Committee.

Article **51** **Youth Football Committee**

The Committee for Youth Football shall organise youth football competitions and deal with all matters relating to youth football. It shall consist of a chairman, a deputy chairman and the number of members deemed necessary. The Technical Director and the Women Football Development Officer shall members of the Technical and Development Committee.



Article **52** **Futsal and Beach Soccer Committee**

The Futsal and Beach Soccer Committee shall organise futsal and beach soccer competitions and deal with all matters relating to futsal and beach soccer. It shall consist of a chairman, a deputy chairman and the number of members deemed necessary.

Article **53** **Beach Soccer Committee**

The Beach Soccer Committee shall organise beach soccer competitions and deal with all matters relating to beach soccer. It shall consist of a chairman, a deputy chairman and the number of members deemed necessary.

Article **54** **Sports Medical Committee**

The Sports Medical Committee shall deal with all medical aspects of football. It shall consist of a chairman, a deputy chairman and the number of members deemed necessary.

Article **55** **Players' Status Committee**

¹ The Players' Status Committee shall set up and monitor compliance with transfer regulations in accordance with the FIFA Regulations for the Status and Transfer of Players and determine the status of Players for various competitions of the MFA. The National Managing Committee may approve special regulations governing the Players' Status Committee's powers of jurisdiction. The Players' Status Committee shall consist of a chairman, a deputy chairman and the number of members deemed necessary.

² Players' status disputes involving the MFA, its Members, Players, Officials, intermediaries and licensed match agents shall be settled in the last instance by



an Arbitration Tribunal in accordance with these Rules and subject to any applicable national law.

Article **56** Media, Marketing and Television Advisory Board

The Media, Marketing and Television Advisory Board shall deal with the working conditions for the media at the MFA events and maintain relations with media organisations. The Board shall also advise the National Managing Committee with regard to drafting and implementing contracts between the MFA and its marketing/television partners and analyse marketing and television strategies that have been devised. It shall consist of a chairman, a deputy chairman and the number of members deemed necessary.

Article **57** Regional Football Development Committee

The regional Football Development Committees shall deal with strategies for the development of Football at Regional level, including organisation of competitions at Regional levels. It shall consist of a Chairman, a deputy Chairman and the number of members deemed necessary.

Article **58** Adhoc- Committee

The National Managing Committee may, if necessary, create ad-hoc committees for special duties and a limited period of time. The National Managing Committee shall appoint a chairman, a deputy chairman and the appropriate number of members. The duties and function are defined in special regulations drawn up by the National Managing Committee. An ad-hoc committee shall report directly to the National Managing Committee.



G. CLUB LICENSING BODIES

Article **59** Club Licensing Bodies

¹ The Club Licensing Bodies are in charge of the club licensing system within the MFA in accordance with the Club licensing regulations of the MFA and CAF.

² The Club Licensing Bodies consist of a first instance body and an appeal body.

³ Decisions passed by the Club Licensing Bodies in second instance may only be appealed to the CAS, or to the MFA Arbitration Tribunal in accordance with the provisions in these Rules.



V. INDEPENDENT COMMITTEES

Article **60** Institutional independence

The independent committees as well as their individual members shall conduct their activities and perform their duties entirely independently but always in the interests of the MFA and in accordance with the Rules and regulations of MFA.

Article **61** Audit and Compliance Committee

¹ The Audit and Compliance Committee shall ensure the completeness and reliability of the financial accounting and review the financial statements, the consolidated financial statement and the external auditors' reports. The Audit and Compliance Committee shall consist of a chairperson, a deputy chairperson and one member. Its members shall be knowledgeable and experienced in financial and/or regulatory and legal matters and may not be involved in any decision affecting the operations of MFA.

² The Audit and Compliance Committee shall advise, assist and oversee the National Managing Committee in monitoring the MFA's financial and compliance matters, and issue and monitor compliance with the relevant regulations of the MFA. It shall also supervise the general secretariat in financial and compliance issues. The Audit and Compliance Committee shall ensure the completeness and reliability of the financial accounting and review the consolidated financial statements and the independent and external auditor's report. The committee shall furthermore monitor the MFA's financial and compliance matters and suggest to the appropriate bodies of the MFA any action that it deems necessary as a result of such monitoring. The Audit and Compliance Committee shall, with the assistance of the general secretariat, implement a compliance programme within the MFA.

³ Details on the Audit and Compliance Committee's responsibilities, its internal cooperation and other procedural matters are stipulated in the Internal Organisation Regulations (IOR) of the MFA.

⁴ The chairperson, deputy chairperson and members of the Audit and Compliance Committee shall be elected by the National General Assembly for a period of five years and may only be relieved of their duties by the National General Assembly. They shall not belong to any other body of the MFA and shall fulfil the



independence requirements contained in paragraph 5 of this article.

⁵ The chairperson and deputy chairperson of the Audit and Compliance Committee as well as any of their immediate family members may not exercise or have exercised during the four years preceding their initial terms any executive function at the MFA, one of MFA's Members, a League or a Club (including any of their affiliated companies/organisations), nor have or have had in the four years preceding their initial term any material business relationship with the MFA, one of the MFA's Members, a League or a Club (including any of their affiliated companies/organisations). "Immediate family member" shall mean, with respect to a person, such person's spouse or domestic partner, parents, grandparents, uncles, aunts, children (including any stepchild or adopted child), grandchildren, son-, daughter-, father- or mother-in-law, and including anyone else, whether by blood or otherwise, with whom the individual has a relationship akin to a family relationship for which such person provides financial support.

⁶ If the chairperson, the deputy chairperson or a member of the Audit and Compliance Committee permanently ceases to perform his official function during his term of office, the National Managing Committee shall appoint a replacement to serve until the next National General Assembly.

Article **62** Electoral committees

¹ The electoral committees are the bodies in charge of organising and supervising the election process in accordance with the Electoral Code of the MFA. The electoral committees consist of the Electoral Committee (the first instance body) and the Election Appeal Committee (the second instance body).

² The composition and function of the electoral committees shall be governed by the Electoral Code of the MFA.

Article **63** Judicial bodies

- ¹ The judicial bodies of the MFA are:
- a) the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee;
 - b) the Appeal Committee.



² The judicial bodies are to be composed in such a way that the members, together, have the knowledge, abilities and specialist experience that is necessary for the due completion of their tasks and duties. The chairpersons and deputy chairpersons of the judicial bodies shall be qualified to practise law.

³ The term of office of all members shall be five years. The members may be re-elected or relieved of their duties at any time, although they may only be relieved of their duties by the National General Assembly.

⁴ The chairpersons, deputy chairpersons and other members of the judicial bodies shall be elected by the National General Assembly upon proposal of the National Managing Committee and shall not be members of any other body of the MFA.

⁵ The chairpersons and deputy chairpersons of the judicial bodies shall fulfil the same independence criteria that are stipulated in article 61 paragraph 5 for the chairperson and deputy chairperson of the Audit and Compliance Committee.

⁶ If the chairperson, the deputy chairperson or a member of a judicial body permanently ceases to perform his official function during his term of office, the National Managing committee shall appoint a replacement to serve until the next National General Assembly, in which the National General Assembly shall appoint a new member of the respective judicial body for the remaining period.

⁷ The responsibilities and function of the judicial bodies shall be stipulated in the Disciplinary and Ethics Code of the MFA.

Article **64** Disciplinary and Ethics Committee

¹ The function of this body shall be governed by the Disciplinary and Ethics Code of the MFA.

² The committee may pronounce the sanctions described in these Rules and the Disciplinary and Ethics Code of the MFA on Members, Officials, Players, Clubs, licensed match agents and intermediaries.

³ These provisions are subject to the disciplinary powers of the National General Assembly and the National Managing Committee with regard to the suspension and expulsion of Members.

⁴ The National Managing Committee shall issue the Disciplinary and Ethics



Code of the MFA, which shall be in accordance with the principles laid down in the FIFA Disciplinary Code and the FIFA Ethics Code.

Article **65** **Appeal Committee**

- ¹ The function of this body shall be governed by the Disciplinary and Ethics Code of the MFA.
- ² The Appeal Committee is responsible for hearing appeals against decisions from the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee that are not declared final by the relevant regulations of the MFA.
- ³ Decisions pronounced by the Appeal Committee may only be appealed to the Arbitration Tribunal and/or to CAS in accordance with the provisions in these Rules.



VI DISCIPLINARY MEASURES

Article **66** Disciplinary measures

The disciplinary measures are primarily:

- ¹ for natural and legal persons:
 - a) a warning;
 - b) a reprimand;
 - c) a fine;
 - d) the return of awards.
- ² for natural persons:
 - a) a caution;
 - b) an expulsion;
 - c) a match suspension;
 - d) a ban from the dressing rooms and/or the substitutes' bench;
 - e) a ban from entering a stadium;
 - f) a ban on taking part in any football-related activity.
 - g) social work;
 - h) compliance training.
- 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;
 - j) replaying a match.



VII ARBITRATION

Article **67** Arbitration

¹ Disputes in the MFA or disputes affecting Members of the MFA (including Regional Football Associations), Leagues, members of Leagues, Clubs, members of Clubs, Players and Officials shall not be submitted to Ordinary Courts, unless the FIFA regulations, these Rules or binding legal provisions specifically provide for or stipulate recourse to Ordinary Courts.

² Such disputes as specified in paragraph 1 above shall be taken to the Arbitration Tribunal.

Article **68** Jurisdiction

¹ Recourse may only be made to the Arbitration Tribunal or to CAS in accordance with article 67 of these Rules once all internal channels of the MFA have been exhausted.

² The MFA shall have jurisdiction on internal national disputes, i.e. disputes between parties belonging to the MFA. FIFA and/or CAF shall have jurisdiction on international disputes, i.e. disputes between parties belonging to different Associations and/or Confederations, in accordance with the pertinent and applicable regulations.

Article **69** Court of Arbitration for Sport

¹ In accordance with the relevant provisions of the FIFA Statutes and/or the statutes of CAF, any appeal against a final and binding decision passed by a FIFA body, by a CAF body, or the Leagues shall be heard by the CAS, unless another Arbitration Tribunal has jurisdiction in accordance with article 67 of these Rules. CAS shall not, however, hear appeals on violations of the Laws of the Game, and suspensions of up to four matches or up to three months (with the exception of doping decisions).

² The MFA shall ensure its full compliance and that of all those subject to its jurisdiction with any final decision passed by a FIFA body, by a CAF body, by the Arbitration Tribunal or by CAS.



VIII FINANCE

Article **70** Financial period

- ¹ The financial period of the MFA shall be one year and shall begin on 1 July and end on 30 June.
- ² The revenue and expenses of the MFA shall be managed so that they balance out over the financial period. The MFA's major duties in the future shall be guaranteed through the creation of reserves.
- ³ The General Secretary is responsible for drawing up the annual consolidated accounts of the MFA and its subsidiaries as at 30 June.

Article **71** Revenue

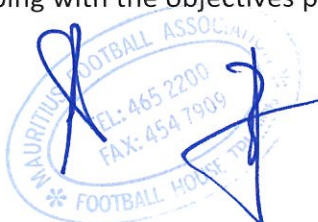
The revenue of the MFA arises specifically from:

- a) Members' annual subscriptions;
- b) receipts generated by the marketing of rights to which the MFA is entitled;
- c) fines imposed by the authorised bodies;
- d) other subscriptions and receipts in keeping with the objectives pursued by the MFA;
- e) donations;
- f) any other revenue related to football activities
- g) funding from FIFA and from CAF.

Article **72** Expenses

The MFA bears:

- a) the expenses stipulated in the budget;
- b) other expenses approved by the National General Assembly and expenses that the National Managing Committee is entitled to incur within the scope of its authority;
- c) all other expenses in keeping with the objectives pursued by the MFA.



Article **73** Independent auditors

- 1 A firm of qualified accountants shall be appointed as independent auditor at the Annual National General Assembly.
- 2 The independent auditors appointed by the National General Assembly shall audit on a yearly basis the accounts approved by the Finance Committee in accordance with the appropriate principles of accounting and present a report to the National General Assembly. The auditors shall be appointed every year. This mandate may be renewed.
- 3 The National General Assembly shall by taking a vote have the power to revoke the auditor of the MFA provided a majority of three-quarter of the total number of delegates present at the National General Assembly vote to that effect.

Article **74** Membership subscriptions

- 1 Membership subscriptions are due by 31 July of each year at the latest.
- 2 The annual subscription for new Members for the year in question shall be paid immediately upon admission as new Member on the occasion of the National General Assembly at which they are admitted.
- 3 The National General Assembly shall fix the amount of the annual subscription every year on the recommendation of the National Managing Committee. It shall be the same for every Member.

Article **75** Settlement

The MFA may debit any Member's assets to settle claims.



Article **76** Levies

The MFA may demand that a levy be paid by its Members for matches.

Article **77** Publication of financial data and inspection of books

- ¹ The MFA shall publish on its official website the financial documents referred to under article 32 paragraph 2 i), j) and k) of these Rules once the relevant items have been approved by the National General Assembly.
- ² The books of the MFA shall be open to inspection by any Member as represented by its legal representative or by any person having a genuine interest in its funds. All books and documents shall be kept at the seat of the MFA.



IX COMPETITIONS AND RIGHTS IN COMPETITIONS AND EVENTS

Article **78** Competitions

¹ The MFA organises and coordinates the following official competitions held within its territory:

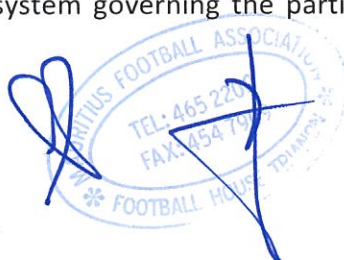
- The Premier League
- The National First Division League
- The National Second Division League
- The Republic Cup
- The MFA Cup
- The Inter-Regional Competition
- The Women's First Division League
- The Women's Second Division League
- Futsal Big 10 League
- Futsal Premiership
- Futsal Qualifiers
- Futsal Women League One
- Futsal Inter-College
- Beach Soccer League One
- Beach Soccer League Two
- Beach Soccer Women League
- Any other competition at National/ regional level as the NMC may deem fit.

² The National Managing Committee may delegate to the MFA's subordinate Leagues and Regional Football Associations the authority to organise competitions. The competitions organised by the Leagues shall not interfere with those competitions organised by the MFA. Competitions organised by the MFA shall take priority.

³ The National Managing Committee may issue special regulations to this end.

Article **79** Club licensing

¹ The National Managing Committee of the MFA shall issue regulations regarding a club licensing system governing the participation of Clubs in the



competitions of the MFA and CAF, in compliance with the minimum requirements of the club licensing system as set up by CAF in conformity with the requirements of FIFA.

2 The MFA shall operate a Club licensing system in accordance with the principles of the Club licensing regulations of the CAF and FIFA.

3 The objective of the Club licensing system is to safeguard the credibility and integrity of Club competitions, to improve the level of professionalism of the MFA, to promote sporting values in accordance with the principles of fair play as well as safe and secure match environments and to promote transparency in the finances, ownership and control of Clubs.

4 The National Managing Committee of the MFA shall issue Club licensing regulations governing the Club licensing system. Inter alia, the Club licensing regulations shall stipulate to which Clubs the system applies. As a minimum, the Club licensing system must be implemented in respect of top- division Clubs which qualify for the CAF Club competitions on sporting merit.

Article **80** Rights

¹ The MFA and its Members are the original owners of all of the rights emanating from competitions and other events coming under their respective jurisdiction, without any restrictions as to content, time, place and law. These rights include, among others, every kind of financial rights, audiovisual and radio recording, reproduction and broadcasting rights, multimedia rights, marketing and promotional rights and incorporeal rights such as emblems and rights arising under copyright law.

² The National Managing Committee shall decide how and to what extent these rights are utilised and draw up special regulations to this end. The National Managing Committee shall alone decide whether these rights shall be utilised exclusively, or jointly with a third party or entirely through a third party.

Article **81** Authorisation

The MFA and its Members are exclusively responsible for authorising the distribution of image and sound and other data carriers of football matches and events coming under their respective jurisdiction, without any restrictions as to content, time, place and technical and legal aspects.



X INTERNATIONAL MATCHES AND COMPETITIONS

Article **82** International matches and competitions

¹ The authority for organising international matches and competitions between Association teams and between Leagues and/or Club teams lies solely with FIFA, the Confederation(s) and/or the Association(s) concerned. No match or competition shall take place without the prior permission of the FIFA, the Confederation(s) and/or the Association(s) concerned in accordance with the FIFA Regulations Governing International Matches.

² The MFA is bound to comply with the international match calendar compiled by FIFA.

Article **83** Contacts

The MFA, its Members, Players, Officials, licensed match agents and intermediaries shall not play matches or make sporting contact with Associations that are not members of FIFA or with provisional members of a Confederation without the approval of FIFA.

Article **84** Approval

¹ Clubs, Leagues or any other group of Clubs that are affiliated to the MFA may only join another Association with the authorisation of the MFA, the other Association, the respective Confederation(s) and FIFA.

² Clubs, Leagues or any other group of Clubs that are affiliated to the MFA cannot belong to another Association or participate in competitions on the territory of another Association without the authorisation of the MFA and the other Association and of FIFA, and the respective Confederation(s) according to the FIFA Regulations Governing International Matches.



XI FINAL PROVISIONS

Article **85** Unforeseen contingencies and force majeure

The National Managing Committee shall have the final decision on any matters not provided for in these Rules or in cases of force majeure. Such decisions to be made according to right and justice, taking into account the relevant regulations of FIFA and CAF.

Article **86** Dissolution

¹ Any decision relating to the dissolution of the MFA requires a majority of three quarter (3/4) of all of the Members of the MFA, which must be obtained at a National General Assembly specially convened for the purpose.

² If the MFA is disbanded, its assets shall be transferred to the Mauritius National Olympic Committee. It shall hold these assets in trust as “bonus pater familiae” until the MFA is re-established.

Article **87** Enforcement

These Rules were adopted at the National General Assembly on 1 December 2022 and will come into force immediately.

Article **88** Transitory Clause

¹ The Members as defined under article 12 of these Rules, shall be granted a period of 12 months, as from the adoption of these Rules, to comply with the mandatory requirements stipulated in article 13 paragraph 2 of these Rules. Any Member which does not comply with all of these requirements within the aforementioned timeframe, shall automatically lose its right to vote at the National General Assembly and the delegate(s) of the Member in question shall not be taken into account when



establishing the quorum. The Member in question shall only regain its right to vote at the National General Assembly once it has fully complied with its obligations as mentioned in this paragraph.

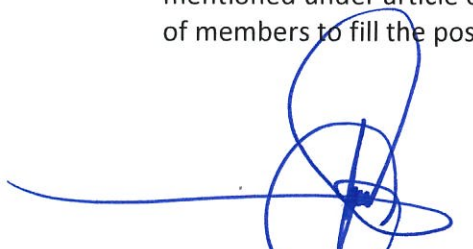
² The composition of the National Managing Committee as defined in article 37 paragraph 1 and 2 of these Rules shall only be applicable to the National Managing Committee whose membership shall be elected by the National General Assembly after the adoption of these Rules.

³ The requirement to undergo an integrity check as mentioned in article 37 paragraph 4 of these Rules and the criteria defined in article 37 paragraph 7 c) of these Rules shall not apply to the members of the National Managing Committee that are in place at the time of adoption of these Rules but shall be complied with by any candidate running for any of the position on the National Managing Committee following the adoption of these Rules.

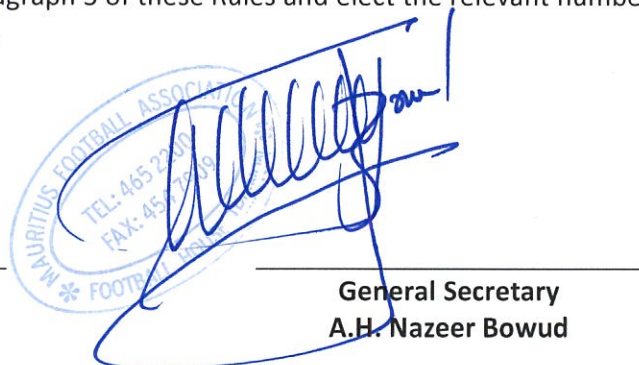
⁴ The requirement to have already been active in football as provided for in article 37 paragraph 7 c) of these Rules shall not apply to the female candidates running for any position of members of the National Managing Committee on the occasion of the first elections of the National Managing Committee that shall take place following the adoption of these Rules.

⁵ Upon adoption of these Rules, the National Managing Committee shall appoint the members of the Standing Committees as defined under article 45 to 57 of these Rules.

⁶ Within 12 months upon the adoption of these Rules, the National General Assembly shall elect the relevant members of the independent committees as defined under article 60 to 65 of the Rules that are not already in office. Within this same period, the National General Assembly shall also dismiss the relevant members of the independent committees that do not comply with the independence criteria mentioned under article 61 paragraph 5 of these Rules and elect the relevant number of members to fill the positions.



President
M.A.Samir Sobha



General Secretary
A.H. Nazeer Bowud

Date: 1 December 2022

ANNEXE A – QUESTIONNAIRE FOR INTEGRITY CHECKS

Part 1: General provisions

- ¹ The integrity checks with regard to candidates for, and holders of, official positions within the MFA that are subject to such checks (hereinafter: candidates) shall be conducted by the relevant body in accordance with the provisions of these Rules and the present Annexe.
- ² Candidates subject to integrity checks are obliged to comply with the screening and self-disclosure process as outlined in Part 2 and Part 3 below. Prior to the screening process, every candidate shall give his written consent to said process on the basis of a form provided by the relevant body conducting the integrity check. If such written consent is not provided, the integrity check shall be deemed as not passed.
- ³ Candidates subject to integrity checks shall act in good faith at all times and shall fully collaborate to establish the relevant facts upon reasonable notice. If the candidate concerned does not cooperate with the body competent to conduct the integrity check, the integrity check shall be deemed as not passed.
- ⁴ An integrity check shall be deemed as not passed if the candidate concerned:
 - a) has been subject to criminal convictions or disciplinary sanctions by a state court, in particular if the underlying behaviour was a substantive issue and not a minor infraction or procedural misbehaviour;
 - b) has been found guilty and/or sentenced by the FIFA Ethics Committee or any other sporting body with a sanction that would seriously put into question the discharge of the office concerned.
- ⁵ Subject to the relevant provisions regarding disclosure and forwarding of the information and related data obtained in the context of integrity checks in accordance with the present Annexe, all such information and all related data must be treated as strictly confidential by the body conducting the integrity checks concerned.

Part 2: Screening process

- ¹ At the beginning of the screening process, every candidate subject to an integrity check shall undergo an identification check ("ID check"). In this context, the candidate shall submit a copy of his current valid passport to the body in charge of performing the integrity check. The ID check shall include verification/identification of the following elements:
 - a) name(s) and surname(s);
 - b) address of residence;
 - c) date and place of birth;
 - d) nationality/nationalities.
- ² Every candidate subject to an integrity check shall complete the questionnaire contained in Part 3 below.
- ³ The body in charge of performing the integrity checks may conduct independent research and/or investigations in order to obtain further relevant information on a particular candidate, which may include information on intermediaries and related parties, mandates, potential conflicts of interest and significant participations as well as civil and criminal proceedings/investigations.



Part 3: Questionnaire

First name(s):	
Surname(s):	
Address of residence:	
Date and place of birth:	
Nationality/nationalities:	
Profession:	

¹ Have you been previously convicted by a final decision of any intentional indictable offence or of any offence corresponding to a violation of the rules of conduct set out in part II section 5 of the FIFA Code of Ethics?

No ☐ Yes ☐

If yes, please specify:

² Has a sports governing body ever imposed any disciplinary or similar sanction or measure on you in the past for actions which amount to a violation of the rules of conduct set out in part II section 5 of the FIFA Code of Ethics?

No ☐ Yes ☐

If yes, please specify:

³ Are you the subject of any pending civil, criminal or disciplinary proceedings or investigations?

No ☐ Yes ☐

If yes, please specify:

⁴ I am fully aware that I am subject to the provisions of the Disciplinary and Ethics Code of the MFA and to the provisions of the Rules and other regulations of the MFA that may address integrity issues, and I fully comply with such provisions.

⁵ I currently hold the following positions in football:

⁶ The following facts and circumstances may give rise to potential conflicts of interest regarding me (cf. in particular art. 23 par. 9 of these Rules):

⁷ Remarks and observations which may be of potential relevance in the context of the integrity check:

⁸ I am fully aware and agree that this questionnaire is made available to the members of the appropriate body of the MFA.

⁹ I am fully aware and confirm that I must notify the body conducting the integrity check of any relevant facts and circumstances arising after the integrity check has been completed.

¹⁰ I am fully aware and confirm that I am obliged to collaborate fully to establish the relevant facts with regard to the integrity check I am subject to. In particular, I will comply with requests for any documents, information or any other material of any nature held by me. In addition, I will comply



with the procurement and provision of documents, information or any other material of any nature not held by me but which I am entitled to obtain.

¹¹ I am fully aware and confirm that the body conducting the integrity check may also request information on possible sanctions (questions 1 and 2 above) directly from FIFA or the relevant confederation as well as from other institutions such as the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) in Lausanne, Switzerland, or the International Olympic Committee. In this regard, I hereby release the relevant institutions from any obligation of confidentiality relating to the information concerned.

¹² I am fully aware and confirm that the body conducting the integrity check may collect further information on me in accordance with Part 2 par. 3 of the present Annexe.

(Place and date)

(Signature)

