

IRAQ FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION



The Iraqi Football Association STATUTES Edition

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Statutes of IFA

2021 edition

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DEFINITIONS

The terms given below denote the following:

AFC: The Asian Football Confederation

Association: a football association recognized as such by FIFA and by the relevant confederation.

Association football: the game controlled by FIFA and organized by FIFA, the confederations and/or the associations in accordance with the Laws of the Game.

Arbitration tribunal: an independent and duly constituted private court of justice acting instead of an ordinary court.

AGCFF: Arab Gulf Cup Football Federation. **Club:** a member of an association (that is a member of FIFA and of the relevant confederation) or a member of a league recognized by an association that enters at least one team in a competition.

Congress: the supreme and legislative body of IFA.

Confederation: a group of associations recognized by FIFA that belong to the same continent (or assimilable geographic region).

CAS: Court of Arbitration for Sport based in Lausanne (Switzerland).

Delegate: a natural person validly representing a Member at the Congress.

Executive committee: the Executive body of IFA.

FIFA: Fédération Internationale de Football Association.

IFA: Iraqi Football Association.

IRAQ: The Republic of Iraq.

League: an organization that is subordinate to an association.

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

Member: a legal person that has been admitted into membership of IFA by the Congress.

NOCI: National Olympic Committee of Iraq

Official: any board member (including the members of the Executive committee), committee member, referee and assistant referee, coach, trainer and any other person responsible for technical, medical and administrative matters in FIFA, a confederation, an association, a league or a club as well as any other persons obliged to comply with the FIFA Statutes (except players and intermediaries/players agents).

Ordinary courts: state courts which hear public and private legal disputes.

Player: a football player licensed by IFA.

Regional association: an organization that is subordinate to an association.

Secretariat: the Administrative body of IFA.

Stakeholder: a person, entity or organization which is not a member and/or body of IFA, but has an interest or concern in IFA's activities, which may affect or be affected by IFA's actions, objectives and policies, in particular clubs, players, coaches.

The IFAB: The International Football Association Board (IFAB).

UFAA: Union of Arab Football Association.

WAFF: The West Asian Football Federation.

NB: Terms referring to natural persons include both genders. Any term in the singular applies to the plural and vice-versa.

Article 1 Legal form, Headquarters and trademarks

¹ IFA is a private organization of an associative nature, founded on 8 October 1948, and re-registered in compliance with the legislation of Iraq according to the National Sport Associations Law 2021 which was approved by the Iraqi Parliament on 13 January 2021. It is formed for an unlimited period.

² The headquarters of IFA are located in Baghdad with address in AL-Sha'ab Stadium, Zayouna, 10091 Baghdad.

³ IFA is a member of FIFA (1950), AFC (1970), UAFA (1974), AGCFF (2016) and of WAFF (2000).

⁴ The flag of IFA is of standard dimensions, is white in color with the logo of IFA in the middle.

⁵ The emblem of IFA is the same as the logo of IFA.

⁶ The logo of IFA consists of two concentric circles, the area between them forms the Flag of Iraq, and the inner circle includes the name of IFA in both Arabic and English languages in black color, two olive branches in green color and The Lion of Babylon in the middle in black and yellow colors.

⁷ The abbreviation of Iraqi Football Association is IFA.

⁸ The flag, emblem, logo and abbreviation are legally registered with the Law of Trademarks and Descriptions of the Iraqi Law No. 21 of 1957, which was renewed by the Iraqi Law on Trademarks and Geographical Indications No. 80 of 2004.

Article 2 Objectives

The objectives of IFA are:

- a) to improve the game of football constantly and promote, regulate and control it throughout the territory of Iraq in the light of fair play and its unifying, educational, cultural and humanitarian values, particularly through youth and development programmes;
- b) to organize competitions in association football, futsal and beach soccer at national level, by defining precisely, as required, the areas of authority conceded to the various leagues 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 Statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of FIFA, of the AFC, and of the IFA 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 jeopardize the integrity of matches, competitions, players, officials and Members or give rise to abuse of association football, futsal or beach soccer;
- g) to promote and strengthen good governance principles and practices at national level and encourage its Members to adopt their own good governance principles;

- h) to promote the development of women's football and the full participation of women at all levels of football governance;
- i) to control and supervise all friendly football matches of all forms played throughout the territory of Iraq;
- j) 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 Iraq, in accordance with the relevant Statutes and regulations of FIFA and of the confederations;
- k) to manage international sporting relations connected with association football, futsal and beach soccer;
- l) to host competitions at international and other levels;
- m) to maintain contact and cooperation with FIFA, AFC, and other national associations;
- n) to work on finding new financial sources to support IFA through improving marketing sponsorship and TV rights or under any other name provided but not contrasting the objectives of the game, and with AFC and FIFA regulations;
- o) to disseminate information on FIFA, AFC, UAFA, AGCFF and WAFF activities.

Article 3 Human rights

IFA is committed to respecting all internationally recognized 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 color, 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 IFA is neutral in matters of politics and religion.
- ² The Members of IFA shall also be neutral in matters of politics and religion and shall ensure that their own members remain neutral.
- ³ IFA shall remain independent and shall avoid any form of undue political interference. IFA 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 IFA shall promote friendly relations between its Members, clubs, officials and players and in society for humanitarian objectives.
- ² IFA shall provide the necessary institutional means to resolve any internal dispute that may arise between the Members, clubs, officials and players.

Article **7** **Players**

¹ The status of players and the provisions for their registration shall be regulated by the Executive committee in accordance with the FIFA Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players.

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

Article **8** **Laws of the Game**

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

² IFA 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 IFA 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 All bodies and officials of IFA shall observe the Statutes, regulations, directives, decisions and the Code of Ethics of FIFA, of AFC and of IFA in their activities.

² Every person and organization involved in the game of association football, futsal and beach soccer in the territory of IFA is obliged to observe the Statutes and regulations of FIFA, of AFC, of IFA and any other relevant statutes, as well as the principles of fair play, loyalty, integrity and sportsmanship.

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

¹ The official languages of IFA shall be Arabic, Kurdish and English. Official documents and texts shall be written in these languages. In the event of any divergence in the interpretation of texts in different languages, the text written in Arabic shall be authoritative.

² The official languages at the Congress shall be Arabic, Kurdish and English.

Article 11 Admission, suspension and expulsion

¹The Congress shall decide whether to admit, suspend or expel a Member.

² Admission may be granted if the applicant fulfills the requirements of IFA in accordance with these Statutes.

³ Membership is terminated by resignation or expulsion. Loss of membership does not relieve the Member from its financial obligations towards IFA or other Members of IFA, but leads to the loss of all rights in relation to IFA.

⁴ IFA shall ensure that all relevant stakeholders are represented within its Congress. The interests of women's football shall also be adequately represented in the Congress.

Article 12 Members

The Members of IFA are:

1. Football clubs from the Premier Division (first level) of the Iraqi National League.
 2. Football clubs from the First Division (Second level) of the Iraqi national league.
 3. Regional Associations.
 4. The Players' Association;
 5. The Referees' Association;
 6. The Coaches' Association;
 7. Women futsal league
 8. Men futsal league:
 9. Men Beach Soccer league:
-

Article 13 Admissions

¹ Any legal entity wishing to become a Member of IFA shall apply in writing to the general secretariat of IFA.

² The application must be accompanied by the following mandatory items:

- a) A copy of its legally valid Statutes or constitutional document and, if applicable, regulations;
- b) A declaration that it will comply at all times with the Statutes, regulations and decisions of IFA, FIFA, AFC and ensure that these are also respected, if applicable, by its own members, clubs, officials and players;
- c) A declaration that it will comply with the Laws of the Game in force as lay 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 refer in the last instance (i.e. after exhaustion of all internal channels within IFA) any dispute of national dimension arising from or related to the Statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of IFA only to CAS, which shall definitely settle the dispute to the exclusion of any ordinary court, unless expressly prohibited by the legislation in force in Iraq;

- e) A declaration that any dispute of international dimension arising from or related to the Statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of FIFA, of AFC may only be submitted in the last instance to CAS, as specified in the Statutes of FIFA and of AFC;
- f) A declaration that it recognizes the jurisdiction of CAS, as specified in the Statutes of FIFA and AFC and its decisions;
- g) A declaration that it is located and registered on the territory of Iraq
- 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 declaration to the effect that the members of its own bodies were elected or appointed as a result of a procedure that guarantees the complete independence of the election or appointment;
- j) A list of officials, specifying those who are authorized signatories with the right to enter into legally binding agreements with third parties;
- k) A copy of the minutes of its last congress or constitutional meeting;
- l) A declaration that it undertakes to organize or participate in friendly matches only with the prior consent of IFA;
- m) A declaration that it will play all official home matches on the territory of Iraq

Article 14 Request and procedure for application

- ¹ The procedure for admission shall be regulated by special regulations approved by the Executive Committee.
- ² The Executive Committee shall request that the Congress either admit an applicant or not. The applicant may state the reasons for its application to the Congress.
- ³ The new Member shall acquire membership rights and duties as soon as it has been admitted. Its delegates are eligible to vote and be elected with immediate effect.

Article 15 Members' rights

- ¹ The Members of IFA have the following rights:
 - a) To take part in the Congress, to receive its agenda in advance, to be called to the Congress within the prescribed time, to exercise their rights to participate in the debates and discussions and to exercise their voting rights;
 - b) To draw up proposals for inclusion in the agenda of the Congress;
 - c) To nominate candidates for elections and/or appointment to the relevant bodies of IFA;
 - d) To be informed of the affairs of IFA through its official bodies;
 - e) To take part in competitions (if applicable) and/or other sporting activities organized by IFA;
 - f) To exercise all other rights arising from the Statutes and regulations of IFA;
- ² The exercise of these rights is subject to other provisions in the Statutes and applicable regulations of IFA.

Article 16 Members' obligations

- ¹ The Members of IFA have the following obligations:
- a) To comply fully with the Statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of FIFA, AFC, and IFA 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 (if applicable) and other sporting activities organized by IFA;
 - d) To pay their membership subscriptions;
 - e) To respect the Laws of the Game 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, 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 of national dimension arising from or related to the Statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of IFA may only be referred in the last instance (i.e. after exhaustion of all internal channels within IFA) to CAS, which shall definitely settle the dispute to the exclusion of any ordinary court, unless expressly prohibited by the legislation in force in Iraq;
 - g) To adopt a statutory clause specifying that any dispute of international dimension arising from or related to the Statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of FIFA, of AFC may only be submitted in the last instance to CAS, as specified in the Statutes of FIFA and AFC;
 - h) 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 Statutes;
 - i) To ensure that their bodies are either elected or appointed according to a procedure that guarantees the complete independence of the election or appointment;
 - j) To communicate to IFA any amendment to its statutes and regulations as well as the list of officials who are authorized signatories with the right to enter into legally binding agreements with third parties;
 - k) Not to maintain any relations of a sporting nature with entities that are not recognized or with Members that have been suspended or expelled;
 - l) To observe the principles of loyalty, integrity and good sporting behavior as an expression of fair play through a statutory provision;
 - m) To observe the mandatory items specified under art. 13 par. 2 of these Statutes for the duration of their affiliation;
 - n) To administer a register of members. This shall regularly be updated;
 - o) To ratify statutes that are in accordance with the requirements of these Statutes;
 - p) To comply fully with all other duties arising from the Statutes and other regulations of FIFA, AFC and IFA.

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

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

Article 17 Suspension

1. The Congress may suspend a Member solely at the request of the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee may, without a vote of the Congress, temporarily suspend with immediate effect a Member that seriously violates its obligations. A suspension approved by the Executive Committee shall last until the next Congress, unless the Executive Committee has revoked such suspension prior to the Congress.
2. A suspension of a Member by the Congress requires a three-quarters (3/4) majority of the Members present and eligible to vote.
3. A suspension of a Member by the Executive Committee shall be confirmed at the next Congress by a three-quarters (3/4) majority of the Members present and eligible to vote. If it is not confirmed, such suspension shall be automatically lifted.
4. The Congress may lift the suspension of a Member solely at the request of the Executive Committee. The lifting of the suspension of a Member by the Congress requires a three-quarters (3/4) majority of the Members present and eligible to vote.
5. A suspended Member shall lose its membership rights. Other Member shall not entertain sporting contact with a suspended Members. The Disciplinary and Ethics Committee may impose further sanctions.
6. Members which do not participate in the sporting activities of IFA for two year shall be suspended from voting at the Congress and their representative shall not be elected or appointed until they have fulfilled their obligations in this respect

Article 18 Expulsion

1. The Congress may expel a Member solely at the request of the Executive Committee if, without limitation:
 - a) It fails to fulfill its financial obligations towards FIFA, AFC and IFA;
 - b) It seriously violates and/or repeatedly violates its own Statutes, Codes, Rules, Regulations and Standing Orders or those of the AFC or FIFA or IFA;
2. The presence of a majority (more than 50%) of the Members eligible to vote at the Congress is necessary for a vote to expel a Member to be valid.
3. The motion for expulsion must be adopted by a three-quarters (3/4) majority of the Members present Eligible to vote.

Article 19 Resignation

- ¹ A Member may resign with effect from the end of each calendar year. Notice of resignation must reach the general secretariat no later than two months before the end of the calendar year.
- ² The resignation is not valid until the Member wishing to resign has fulfilled its financial obligations towards IFA and its other Members.

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 elected. The Members' Statutes shall provide for a democratic procedure that guarantees the complete independence of the election.
- ³ Any Members' bodies that have not been elected in compliance with the provisions of par. 2 above, even on an interim basis, shall not be recognized by IFA.
- ⁴ Decisions passed by bodies that have not been elected in compliance with par. 2 above shall not be recognized by IFA.

Article 21 Status of clubs, leagues, regional associations and other groups of clubs and Associations

- ¹ Clubs, leagues, regional associations and Association's or any other groups of clubs affiliated to IFA shall be subordinate to and recognized by IFA. There shall only be one top-tier national league on the territory of Iraq.
- ² These Statutes define the scope of authority and the rights and duties of the entities mentioned in par. 1 above. Their Statutes and regulations shall be in line with the requirements and obligations of the Statutes and regulations of IFA. IFA shall approve the Statutes and regulations of its Members. IFA 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, as well as measures required to protect the integrity of competitions.
- ³ The entities mentioned in par. 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 The entities mentioned in par. 1 above shall submit to the IFA the annual updated list of their own congress voting members (that have been completed one year prior to hold the full membership, at the day before the election day) to have the right to represent their Members' Associations in IFA's bodies. The submission shall be at least 60 days prior to the IFA's annual Congress.
- ⁵ 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 jeopardized.

Article **22** **Honorary president and honorary member**

- ¹ The Congress may bestow the title of honorary president or honorary member upon any person for meritorious service to football.
- ² The Executive Committee shall make these nominations.
- ³ The honorary president or honorary member may take part in the Congress. They may join the debates but are not entitled to vote.

IV. ORGANISATION

Article **23** **Bodies**

- ¹ The Congress is the supreme and legislative body of the IFA.
- ² The Executive Committee is the Executive body of the IFA.
- ³ The general secretariat is the operational and administrative body of the IFA.
- ⁴ The Standing and ad hoc committees shall advise and assist the Executive Committee and the general secretariat in fulfilling their duties.
- ⁵ The club licensing bodies are in charge of the club licensing system within IFA.
- ⁶ The independent committees fulfill their functions in accordance with these Statutes and applicable regulations. The independent committees are the Audit and Compliance Committee, and the electoral committees.
- ⁷ The judicial bodies are the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee and the Appeal Committee, and are also independent committees.
- ⁸ The bodies shall be either elected or appointed by IFA itself without any undue external influence and in accordance with the procedures described in these Statutes. 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 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 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, etc.).

Article **24** Dismissal of a member of a body

¹The Congress may dismiss a member of a body. The Executive Committee may also dismiss a member of a body provisionally, with the exception of the members of the independent committees. The provisional dismissal approved by the Executive Committee shall be confirmed by the next Congress, unless the Executive Committee has lifted it in the meantime. If the next Congress is of an elective nature, a dismissed member shall be allowed to be an elective candidate (provided that they fulfill the relevant eligibility criteria) on a conditional basis depending on the final decision of the Congress on their dismissal which shall be taken before the election.

² The motion for dismissal must be justified and shall be sent to the members of the Executive Committee and/or to the Members of IFA along with the respective agenda.

³ The member of the body in question has the right to defend himself in front of the Executive Committee and/or the Congress.

⁴ The motion for dismissal shall be decided by means of secret ballot at the Executive Committee and/or the Congress. For the motion to be passed, a majority of two-thirds of the valid votes cast is required.

⁵ The member dismissed (provisionally or not) is relieved of their functions with immediate effect.

A. CONGRESS

Article 25 Definition and composition

- ¹ The Congress is a meeting at which all of the Members regularly convene. It represents the supreme and legislative authority of IFA. Only a Congress that is duly convened has the authority to make decisions.
- ² The Congress shall be constituted in accordance with the principles of representative democracy and shall take into account the importance of gender equality in football.
- ³ The Congress may be ordinary or extraordinary.
- ⁴ The President shall chair the Congress in compliance with these Statutes, the Standing Orders of the Congress as well as any applicable regulations.
- ⁵ The Executive Committee may appoint observers who take part in the Congress without the right to debate or to vote.
- ⁶ The honorary presidents or honorary members may take part in the Congress. They may join the debates but are not entitled to vote.

Article 26 Delegates and votes

- ¹ The Congress is composed of 68 voting delegates.
Each member shall have one (1) vote and is entitled to be represented by a maximum of 2 delegates to participate in the Congress. The number of votes is allocated as follows:
 - a) For the 20 football clubs from the Premier Division (first level) of the Iraqi National League: one vote per club, with a total of 20 votes.
 - b) For the top 4 Football clubs from the First Division (Second level) of each of the 5 provinces of the Iraqi national leagues: one vote per club: with a total of 20 votes.
 - c) For the 17 Regional Associations: one vote per Regional Association with a total of 17 votes. However, in the event that the Baghdad Regional Association and the Halabja Regional Association are admitted as a member of IFA with the approval of the Congress, the Regional Associations will have 19 votes.
 - d) For the Players Association): total of 1 vote.
 - e) For the Referees' Association total of 1 vote
 - f) For the Coaches' Association total of 1 vote.
 - g) For the Women futsal league: (the top 2 ranking clubs of the preceding season): total of 2 votes
 - h) For the Men futsal league: (the top 2 ranking clubs of the preceding season): total of 2 votes
 - i) For the Men Beach Soccer league: (the top 2 ranking clubs of the preceding season): total of 2 votes.
- ² Delegates must belong to the Member that they represent and be appointed or elected by the appropriate body of that Member. If the delegates are members of the executive body of Members of IFA and wish to be candidates to any of the IFA elected bodies, they should resign from their executive positions at the Member's Association once they are elected. They must also be able to produce evidence of this upon request.
- ³ Voting by proxy or by letter is not permitted.
- ⁴ The members of the Executive Committee and the General Secretary shall take part in the Congress without voting rights. During their terms of office, members of the Executive Committee may not be appointed as

delegates to the Congress.

The Congress has the following areas of authority:

- a) Adopting or amending these Statutes and the Standing Orders of the Congress;
- b) Appointing three Members to check the minutes and approving the minutes of the last meeting;
- c) Electing the President, the vice-presidents and members of the Executive Committee;
- d) Electing the Chairperson, the deputy chairperson and Members of the independent committees (i.e. Audit and Compliance Committee, and electoral committees) and judicial bodies, upon proposal of the Executive Committee
- e) Appointing three Scrutinizer's to count the votes and to assist the General Secretary in distributing the ballot papers issued for the elections;
- f) Approving the annual audited financial statements, including the consolidated financial statements and the annual report;
- g) Approving the budget;
- h) Approving the activity report (containing the activities of IFA since the last Congress);
- i) Appointing the independent and external auditors upon proposal of the Executive Committee;
- j) Fixing the membership subscriptions upon proposal of the Executive Committee;
- k) Bestowing the title of honorary president or honorary member, upon proposal of the Executive Committee;
- l) Admitting, suspending or expelling a Member;
- m) Dismissing a member of a body of IFA;
- n) Dissolving IFA;
- o) Passing decisions at the request of a Member in accordance with these Statutes or passing any decision entrusted to the Congress in accordance with these Statutes;

Article 28 Quorum

¹ Decisions passed by the Congress shall only be valid if a majority (more than 50%) of the delegates representing the Members eligible to vote is present.

² If a quorum is not achieved, a second Congress shall take place within 24 hours with the same agenda.

³ A quorum is not required for the second meeting of the Congress unless an item on the agenda proposes the amendment of these Statutes or the Standing Orders of the Congress, the election of the President, vice-presidents or members of the Executive Committee, the election of the chairperson, deputy chairperson or members of the independent committees, the dismissal of a member of a body, the suspension or expulsion of a Member or the dissolution of IFA.

⁴ Once it is declared that the Congress has been convened and composed in accordance with these Statutes, the quorum shall not be influenced by delegates departing.

Article 29 Decisions

¹ A decision that requires a vote shall be reached by a show of hands or by means of an electronic count, unless decided otherwise by the Congress. If a show of hands does not result in a clear majority in favor of a motion, the vote shall be taken by calling the roll in alphabetical order.

² Unless otherwise stipulated in these Statutes, a majority (more than 50%) of the valid votes cast is sufficient for a decision to be valid. Blank ballot papers, invalid votes or electronic votes manipulated in any way as well as abstentions shall be disregarded when calculating the majority.

Article 30 Elections

¹ Elections shall be conducted by secret ballot.

² Elections shall be conducted in accordance with the Electoral Code of IFA and shall be supervised by the Electoral Committee.

³ The election for the positions within the Executive Committee shall take place by position. At least one position shall be reserved for a female candidate. The female candidate receiving the highest number of votes (within the other female candidates for the same position) is elected. Every candidate in the election for the position of President shall be proposed by at least five Members, for the positions of vice-presidents, they shall be proposed by at least three Members, and for the other members shall be proposed by at least two Members. Each Member shall only nominate 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.

⁴ A majority (more than 50%) of the valid votes cast is necessary for the election of the President and vice-presidents of IFA. If there are more than two candidates for the office of President or for any of the offices of vice-presidents and no candidate receives a majority (more than 50%) of the valid votes cast, whoever obtains the lowest number of votes is eliminated after each ballot until only two candidates are left. For the election of the President, where there is only one candidate, the Congress may decide to elect him by acclamation.

⁵ For the election of the other members of the Executive 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 chairperson, deputy chairperson and members of the independent committees (i.e. 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 three 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, 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 remain vacant until a new elective Congress convenes to proceed with new elections according to these Statutes.

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 Executive Committee shall be sent to the general secretariat at least 45 days before the relevant elective Congress. The official list of candidates must be passed to the Members of IFA at least 15 days before the Congress at which the Executive Committee shall be elected. The provisions of this paragraph shall also apply when elections take place during an Extraordinary Congress.

¹⁰ Candidatures for any of the positions of the independent committees (i.e. Audit and Compliance Committee and electoral committees) and judicial bodies must be passed to the Members of IFA at least 10 days before the Congress at which the members in question shall be elected.

Article 31 Ordinary Congress

- ¹ The Ordinary Congress shall be held every year.
- ² The Executive Committee shall fix the place and date. The Members shall be notified in writing at least sixty (60) days in advance.
- ³ Any proposal that a Member wishes to submit to the Congress shall be sent to the general secretariat in writing, with a brief explanation, at least forty- five (45) days before the date of the Congress.
- ⁴ The formal convocation shall be made in writing at least ten (10) days before the date of the Congress. This convocation shall contain the agenda, the activity report, the financial statements and the independent and external auditors' report and any other relevant documents

Article 32 Ordinary Congress agenda

- ¹ The General Secretary shall draw up the agenda based on proposals from the Executive Committee and the Members.
- ² The Congress agenda shall include the following mandatory items (in chronological order):
 - a) A declaration that the Congress has been convened and composed in compliance with these Statutes;
 - b) Approval of the agenda;
 - c) An address by the President;
 - d) Appointment of Members to check the minutes;
 - e) Appointment of scrutinizer's;
 - f) Suspension or expulsion of Members (if applicable);
 - g) Approval of the minutes of the preceding Congress;
 - h) Activity report (containing the activities since the last Congress);
 - i) Presentation of the consolidated and revised balance sheet and the profit and loss statement; as well as the independent and external auditor's reports.
 - j) Approval of the audited financial statements;

- k) Approval of the budget;
 - l) Votes on proposals for amendments to these Statutes and the Standing Orders of the Congress;
 - m) Discussion of proposals submitted by the Members and the Executive Committee in accordance with the procedure stipulated under art. 31 par. 3 of these Statutes;
 - n) Appointment of the independent and external auditors (if applicable) upon proposal of the Executive Committee;
 - o) Dismissal of a member of a body of IFA (if applicable);
 - p) Election of the President, vice-presidents and members of the Executive Committee (if applicable);
 - q) Elections of the members of the independent committees, i.e. the Audit and Compliance Committee, electoral committees and judicial bodies (if applicable);
 - r) Admission for membership (if applicable).
- ³ The Congress shall not take a decision on any point not included in the agenda.
- ⁴ The agenda of an Ordinary Congress may be altered, provided by three-quarter (3/4) majority of the delegates representing the Members present at the Congress and eligible to vote agree to such a motion.

Article 33 Extraordinary Congress

- ¹The Executive Committee may convene an Extraordinary Congress at any time.
- ²The Executive Committee shall convene an Extraordinary Congress if one-third of the delegates representing the Members of IFA make such a request in writing. The request shall specify the items to be included in the agenda. An Extraordinary Congress shall be held within 30 days of receipt of the request. If an Extraordinary Congress is not convened, the delegates (Voting Members) representing the Members who requested it may convene the Congress themselves. In doing so, they shall inform all the Members of IFA and the Executive Committee of the date and location of the Extraordinary Congress, along with the items to be included in the agenda in accordance with par 3 below.
- ³The Members shall be notified of the place, date and agenda at least 15 days before the date of an Extraordinary Congress.
- ⁴When an Extraordinary Congress is convened on the initiative of the Executive Committee, it must draw up the agenda. When it is convened upon the request of the Members, the agenda must contain the points raised by those Members.
- ⁵The agenda of an Extraordinary Congress must not be altered.

Article 34 Amendments to the Statutes and Standing Orders of the Congress

- ¹ The Congress is responsible for amending these Statutes and the Standing Orders of the Congress.
- ² Any proposals for an amendment to these Statutes and the Standing Orders of the Congress must be submitted in writing with a brief explanation to the general secretariat by a Member or by the Executive Committee. A proposal submitted by delegates representing a Member is valid, provided it has been supported in writing by at least [five] other delegates representing the Members.
- ³ For a vote on an amendment to the Statutes and to the Standing Orders of the Congress 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 these Statutes and to the Standing Orders of the Congress shall be adopted only if three-quarters (3/4) of the delegates representing the Members present and eligible to vote agree to it.

Article **35** Minutes

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

Article **36** Effective dates of decisions

Decisions passed by the Congress shall come into effect immediately after the close of the Congress, unless otherwise stipulated in these Statutes or unless the Congress fixes another date for a decision to take effect.

B. Executive Committee

Article 37 Compositions

¹ The Executive Committee shall consist of 13 members, at least one of which shall be reserved for a woman, as follows:

- a) President (one)
- b) 1st Vice-president (one)
- c) 2nd Vice-president (one)
- d) 10 Members (one)

² The President, the vice-presidents and the other members of the Executive Committee shall be elected by the Congress in accordance with art. 30 and 32.2 par (p) of these Statutes. They shall undergo an integrity check, to be conducted by the Electoral Committee, prior to their election or re-election.

³ The President, the vice-presidents and the rest of the members of the Executive Committee shall hold at least a high school certificate and have five years of experience in the game of football.

⁴ The mandate of the President, vice-presidents and members of the Executive Committee shall be for four years. Their mandates shall immediately begin after the end of the Congress which has elected them and expire at the end of the Congress at which their successors are elected. No person may serve at any position (as President, any vice-president or member) of the Executive Committee for more than three terms of office (whether consecutive or not) and shall commence their first term from the date of ratification of the IFA Statutes of 2021.

⁵ All members of the Executive Committee shall have already been active in football and shall fulfill the prerequisites stipulated in art. 23 par. 8 of these Statutes.

⁶ A member of the Executive Committee may not at the same time be a member of an independent committee or a judicial body and may not be appointed/elected as a delegate representing a Member at the Congress.

⁷ If a position or up to 50% of the positions of the Executive Committee become vacant, the Executive Committee shall fill the position(s) in question until the next Congress, when replacement(s) for the position(s) will be elected for the remaining period of office.

⁸ If more than 50% of the positions of the Executive Committee become vacant, the General Secretary shall convene an Extraordinary Congress within the prescribed period of time, for the election of the entire new Executive Committee.

⁹ Any position within the Executive Committee shall be considered vacant in case of death, resignation or if the member concerned is permanently prevented from performing their official function.

Article 38 Meetings

¹ The Executive Committee shall meet at least eight times a year, and in the event of force majeure or exceptional conditions, the meeting may take place via available telecommunication technologies, and the necessary approvals can be done by electronic signatures.

² The President shall convene the Executive Committee meetings. If a majority (more than 50%) of the Executive Committee members requests a meeting, the President shall convene it so that the meeting is held within 14 days of the receipt of the request. If the President does not convene the requested meeting by the aforementioned deadline, the other members of the Executive Committee shall convene it themselves, but must send the agenda to all members of the Executive Committee at least three 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 Executive Committee is entitled to propose items for inclusion in the agenda. The members of the Executive Committee must submit the items they wish to be included in the agenda for the meeting to the general secretariat at least seven days before the meeting. The agenda must be sent out to the members of the Executive Committee at least three days before the meeting.

⁴ The General Secretary shall take part in the meetings of the Executive Committee in a consultative role and without voting rights. If the General Secretary is unable to attend a meeting, they shall nominate a representative to attend the meeting on their behalf, subject to the approval of the Executive Committee.

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

⁶ The President may also convene the Executive Committee on an urgent basis to deal with any matter requiring immediate settlement between two meetings of the Executive Committee. If the members of the Executive Committee cannot meet physically, decisions may be passed through other modern means of written communication (e.g. emails or messaging apps).

Article 39 Powers

The Executive Committee shall have the following powers:

- a) Passing decisions on all cases that do not come within the sphere of responsibility of the Congress or are not reserved for other bodies by law or under these Statutes.
- b) Preparing, with the assistance of the general secretariat, and convening the Ordinary and Extraordinary Congress.
- c) Appointing the chairpersons, deputy chairpersons and members of the standing committees.
- d) Deciding to set up ad-hoc committees if necessary at any time.
- e) Approving and issuing the regulations for the organization of standing committees and ad hoc committees.
- f) Appointing and dismissing the General Secretary upon proposal of the President
- g) Proposing the independent and external auditors to the Congress.
- h) Appointing replacements for vacancies in the independent committees until the next Congress.
- i) Approving and issuing regulations governing the conditions of participation in and the staging of competitions organized by IFA.
- j) Appointing the coaches for the representative teams and other technical staff.
- k) Approving and issuing the Internal Organization Regulations of IFA.
- l) Ensuring that these Statutes are applied and adopting the executive arrangements required for their application.
- m) Dismissing a member of a body or suspending a Member of IFA provisionally until the next Congress;
- n) Delegating tasks under its authority to other bodies.
- o) Appointing observers who may take part in the Congress without the right to debate or to vote.

- ¹ The Executive Committee shall not engage in valid debate unless a majority (more than 50%) of its members is present.
- ² The Executive Committee shall reach decisions by a majority (more than 50%) of the valid votes cast. Voting by proxy or by letter is not permitted.
- ³ Any member of the Executive 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 Executive Committee shall come into effect immediately, unless the Executive Committee decides otherwise.

C. PRESIDENT

Article 41 President

¹ The President is primarily responsible for:

- a) Implementing the decisions passed by the Congress and the Executive Committee through the general secretariat;
- b) Ensuring the effective functioning of the bodies in order that they achieve the objectives described in these Statutes;
- c) Supervising the work of the general secretariat;
- d) The relations between IFA and its Members, FIFA, AFC, WAFF, political bodies and other organizations.

² Only the President may propose to the Executive Committee the appointment or dismissal of the General Secretary.

The President shall preside over the Congress and the Executive Committee meetings, and those committees of which they have been appointed Chairperson.

³ The President shall have an ordinary vote on the Executive Committee and, whenever votes are equal, shall have a casting vote.

⁴ If the President is absent or unavailable, the 1st vice-president shall deputise.

⁵ If the position of the President becomes vacant in the sense of art. 37 par. 9 of these Statutes, the 1st vice-president shall deputise until the next Congress. This Congress shall elect a new President for the remaining period of office.

⁶ Any additional powers of the President shall be contained in the Internal Organization Regulations of IFA.

Article 42 Representation and signature

The President represents IFA generally. The Executive Committee shall adopt special provisions in the Internal Organization Regulations of IFA regarding the joint signature of officeholders.

D. GENERAL SECRETARIAT

Article 43 General secretariat

The general secretariat is the executive, operational and administrative body and shall carry out the work of IFA under the direction of the General Secretary. The members of the general secretariat are bound by the Internal Organizational Regulations of IFA and shall fulfill the given tasks in good faith.

Article 44 General Secretary

¹ The General Secretary is the chief executive officer of IFA.

² The General Secretary shall be appointed by the Executive Committee upon a proposal of the President on the basis of an agreement governed by private law, and have the necessary professional qualifications of at least bachelor university degree and sufficient expertise, with acceptable levels of English language and communications' skills.

³ The General Secretary shall be responsible for:

- a) Implementing decisions passed by the Congress and Executive Committee in compliance with the President's directives;
- b) Attending the Congress and meetings of the Executive Committee and the standing and ad hoc committees;
- c) Organizing the Congress and meetings of the Executive Committee and other bodies;
- d) Compiling the minutes for the meetings of the Congress, Executive Committee and standing and ad hoc committees;
- e) Managing and keeping the accounts;
- f) Correspondence;
- g) The relations with the Members, committees, FIFA, AFC, and WAFF, under the direction of the President;
- h) Organizing the general secretariat;
- i) The appointment and dismissal of staff working in the general secretariat;
- j) Providing the electoral committees with logistic and operative support for the elections.

⁴ Any additional responsibilities and duties assigned to the General Secretary shall be stipulated in the Internal Organization Regulations of IFA.

⁵ The General Secretary shall not be a Congress delegate or a member of any other body of IFA, and not a member of any executive body of IFA Members.

E. STANDING COMMITTEES

Article 45 Standing committees

¹ The standing committees are:

- a) Finance Committee.
- b) Organizing Committee for IFA Competitions
- c) Technical and Development Committee.
- d) Referees Committee.
- e) Committee for Women's Football.
- f) Players' Status Committee.
- g) Grassroots Committee
- h) National Teams management Committee.
- i) Futsal and Beach Soccer Committee.
- j) Medical Committee.

² Chairperson, deputy chairperson and members of the standing committees may be members of the Executive Committee. The members of each standing committee shall be appointed by the Executive Committee upon proposal of the Members of IFA or the President. The chairpersons, deputy chairpersons and the members of the standing committees shall be designated for a term of office of four years.

³ Each chairperson shall represent their standing committee and conduct business in compliance with the relevant provisions of the Internal Organization Regulations of IFA approved by the Executive Committee.

⁴ Each chairperson shall fix the dates of meetings in collaboration with the General Secretary, ensure that all tasks are carried out and report back to the Executive Committee.

⁵ The Executive Committee and each standing committee, the latter with the approval of the Executive 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.

⁶ Each standing committee may propose to the Executive Committee amendments to the relevant provisions of the Internal Organization Regulations of IFA that concern its committee.

Article 46 Finance Committee

The Finance Committee shall monitor the financial management and advise the Executive Committee on financial matters and asset management. Members of the committee shall be knowledgeable and experienced in financial matters.

Article 47 Organizing Committee for IFA Competitions

The Organizing Committee for IFA Competitions shall organize IFA's competitions of association football, futsal and beach soccer at any level within IFA in compliance with the provisions of these Statutes and the regulations applicable to IFA's competitions. It shall consist of a chairperson, a deputy chairperson and three members.

Article 48 Technical and Development Committee

The Technical and Development Committee shall primarily analyze the basic aspects of football training and technical development in football. It shall also be in charge of IFA's technical development programmers, devising and proposing appropriate strategies, monitoring these strategies and analyzing the support and programmes provided to the Members of IFA and providing advice to the Executive Committee on development matters in general. It shall consist of a chairperson, a deputy chairperson and three members.

Article 49 Referees Committee

The Referees Committee shall implement the Laws of the Game. It shall appoint the referees for matches in competitions organized by IFA, organize refereeing matters within IFA in collaboration with the administration and monitor the education and training of referees. It shall consist of a chairperson, a deputy chairperson and three members, all five of whom shall be ex-referees.

Article 50 Committee for Women's Football

The Committee for Women's Football shall organize IFA's women's football competitions and deal with all matters relating to women's football. It shall consist of a chairperson, a deputy chairperson and three members, at least two of them are females.

Article 51 Players' Status Committee

¹ The Players' Status Committee shall set up and monitor compliance with transfer regulations in accordance with the FIFA Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players and determine the status of players for the various competitions of IFA. The Executive Committee may approve special regulations governing the Players' Status Committee's powers of jurisdiction. The Players' Status Committee shall consist of a chairperson, a deputy chairperson and three members.

² Players' status disputes involving IFA, its Members, clubs, players, officials, intermediaries/players agents and licensed match agents shall be settled in the last instance CAS in accordance with these Statutes and subject to any applicable national law.

Article 52 Grassroots Committee

The Grassroots Committee shall deal with all matters relating to grassroots within IFA and its Members. It shall consist of a chairperson, a deputy chairperson and three members.

Article 53 National Teams Management Committee

- ¹ The National Teams Management Committee shall consist of a chairperson, deputy chairperson and three Members.
- ² The National Teams Management Committee shall be responsible:
 - a) To administrate and manage the preparation and participation of the national teams in international Competitions;
 - b) To propose coaches and officials to the national teams in coordination with the Technical Committee;
 - c) To adhere to the directives and decisions of the Executive Committee members and Congress on the performances of the national teams.

Article 54 Futsal and Beach Soccer Committee

- ¹ The Futsal and Beach Soccer Committee shall organize IFA's competitions of Futsal and Beach Soccer, at any level in compliance with the provisions of these Statutes and the regulations applicable to IFA's competitions. The committee shall consist of a chairperson, deputy chairperson and three members.
- ² The Futsal and Beach Soccer Committee shall be responsible for:
 - a) Promoting and developing Futsal and Beach Soccer in Iraq;
 - b) Organizing Futsal and Beach Soccer tournaments at all levels as deemed necessary;
 - c) Undertaking the training and education of Futsal and Beach Soccer Coaches;
 - d) Implementing amendments, alterations and modifications to the Futsal and Beach Soccer Laws of the Game announced by FIFA;
 - e) Proposing to the Executive Committee all measures deemed necessary to promote, develop and control Futsal and Beach Soccer in Iraq.

Article 55 Medical Committee

- ¹ The Medical Committee shall deal with all medical aspects of football, and oversee the organization of medical services at all IFA competitions and handles all medical matters in football to ensure the health of players and to prevent injuries. The committee shall consist of a chairperson, deputy chairperson and three members, with at least two of whom shall be female, and all of whom should be qualified medical practitioners.
- ² The Medical Committee shall be responsible for:
 - a) Providing top-level medical services for IFA national teams;
 - b) Supervising the medical teams of the clubs that participate in the IFA's competitions, and control and monitor their performance according to the procedures and manuals adopted by the committee;
 - c) Doing whatever necessary to keep football free from doping, and protect and improve the health of all who play football, from grassroots to elite level nationwide;
 - c) Preventing on-field injuries and promoting football as a healthy activity;
 - d) Working together with the Members of IFA and external organizations to establish state-of-the-art Football Medical Centre in Iraq to provide the extraordinary treatment of football injuries, and to train the standard football medical teams including; Team Doctors-TD, physiotherapists, trainers, masseurs, nutritionists, psychologists and podiatrists.

Article 56 Ad hoc committees

The Executive Committee may, if necessary, create ad hoc committees for special duties and a limited period of time. The Executive Committee shall appoint a chairperson, a deputy chairperson and three members. The members of the Executive Committee may chair these committees. The duties and function of ad hoc committees are defined in special regulations approved by the Executive Committee. An ad hoc committee shall report directly to the Executive Committee.

F. CLUB LICENSING BODIES

Article 57 Club licensing bodies

- ¹ The club licensing bodies shall be in charge of the club licensing system within IFA in accordance with the Club Licensing Regulations of IFA and AFC.
- ² The club licensing bodies consist of a first instance body and an appeal body.
- ³ Decisions passed by the club licensing appeal body may only be appealed before CAS in accordance with the provisions in these Statutes.

Article 58 Institutional independence

¹ 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 IFA and in accordance with its Statutes and regulations.

² The chairperson, Deputy Chairperson and members of the Audit and Compliance Committee and of the electoral committees as well as the chairperson and vice-chairperson of the judicial bodies shall comply with the independence criteria as defined in par. 3 below.

³ The persons mentioned in par. 2 above 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 IFA, one of IFA's Members, a league or a club (including any of their affiliated companies/organizations), nor have or have had in the four years preceding their initial term any material business relationship with IFA, one of IFA's Members, a league or a club (including any of their affiliated companies/organizations). "Immediate family member" shall mean, with respect to a person, such person's spouse or domestic partner, siblings, 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.

Article 59 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 independent and external auditors' reports. The Audit and Compliance Committee shall consist of a chairperson, a deputy chairperson and [three] members. Its members shall be knowledgeable and experienced in financial and regulatory and/or legal matters and may not be involved in any decision affecting the operations of IFA.

² The Audit and Compliance Committee shall advise, assist and oversee the Executive Committee in monitoring IFA's financial and compliance matters, set up compliance mechanisms and monitor compliance with the relevant regulations of IFA. 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 Audit and Compliance Committee shall furthermore monitor IFA's financial and compliance matters and suggest to the appropriate bodies 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 program within IFA.

³ Details on the Audit and Compliance Committee's responsibilities, its internal cooperation and other procedural matters are stipulated in the Internal Organization Regulations of IFA.

⁴ The chairperson, deputy chairperson and members of the Audit and Compliance Committee shall be elected by the Congress for a period of four years and may only be relieved of their duties by the Congress. They shall not belong to any other body of IFA and they shall undergo an integrity check, to be conducted by the Electoral Committee, prior to their election or re-election and shall fulfill the independence requirements contained in art. 58 par. 3 above.

⁵ If the chairperson, the deputy chairperson or a member of the Audit and Compliance Committee permanently ceases to perform their official function during their term of office, the Executive Committee shall appoint a replacement to serve until the next Congress.

Article 60 Electoral Committees

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

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

Article 61 Judicial Bodies

¹ The judicial bodies 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 practice law.

³ All members of the judicial bodies (including the chairpersons and deputy chairpersons) shall undergo an integrity check prior to their election or re-election which shall be conducted by the Audit and Compliance Committee.

⁴ The term of office of all members shall be four 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 Congress.

⁵ The chairpersons, deputy chairpersons and other members of the judicial bodies shall be elected by the Congress upon proposal of the Executive Committee and shall not be members of any other body of IFA.

⁶ If the chairperson, the deputy chairperson or a member of a judicial body permanently ceases to perform their official function during their term of office, the Executive Committee shall appoint a replacement to serve until the next Congress, in which the Congress shall elect 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 IFA.

Article 62 Disciplinary and Ethics Committee

¹ The function of the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee shall be governed by the Disciplinary and Ethics Code of IFA.

² The Disciplinary and Ethics Committee may pronounce the sanctions described in these Statutes and the Disciplinary and Ethics Code of IFA on Members, officials, players, clubs, licensed match agents and intermediaries/players agents.

³ These provisions do not affect the powers of the Congress and the Executive Committee with regard to the suspension and expulsion of Members.

⁴ The Executive Committee shall issue the Disciplinary and Ethics Code of IFA, which shall be in accordance with the principles laid down in the FIFA Disciplinary Code and the FIFA Ethics Code.

Article 63 Appeal Committee

¹ The function of the Appeal Committee shall be governed by the Disciplinary and Ethics Code of IFA.

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 IFA.

³ Decisions pronounced by the Appeal Committee may only be referred to CAS in accordance with the provisions in these Statutes.

VI. DISCIPLINARY MEASURES

Article 64 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 from a competition;
- g) A forfeit;
- h) Deduction of points;
- i) Relegation to a lower division;
- j) Replaying a match.

Article **65** Arbitration

- ¹ Disputes within IFA or disputes affecting Members of IFA, leagues, members of leagues, clubs, members of clubs, players and officials may only be referred in the last instance (i.e. after exhaustion of all internal channels within IFA) to CAS, which shall settle the dispute definitively to the exclusion of any ordinary court, unless expressly prohibited by the legislation in Iraq.
 - ² Disputes of international dimension arising from or related to the Statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of FIFA or AFC may only be submitted in the last instance to CAS as specified in the Statutes of FIFA and of AFC
 - ³ Any dispute of national dimension may only be referred in the last instance to the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) in Lausanne (Switzerland). The CAS will settle the dispute to the exclusion of any Ordinary Court unless expressly prohibited by the legislation in force in the Republic of Iraq.
-

Article **66** Jurisdiction

- ¹ IFA shall have jurisdiction on internal national disputes, i.e. disputes between parties belonging or affiliated to IFA.
- ² FIFA and/or AFC shall have jurisdiction on international disputes, i.e. disputes between parties belonging to different associations and/or confederations, in accordance with the relevant regulations.
- ³ IFA shall ensure its full compliance and that of all those subject to its jurisdiction with any final decision passed by a FIFA body, an AFC body, or CAS.

Article 67 Financial Period

- ¹ The financial period of IFA shall be one year and shall begin on 1 January and end on 31 December.
 - ² The revenue and expenses of IFA shall be managed so that they balance out over the financial period. IFA's major duties in the future shall be guaranteed through the creation of reserves.
 - ³ The IFA funds must be deposited into a bank account inside Iraq, with the right to open special account for foreign currencies and/or for the international development projects' funds with the approval of Executive Committee.
 - ⁴ The IFA shall not, under any circumstances, have the right to open a bank account and to deposit funds outside of Iraq.
 - ⁵ The Executive Committee shall issue the IFA's Financial Regulations to include at least the financial allocations, the roles to transfer the funds from one item to another, and determining the positions of those authorized to control the fund transfer.
 - ⁶ The General Secretary is responsible for drawing up the annual consolidated accounts of IFA with its subsidiaries as at 31 December.
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Article 68 Revenue

The revenue of IFA comprises:

- a) Members' annual subscriptions;
 - b) Receipts generated by the marketing of rights to which IFA is entitled;
 - c) Fines imposed by the authorized bodies;
 - d) Other subscriptions and receipts in keeping with the objectives pursued by IFA;
 - e) Donations;
 - f) Any other revenue related to football activities;
 - g) Funding from FIFA, AFC and WAFF.
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Article 69 Expenses

IFA shall bear:

- a) The expenses stipulated in the budget;
- b) Other expenses approved by the Congress and expenses that the Executive Committee is entitled to incur within the scope of its authority;
- c) All other expenses in keeping the objectives pursued by IFA.

Article 70 Independent and External Auditors

The independent and external auditors appointed by the Congress 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 Congress. The independent and external auditors shall be appointed for a period of four years. Their mandate shall not be renewed consecutively.

Article 71 Membership Subscriptions

¹ Membership subscriptions are due on 1 February. The annual subscription for new Members for the year in question shall be paid within 30 days of the close of the Congress at which they are admitted.

² The Congress shall fix the amount of the annual subscription every two years on the recommendation of the Executive Committee.

Article 72 Settlement

IFA may debit any Member's assets and accounts to settle claims.

Article 73 Levies

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

Article 74 Publication of Financial Data

¹ IFA shall publish on its official website the financial documents referred to under art. 32 par. 2 i), j) and k) of these Statutes once the relevant items have been approved by the Congress.

² The remuneration of the members of the Executive Committee (including its President), the General Secretary and the members of the independent committees shall also be made publicly available (e.g. through the official website of IFA) on a regular basis.

Article 75 Competitions

¹ IFA shall organize and coordinate the following official competitions held within its territory:

- a) Iraqi National Premier League.
- b) Iraqi Cup.
- c) IFA Super Cup.
- d) Iraqi First Division League.
- e) Iraqi Second Division League.
- f) Women's League Football.
- g) Men's Futsal League.
- h) Women's Futsal League.
- i) Men's Beach Soccer League.
- j) Women's Beach Soccer League.

² The Executive Committee may delegate to IFA's subordinate leagues the authority to organize competitions. The competitions organized by the leagues shall not interfere with those competitions organized by IFA. Competitions organized by IFA shall take priority.

³ The Executive Committee may issue special regulations to this end.

Article 76 Club Licensing

The Executive Committee shall issue regulations regarding a club licensing system governing the participation of clubs in the competitions of IFA and AFC, in compliance with the minimum requirements of the club licensing system as set up by AFC and FIFA.

Article 77 Rights

¹ IFA 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 and place. These rights include, among others, every kind of financial rights, audiovisual and radio recording, reproduction and broadcasting rights, multimedia rights, marketing and promotional rights and incorporeal rights such as emblems and rights arising under copyright law.

² The Executive Committee shall decide how and to what extent these rights are utilized and shall draw up special regulations to this end. IFA shall ensure that the sale of such rights is carried out in a transparent manner and in compliance with the Statutes and regulations of IFA as well as mandatory national laws.

Article 78 Authorization to Distribute

¹ IFA and its Members are exclusively responsible for authorizing the distribution of image and sound and other data carriers of football matches and events coming under their respective jurisdiction, without any restrictions.

² The Executive Committee shall issue special regulations to this end.

X. INTERNATIONAL MATCHES AND COMPETITIONS

Article 79 International Matches and Competitions

¹ The authority for organizing international matches and competitions between representative teams and between leagues, club teams and/or scratch teams lies solely with FIFA, the confederation(s) and/or the association(s) concerned. No such match or competition shall take place without the prior permission of FIFA, the confederation(s) and/or the association(s) concerned in accordance with the FIFA Regulations Governing International Matches.

² IFA is bound by the international match calendar compiled by FIFA.

Article 80 Contacts

IFA, its Members, players, officials, licensed match agents and intermediaries/players agents may not play matches or make sporting contacts with associations that are not members of FIFA or provisional members of a confederation without the approval of FIFA.

Article 81 Approval

¹ Clubs, leagues or any other group of clubs that are affiliated to IFA may only join another association with the authorization of IFA, the other association, the respective confederation(s) and FIFA.

² Clubs, leagues or any other group of clubs that are affiliated to IFA cannot participate in competitions on the territory of another association without the authorization of IFA, the other association, FIFA and the respective confederation(s) according to the FIFA Regulations Governing International Matches.

Article 82 Unforeseen contingencies and Force Majeure

The Executive Committee shall have the power to decide on all cases of force majeure and on all matters not provided for in these Statutes; such decisions shall take into account the relevant regulations of FIFA and of AFC, as well as any applicable mandatory laws.

Article 83 Publication of Corporate Documents

IFA shall make available on its official website the following documents and information:

- a) Statutes and Standing Orders of the Congress;
 - b) Electoral Code;
 - c) Disciplinary and Ethics Code;
 - d) Internal Organization Regulations;
 - e) Most important/key decisions;
 - f) Its strategy;
 - g) Agenda for Executive Committee and Congress meetings;
 - h) Circular letters;
 - i) Annual financial report;
 - j) Competitions calendar
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Article 84 Dissolution

¹ Any decision relating to the dissolution of IFA requires a majority of 3/4 of all of the Members of IFA, which must be obtained at a Congress specially convened for the purpose.

² If IFA is disbanded, its assets shall be transferred to NOCI. It shall hold these assets as a trustee in accordance with the relevant professional duties until IFA is re-established. The final Congress may, however, choose another recipient for the assets on the basis of a 3/4 majority.

Article 85 Enforcement

These Statutes were adopted at the Extraordinary Congress in Baghdad, Iraq on April 4, 2021 and come into force on April 4, 2021. The former Statutes of IFA are hereby repealed.

Article 86 Transitional Provisions

¹ The Members as defined under art. 12 of these Statutes, shall be granted a period of 12 months, as from the adoption of these Statutes, to comply with the mandatory requirements stipulated in art. 13 par. 2, as well as art. 16 par. 1 f), g), j), n) and o) of these Statutes. Any Member which does not comply with all of these requirements within the aforementioned timeframe, shall automatically lose its right to vote at the Congress 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 Congress once it has fully complied with its obligations as mentioned in this paragraph.

- ² The composition of the Executive Committee as defined in art. 37 par. 1 of these Statutes shall only be applicable to the Executive Committee whose membership shall be elected by the Congress after the adoption of these Statutes.
- ³ The requirement to undergo an integrity check as mentioned in art. 37 par. 2 of these Statutes and the criteria defined in art. 37 par. 4 of these Statutes shall not apply to the members of the Executive Committee that are in place at the time of adoption of these Statutes but shall be complied with by any candidate running for any of the position on the Executive Committee following the adoption of these Statutes.
- ⁴ The requirement to have already been active in football as provided for in art. 37 par. 5 of these Statutes shall not apply to the female candidates running for a position of members of the Executive Committee on the occasion of the first elections of the Executive Committee that shall take place following the adoption of these Statutes.
- ⁵ Within 12 months upon the adoption of these Statutes, the Congress shall dismiss the relevant members of the independent committees that do not comply with the independence criteria mentioned under art. 58 par. 3 of these Statutes and elect the relevant number of members to fill the positions.
- ⁶ The IFA shall have one year as from the adoption of these Statutes to ensure that all relevant regulations of IFA are brought in line with the provisions of these Statutes.
- ⁷ The Baghdad Regional Association may be admitted as member of IFA once the new Executive Committee of IFA has been elected, following the adoption of these Statutes.
- ⁸ The Halabja Regional Association may be admitted as a member of the IFA once they are recognized by the Iraqi Parliament that they are a region of the Republic of Iraq.

Baghdad, Iraq

April 4, 2021

For the Iraqi Football Association

Eyad Bonayan Mohammad Al Nadawi
Normalisation Committee President

Mohammed Farhan Obaid Al Shamari
General Secretary

Part 1: General Provisions

- ¹ The integrity checks with regard to candidates for, and holders of, official positions within IFA that are subject to such checks ("candidates or holders") shall be conducted by the relevant body in accordance with the provisions of these Statutes and this annexes.
- ² Candidates or holders shall not be members in any other Sport Association, and not combine the membership of the committees or the Executive Committee of IFA with the membership of the Executive body of any of IFA's Member Associations.
- ³ Candidates or holders shall not combine the membership of the committees and the Executive Committee of IFA with the direct work or managing the affairs of the game in any Member's Association.
- ⁴ Candidates or holders are obliged to comply with the screening and self-disclosure process as outlined in parts 2 and 3 below. Prior to the screening process, every candidate or holder shall give their written consent to said process through a form provided by the relevant body conducting the integrity check. If such written consent is not provided, the candidate or holder shall be deemed not to have passed the integrity check.
- ⁵ Candidates or holders shall act in good faith at all times and shall fully collaborate to establish the relevant facts upon reasonable notice. If the candidate or holder concerned does not cooperate with the body competent to conduct the integrity check, the candidate or holder shall be deemed not to have passed the integrity check.
- ⁶ The candidate or holder shall be deemed not to have passed the integrity check, if they:
- a) Have been subject to criminal convictions that is final and binding by a state court, in particular if the offence in question was a substantive issue and not a minor infraction or procedural misconduct;
 - b) Have 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.
- ⁷ 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 this annexes, all such information and related data must be treated as strictly confidential by the body conducting the integrity check concerned.

Part 2: Screening Process

- ¹ At the beginning of the screening process, every candidate or holder shall undergo an identification check ("ID check"). In this context, the candidate or holder shall submit a valid copy of their passport to the body in charge of performing the integrity check. The ID check shall include verification/identification of the following elements:
- a) Name and surname(s);
 - b) Address of residence;
 - c) Date and place of birth;
 - d) Nationality/nationalities.
- ² Every candidate or holder shall complete the questionnaire contained in part 3 below.
- ³ The body in charge of performing the integrity check may conduct independent research and/or investigations in order to obtain further relevant information on a particular candidate or holder, 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 previously been 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 IFA and to the provisions of the Statutes and other regulations of IFA 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 Statutes):

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 IFA.

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 have 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 to which I am subject. 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 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 these annexes.

(Place and date)

(Signature)