



رابطة الدوري السعودي للمحترفين  
Saudi Pro League

**SPL HANDBOOK 2025-26**

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## DEFINITIONS

In this Saudi Pro League Handbook, capitalised terms shall have the following meanings, unless the context specifically indicates otherwise:

<b>KSA</b>	Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.
<b>National Flag</b>	The official national flag of KSA.
<b>MOS or Ministry</b>	Ministry of Sport of the KSA.
<b>SAFF</b>	Saudi Arabian Football Federation.
<b>SPL</b>	The Saudi Pro League.
<b>FIFA</b>	Fédération Internationale de Football Association.
<b>AFC</b>	Asian Football Confederation.
<b>SSAC</b>	Saudi Sports Arbitration Centre.
<b>IFAB</b>	International Football Association Board.
<b>MOS Regulations</b>	Any regulations or operational guidelines of the MOS that are applicable to the Competition.
<b>Handbook</b>	This SPL Handbook.
<b>SAR</b>	Saudi Arabian Riyals (the official currency of KSA).
<b>Competition</b>	The current Competition Period of the Saudi Pro League competition.
<b>Match</b>	<p>A match in its entirety (included a replayed and/or deferred match) that takes place as part of the Competition in accordance with the Match Schedule.</p> <p>For the avoidance of doubt, a match formally commences when the Stadium is officially opened to spectators and formally concludes when the Stadium is officially closed to spectators.</p>
<b>Club</b>	A club that has been deemed eligible to participate in the Competition.
<b>Accreditation Card</b>	Any physical or virtual item issued by the Saudi Pro League (SPL) which provides the recipient the right to access a Controlled Access Area (or part thereof) where the Controlled Access Area is under the control of the SPL.
<b>Additional Club Officials List</b>	The list of Club Officials registered for a Match that are not permitted to sit on the team bench during a Match.
<b>Additional Youth Player List</b>	The list of youth Players registered to participate for a Club in the Competition in accordance with the requirements in this Handbook.

<b>Advertising Rights</b>	<p>The right to promote brand and/or corporate names and/or products and/or services at and/or in relation to the Competition by whatever means available.</p> <p>Such means include those that currently exist or are to be developed in the future, whether at the Stadium or Facility Areas or within the Controlled Access Areas or virtually through the exploitation of the Media Rights. They specifically include in-Stadium/out-of-Stadium perimeter signage and other advertising, digital signage and screens, closed circuit television, the use of equipment and advertising by other methods, as well as through printed matter (including digitally delivered printed matter) such as programmes, posters, letterheads, press releases, newsletters and Tickets.</p> <p>Subject to this Handbook, Advertising Rights also include the right to display such advertising on the clothing or footwear worn, or on any equipment used, carried or transported by Officials (including for the avoidance of doubt Match Referees), medical and security staff, ball crew, Player escorts, flag bearers and/or photographers. The display of the name(s) and/or logo(s) of the bona fide supplier of clothing on the uniforms of the Match Referees are also included. For the avoidance of doubt, advertising on any Playing Kit is excluded from this definition.</p> <p>Similarly, branding on any equipment, goods and/or services used in connection with the Competition, save where supplied by an SPL Partner, may only include customary branding of the bona fide manufacturer as provided in this Handbook.</p>
<b>Away Club</b>	The Club that is the designated away team for a Match in accordance with the Match Schedule.
<b>Broadcast Compound</b>	The area situated in the immediate perimeter of the main stand of the Stadium, designed to facilitate the parking of outdoor broadcast ( <b>OB</b> ) vans and television production vehicles.
<b>Broadcast Partner</b>	Any entity, including the Host Broadcaster, that has been granted the Media Rights (or any part thereof) to the Competition.
<b>Broadcast Venue Manager</b>	The individual appointed by the Host Broadcaster for each Match responsible for ensuring that all broadcasting and production matters are implemented and/or managed appropriately.
<b>Champion</b>	The Club that wins the Competition.
<b>Circular</b>	A letter issued by the SPL to the Clubs that sets out any decision, amendment, instruction, interpretation, or other matter relating to the Competition.
<b>Celebratory Attire</b>	Attire commemorating the fact that a Club has become the Champion.
<b>Clean Stadium</b>	A Stadium, whether inside, in the air space above or the outer perimeter, delivered to the SPL at a prescribed time, that is free from:

	<p>(i) any advertising and commercial signage of any kind, including on any Stadium infrastructure, staff uniforms, accreditations, fences, equipment, or elsewhere;</p> <p>(ii) third-party agreements relating to its use and operation (or part thereof).</p>
<b>Club Channel</b>	Any website, social media account, television channel, mobile application, or other method of communication with the public that is owned and/or operated by a Club.
<b>Club Delegation</b>	The delegation of a Club (Players and Club Officials) as registered on the Match Start List and Additional Club Officials List for a Match.
<b>Club Logo</b>	The official logo selected by a Club to represent it.
<b>Club Name</b>	The official name of the Club, including any standardised abbreviations.
<b>Club Official</b>	Any Official affiliated to a Club, whether or not they are registered to participate in the Competition. For the avoidance of doubt, this includes the Head Coach.
<b>Club Partner</b>	Any entity to which a Club has granted the right to exercise and exploit any rights related to that Club.
<b>Club Media Officer</b>	The individual appointed by a Club as its representative to manage its media operations and obligations for a Match.
<b>Commercial Rights</b>	This term encompasses Advertising Rights (including for the avoidance of doubt all 'virtual' advertising rights), Concession Rights, Image Rights, Media Rights, Merchandise Rights, Promotional Rights, Sponsorship Rights, Travel and Tour Rights, and any other rights of a commercial nature relating to the Competition.
<b>Competition Data</b>	Any and all information related to the Competition, including the Match Schedule, Image Rights, information and/or statistics about the Clubs, information and/or statistics about the Players or Club Officials participation and/or performance in the Competition, Match analysis, referee decisions, and any other information related to the Competition.
<b>Competition Marks</b>	All design marks, slogans, designations, names, logos, insignia, emblems, illustrations, labels, trophies, symbols, mascots, devices (in any application), or designs of artistic shapes, owned, designed (directly or indirectly) and/or controlled by the SPL (in any language) relating to the Competition and/or the SPL itself.
<b>Competition Period</b>	The period during which the Competition is held, starting with the first Match and ending at the conclusion of the last Match.
<b>Concession Rights</b>	Sampling, vending, display and other distribution methods and payment methods connected with them for and of products or services, including pourage rights at the Stadia, Official Training Sites, and Facility Areas.

<b>Controlled Access Area</b>	<p>Any:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) Stadium;</li> <li>(ii) official exclusion zone encircling a Stadium on a Match day;</li> <li>(iii) official parking area, accreditation centre, Broadcast Compound or broadcast area, and/or hospitality area;</li> <li>(iv) venue of any Official Function;</li> <li>(v) official SPL fan zone;</li> <li>(vi) Facility Areas; and/or</li> <li>(vii) other location and/or facility designated by the SPL as a Controlled Access Area to which access is permitted only to those in possession of an Accreditation Card, Ticket, and/or other officially sanctioned entry permit.</li> </ul>
<b>Decorative Element</b>	Any kind of visual representation or design feature – such as artwork, an abstract design, a simple geometric design, a watermark, or a tonal image (such as, by way of example, an image of an animal or a culturally relevant landmark) - that appears on, or is incorporated into the Official Kit or other clothing or equipment (by way of example, on the trim along a seam). Team Identifiers, Manufacturer Identifiers, and sponsor advertising are excluded from this definition.
<b>Dominant Colour</b>	A colour that is clearly predominant over the other colour(s).
<b>Dressing Room</b>	The rooms within a Stadium assigned to each Club where their Players prepare for a Match and receive instructions from their Head Coach.
<b>Facility Area</b>	The location(s) of Official Functions, ceremonies, press centres, Ticket offices, hotels, Media areas (including without limitation areas used for viewing of any public exhibition), sponsor village areas (including without limitation any SPL Fan Zone and areas used for the activation of the Commercial Rights), official hospitality areas (including without limitation areas used for Hospitality), and information centres controlled by or on behalf of the SPL and used in connection with the Competition whether at the Stadium or elsewhere at a Venue.
<b>FIFA RSTP</b>	FIFA Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players.
<b>Field of Play</b>	The area described in Law 1 of the Laws of the Game.
<b>Force Majeure</b>	Any event affecting the performance of any provision of this Handbook that arises from or is attributable to acts, events, omissions or accidents which are beyond the reasonable control of a party. This shall include, without limitation, abnormally inclement weather, flood, lightning, storm, fire, explosion, earthquake, structural damage, power shortage or failure, war, terrorist action, military operations, riot, crowd disorder, strike, lock-outs or other industrial action, civil commotion, epidemic, or pandemic.

<b>Head Coach</b>	The individual registered as the head coach for a Club during the Competition Period.
<b>Hospitality Tickets</b>	A category of Ticket that Clubs must offer for sale at Matches which grants the ticketholder a seat and other benefits. These may include without limitation complimentary food and beverage, access to the VIP Tribune, and access to a VIP box.
<b>Host City</b>	The city in which a Match is played.
<b>Host Club</b>	The Club that is the designated home team for a Match.
<b>Host Broadcaster</b>	The entity appointed by the SPL to ensure and provide the production of broadcast signals for each Match and other events of the Competition, as well as ensuring the provision of all related services in accordance with the Media Rights granted to it (subject to the instructions of the SPL and its production requirements).
<b>Image Rights</b>	<p>(i) <u>Regarding the Competition:</u></p> <p>The right to use still and/or moving images and or representations of Clubs, Players, Club Officials, Match Referees, SPL Match Officials, and all other persons forming part of the Competition.</p> <p>(ii) <u>Regarding individual Players and Club Officials:</u></p> <p>The right to control, licence, and exploit, attributes related to an individual's image, and to prevent third parties from doing so. This includes without limitation, the individual's image, likeness, name, nickname, initials, signature, voice, film portrayal, photographic portrayal, virtual and/or electronic portrayal image or representation, and squad number.</p>
<b>Jersey</b>	The shirt worn by a Player during a Match as part of their Playing Kit.
<b>Laws of the Game</b>	The laws of the game for association football, as issued by the IFAB.
<b>Licence</b>	A certificate granted by the relevant body confirming that a club has fulfilled all minimum club licensing criteria as part of the admission procedure for entering the Competition.
<b>Manufacturer</b>	A company that designs, produces (either directly or through a non-branded licensee) and sells clothing and/or other equipment that is covered by this Handbook. Suppliers or other entities distributing such products are not considered Manufacturers.
<b>Manufacturer Identifier</b>	<p>Any registered trademark that signifies that the item in question was manufactured by a particular Manufacturer. References to Manufacturer Identifier should also be interpreted to refer to Technology Labels and Quality Seals, unless stated otherwise.</p> <p>Manufacturer Identifiers are commonly referred to as an "MI".</p>
<b>Match Director</b>	The individual appointed by the SPL as its representative to lead all operational matters for a Match in accordance with this Handbook.



<b>Match Referees</b>	Any individual appointed by the Saudi Arabian Football Federation (SAFF) to officiate a Match in the role of the referee, assistant referee, fourth official, video assistant referee (VAR), assistant video assistant referee (AVAR), and any other match official stipulated in the Laws of the Game.
<b>Match Schedule</b>	The official schedule that sets out, without limitation, the dates and times on which Matches will be played, the Stadia at which Matches will be played, and the names of the participating Clubs.
<b>Match Support Personnel</b>	This term refers collectively to the ball crew, escorts for Players and Match Referees, and any other support workers who are required to be present in the Controlled Access Areas at a Match.
<b>Match Start List</b>	The list generated by the Match Director that sets out the Players and Club Officials registered by each Club to participate in the Match and who may sit on the Team Bench during the Match.
<b>Media</b>	A representative of any media organisation (including any Broadcast Partner or NRH broadcasters) issued with an Accreditation Card by the SPL.
<b>Media Centre</b>	The designated working space for Media within each Stadium.
<b>Media Rights</b>	The right and licence to produce, edit, and/or transmit, for intelligible reception throughout the world in any language and in any format, and on any platform including film, fixed media, digital media, games, internet, public exhibition, radio, mobile, and television, a visual, audio-visual, and/or audio signal, and/or images or recordings (including, without limitation the world feed, multi feeds, additional feeds, audio feeds, a feed incorporating Competition Data, world feed, and unilateral feeds, , a feed that recreates or represents a Match (e.g. through the use of cartoon characters) utilising Competition Data) of the Competition, and all interview activities and action during the Competition that form part of the Competition. This includes Official Functions and all Image Rights transmitted, distributed, exhibited, and received by any means, now existing or that go on to be developed in the future, including without limitation analogue, digital, satellite, cable, and interactive communication systems, on a live, delayed, and limited and/or unlimited repeat basis, in full or in part (including without limitation by way of clips and/or highlights and/or support programmes and/or magazine shows and/or news access), and all rights to exploit any and all commercial opportunities (including, for example, broadcast sponsorship and commercial airtime opportunities) arising from and/or in connection with such rights.
<b>Media Tribune</b>	The designated seating area for Media within the Stadium.
<b>Merchandise Rights</b>	The right to use and exploit the Competition Marks, Competition Data, Image Rights, and/or any rights assigned to the SPL by Clubs, Players, and Club Officials, in the manufacture, packaging, distribution, and sale of goods and services of all kind, including without limitation apparel, accessories, souvenirs, equipment (e.g. footballs), coins, medals, games



	(electronic or otherwise), other collectibles and Premiums related to the Competition.
<b>MI Band</b>	A repeated linear pattern or graphic of a Manufacturer Identifier, where the repetitions are either connected to each other or spaced equally by no more than two (2) centimetres apart in a continuous band that is no more than eight (8) centimetres wide (unless the MI Band is included on Socks, in which case it may be no more than five (5) centimetres wide).
<b>Mixed Zone</b>	The designated area between the Dressing Rooms and team bus arrival area, within which Media may interview Players and Club Officials prior to their departure from the Stadium after a Match.
<b>Name</b>	The name of a Player as incorporated into their Playing Kit or other clothing or equipment.
<b>NRH or Non-Rights Holder</b>	Any party (whether an organisation or an individual representing an organisation) that has not been granted any right to use and/or exploit any Media Rights.
<b>Number</b>	The official number assigned to a Player as incorporated into their Playing Kit or other clothing or equipment.
<b>Number Zone</b>	A standard-sized section, based on the dimensions of a two-digit Number, on the back area of the Jersey, and on the front of the Shorts, that is reserved exclusively to display the Player's Number.
<b>Official</b>	Any individual director, employee, consultant, contractor or representative (excluding Players) of the SAFF, SPL, or a Club. For the avoidance of doubt this includes any individual involved in football-related activities, regardless of their role, the duration of their employment, or the nature of their involvement.
<b>Official Function</b>	Any event that is officially organised or sanctioned by the SPL in connection with the Competition.
<b>Official List</b>	The list of Players registered to participate for a Club in the Competition in accordance with the requirements in this Handbook.
<b>Official Playing Kit</b>	The home Playing Kit that a Club normally wears as its first choice.
<b>Official Training Site</b>	Any site designated by a Club and approved by the SPL for use for training purposes.
<b>Operations Coordinator</b>	The individual appointed by the Club as its representative to manage, in coordination with the Match Director, all safety and security matters in connection with a Match in accordance with this Handbook. This position is also referred to as a Safety and Security Coordinator in the SPL Club Licensing Regulations.
<b>Outerwear</b>	Clothing worn by Club Officials before, during or after the Match, as well as clothing worn by Players before or after they play, such as training shirts, anthem jackets, pre-Match ceremony attire, hoodies, t-shirts, polo

	shirts, sweatshirts, tracksuit bottoms, shorts, winter trousers, rainwear and/or other forms of outerwear.
<b>Player</b>	Any player registered with a Participating Club.
<b>Playing Kit</b>	The Jersey, Shorts, and/or Socks worn by the Players during a Match.
<b>Prayer Call</b>	The <i>adhan</i> , the Islamic call to prayer, when broadcast from a minaret or loudspeaker and audible within a Stadium.
<b>Premiums</b>	Any promotional items (including their packaging, labelling, and/or containers) that incorporate any SPL Mark and/or any Competition Mark, and which may only be distributed free of charge or as prizes.
<b>Promotional Rights</b>	Any advertising and/or promotions that are carried out in connection with the Competition, Competition Marks, or other rights and opportunities granted by the SPL.
<b>Proprietary Interests</b>	Without limitation, intellectual property, copyright and analogous rights, trademark rights, moral rights, performing rights, personality rights and all remedies available under the applicable laws of unfair competition comprised in the Commercial Rights.
<b>Quality Seal</b>	A tag, label or comparable element produced by a Manufacturer and affixed to an item to prevent its counterfeiting. The Quality Seal may contain a Manufacturer Identifier no bigger than five square centimetres (5cm <sup>2</sup> ).
<b>Referee Assessor</b>	The individual appointed by the SAFF to assess the performance of the Match Referees during a Match.
<b>Reserve Playing Kit</b>	An away Playing Kit that a Club wears as an alternative to their Official Playing Kit. A Club may have more than one Reserve Playing Kit.
<b>SAFF Code</b>	SAFF Disciplinary and Ethics Code.
<b>SAFF DEC</b>	SAFF Disciplinary and Ethics Committee.
<b>SAFF RSTP</b>	SAFF Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players.
<b>Season</b>	The consecutive 12-month period fixed by the SAFF during which its affiliated official competitions, such as the SPL, occur.
<b>Shorts</b>	The shorts worn by a Player during a Match as part of their Playing Kit.
<b>Socks</b>	The socks worn by a Player during a Match as part of their Playing Kit.
<b>SPL Channel</b>	Any website, social media account, television or OTT channel, mobile application, or other method of communication with the public that is owned and/or operated by the SPL.
<b>SPL Commercial Officer</b>	The individual appointed by the SPL as its representative to manage, in coordination with the Match Director, all commercial and marketing matters for a Match.

<b>SPL Committee</b>	Any standing committee of the SPL, including without limitation the SPL Board of Directors and the SPL Competitions and Compliance Committee.
<b>SPL Delegation</b>	At any Match, the SPL Delegation includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) SPL employees;</li> <li>(ii) Match Referees and Referee Assessor;</li> <li>(iii) SPL Match Officials;</li> <li>(iv) SPL Committee members; and</li> <li>(v) SPL guests.</li> </ul>
<b>SPL Media Coordinator</b>	The individual appointed by the SPL as its representative to manage, in coordination with the Match Director, all media and broadcasting matters and activities for a Match in accordance with this Handbook.
<b>SPL Match Official</b>	Any individual appointed by the SPL with a responsibility related to the Match. For the avoidance of doubt, this includes without limitation the Match Director, SPL Commercial Officer, SPL Media Coordinator, and any other specific role appointed by the SPL for a Match and communicated to the Clubs by Circular.
<b>SPL Partner</b>	Any entity that has been granted the right to exercise and exploit the Commercial Rights (or any part thereof) in respect to the Competition.
<b>SPL Website</b>	The official SPL website, found at <a href="http://www.spl.com.sa">http://www.spl.com.sa</a> .
<b>Sponsorship Rights</b>	<p>The right, in any and all media, throughout the world, and in all languages, to promote an association between the Competition and certain products, services, and/or brands.</p> <p>This definition includes (by way of illustration only) the exclusive right to exercise rights of association with the Competition, including without limitation the right to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) use an official designation;</li> <li>(ii) use the Competition Marks on branded products and/or product packaging (including Premiums, and in relation to the Competition Marks only on items for retail sale) and/or advertising;</li> <li>(iii) receive commercial programme Tickets; and</li> <li>(iv) receive broadcast sponsorship opportunities in connection with broadcasts of a Match or Official Function.</li> </ul>
<b>Stadium</b>	Any stadium approved to host a Match in the Competition. For the avoidance of doubt, this includes, without limitation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) the entire premises (to the extent that a valid Accreditation Card or Ticket is required to gain access) of a stadium facility inside the outer stadium perimeter fence and (on Match days and any day</li> </ul>

	<p>on which any official training takes place within the stadium), the airspace above such stadium premises;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(ii) parking facilities;</li> <li>(iii) VIP and hospitality areas (including the VIP Tribune);</li> <li>(iv) concession areas;</li> <li>(v) commercial display areas;</li> <li>(vi) buildings;</li> <li>(vii) the Field of Play;</li> <li>(viii) the Media Tribune;</li> <li>(ix) any Broadcast Compound;</li> <li>(x) the Media Centre;</li> <li>(xi) the press conference room;</li> <li>(xii) the Mixed Zone;</li> <li>(xiii) any stands; and</li> <li>(xiv) any areas beneath the stands.</li> </ul>
<b>Team Bench</b>	The bench inside the technical area on which the substitute Players and Club Officials may sit during a Match.
<b>Team Identifier</b>	Any graphic or text-based feature used by a Club to identify itself.
<b>Team Nickname</b>	A descriptive name or designation commonly used and understood to refer to a given Club. A slogan, campaign, or similar message associated with a Club is not considered a Team Nickname.
<b>Team Symbol</b>	Any symbol or graphic element that is used by a Club to represent it.
<b>Technology Label</b>	A type of Manufacturer Identifier used by a Manufacturer to identify and communicate a material or method used in the manufacturing of a given item.
<b>Ticket</b>	A virtual pass providing access to a Stadium for the purpose of attending a Match.
<b>Ticket Platform</b>	The centralised electronic system approved by the SPL for the sale and distribution of Tickets for Matches.
<b>Ticketing</b>	All operational measures to provide Tickets to all spectators of every Match and for Official Functions of the Competition, allowing attendees to enter the Stadium. Ticketing includes the management of all operations necessary for the production, sale, distribution, delivery, and payment of the Tickets of the Competition.
<b>Travel and Tour Rights</b>	The right to organise and/or sub-licence official travel and tour activities in relation to the Competition. For the avoidance of doubt, such travel and

	tour activities include the provision of Tickets to a Match and/or Official Function of the Competition.
<b>Undergarment</b>	Clothing worn by Players under their Playing Kit, such as (but not limited to) t-shirts, thermal shorts, and/or any sort of cooling apparel.
<b>Venue</b>	The Host City and the immediate area surrounding a Stadium, maximum one hundred (100) kilometres from the physical Stadium building.
<b>Video Assistant Referee or VAR</b>	The video assistant referee appointed by the SAFF to undertake the functions set out in the Laws of the Game.
<b>VIP Tribune</b>	The area of the spectator stands exclusively reserved for VIP guests.
<b>Tifos</b>	A large, coordinated visual display in the stands, carried out by spectators using a banner or a large piece of fabric covering a wide area, intended to support the team or convey a specific message. The display is pre-planned and designed to form instantly upon being raised, and is clearly visible from a considerable distance.
<b>Mosaics</b>	A coordinated visual display in the stands, carried out by spectators using cards, coloured pieces, or small fabrics distributed across the seats, designed to form, when raised simultaneously, a specific image, text, or design. The display is pre-planned to cover part or all of the stands, and is clearly visible from a considerable distance.

For the purposes of this Handbook, and provided the context so permits:

- (a) words importing the singular number shall include the plural and vice-versa;
- (b) words importing any particular gender shall include all other genders;
- (c) reference to natural persons shall include any legal person or corporation;
- (d) references to the SPL shall include its successors and permitted assigns, and where the context requires, the SPL Committees;
- (e) reference to a SPL Partner shall include where advised by the SPL, their successors, and permitted assigns; and
- (f) all defined terms, unless otherwise stated in this Handbook, shall have the same meaning as that ascribed to them in the SPL Statutes, unless the context indicates otherwise.

## LEAGUE GOVERNANCE

### 1. General Matters

- 1.1. The SPL manages, organises, and supervises all aspects of the Competition pursuant as per it's Statutes and the delegation set out in the SAFF Statutes.
- 1.2. The Competition shall consist of the eighteen (18) clubs that meet the requirements in Article 5.
- 1.3. This Handbook specifies the rights, obligations, and duties of the SPL, the SAFF, Clubs, Players, Club Officials, Officials, Match Referees, and all other individuals or entities that participate directly or indirectly in the Competition.
- 1.4. This Handbook is binding on all parties that are bound by the SAFF Statutes and/or SPL Statutes and/or have contractually agreed through with this Handbook, as well as on all other individuals or entities that participate directly or indirectly in the Competition.
  - 1.4.1. All SPL regulations and SAFF regulations, irrespective of whether they are annexed to or referenced in this Handbook, are binding on all parties mentioned above.
  - 1.4.2. This Handbook may be supplemented by a Circular issued by the SPL. Any such Circular shall be considered to form part of this Handbook.
  - 1.4.3. This Handbook is supplemented by any MOS Regulations where there is no conflict between them and this Handbook. Any such MOS Regulations shall be considered to form part of this Handbook. Where a conflict is discovered, the SPL shall liaise with the MOS and notify the outcome to the Clubs via Circular.
  - 1.4.4. To the extent that this Handbook regulates the activity of individuals or entities that are not bound by the SPL Statutes and/or SAFF Statutes (e.g. SPL Partners, Club Partners, Broadcast Partners, Media, Stadium operators), the Host Club is liable for any of their behaviour that violates the provisions of this Handbook, unless expressly stated to the contrary.
- 1.5. Any rights and Proprietary Interests associated with the Competition that are not granted to any Club by this Handbook and/or specific agreements shall vest in the SPL.
- 1.6. Unless specifically stated to the contrary within the relevant decision, any amendment to this Handbook shall be effective immediately upon the decision of the SPL Board of Directors approving the applicable amendment, After the issuance of its approval decision by the SPL Board of Directors and ratification by SAFF
- 1.7. Any reference to the SPL Statutes, the SAFF Statutes, or to any SPL or SAFF regulation refers to those valid at the time of application.

- 1.8. Any reference in this Handbook to a written request or submission being made by a Club shall be fulfilled through such communication being made via the electronic competition management system established by the SPL.

## **2. Saudi Arabian Football Federation**

- 2.1. The SAFF has the following primary responsibilities:

- 2.1.1. exercising its rights and powers (including the making of all decisions) as set out in this Handbook and the SAFF Statutes and SAFF regulations. The SAFF may delegate a right or power to any party at its discretion, including to the SPL;
- 2.1.2. approving any decision to award a Licence to participate in the Competition;
- 2.1.3. deciding all matters relating to the replacement of a Club that is deemed ineligible to participate in, or withdraws from, the Competition;
- 2.1.4. approving the registration of Players in accordance with the SAFF RSTP and any applicable FIFA regulations;
- 2.1.5. adjudicating disciplinary cases in accordance with the SAFF Code;
- 2.1.6. monitoring matters related to multi-club ownership in accordance with the SAFF Governing Rules of the Club Control Body;
- 2.1.7. nominating Clubs to participate in AFC competitions in accordance with any AFC entry requirements;
- 2.1.8. overseeing the installation of all VAR technology within Stadia in accordance with the Laws of the Game;
- 2.1.9. appointing the Match Referees and Referee Assessor for each Match;
- 2.1.10. arranging travel, accommodation, and other logistical elements for all appointed Match Referees and Referee Assessors; and
- 2.1.11. exercising any other right or power granted to it through the SAFF Statutes and/or the SPL Statutes.

## **3. Saudi Pro League**

- 3.1. The SPL shall be responsible for overseeing all aspects of the Competition. The SPL staff and SPL Committees shall carry out all necessary administrative and operational tasks on behalf of the SPL Board of Directors, In accordance with the Statutes.
- 3.2. The SPL has the following primary responsibilities:
- 3.2.1. managing, organising, protecting, and supervising all aspects of the Competition and matters related to it;



- 3.2.2. exercising its rights and powers (including the making of all decisions) as set out in this Handbook. The SPL may delegate a right or power to any party at its discretion, Without prejudice to the Statutes and subject to obtaining any necessary approvals from SAFF, if required;
  - 3.2.3. assessing compliance of Clubs with the SPL Club Licensing Regulations SPL Financial Regulations and awarding Licences to participate in the Competition and in AFC competitions;
  - 3.2.4. determining the competition system and the Match Schedule;
  - 3.2.5. determining the Stadia to be used for every Match;
  - 3.2.6. determining the official football and stipulated technical material;
  - 3.2.7. covering travel, accommodation, and logistical costs for the SPL Delegation at Matches;
  - 3.2.8. nominating, where applicable, members to SAFF committees or bodies;
  - 3.2.9. issuing disciplinary sanctions to Clubs, Players, Club Officials, and Officials that violate any of the rules set out in this Handbook (except where such competence lies with the SAFF DEC);
  - 3.2.10. deciding all matters related to suspended, cancelled, or abandoned Matches (except where such competence lies with the SAFF DEC); and
  - 3.2.11. dealing with any other aspect of the Competition that is not the responsibility of any other SPL body pursuant to this Handbook or the SPL Statutes, or the SAFF Statutes or regulations.
- 3.3. The SPL administration shall undertake the day-to-day management, supervision, and organisation of the Competition.
  - 3.4. The SPL Club Licensing Committee (also known as the 'First Instance Body') shall make all decisions relating to the awarding of Licences to participate in the Competition in accordance with the SPL Club Licensing Regulations, subject to the final approval of SAFF (Article 2.1.2). Its decisions may be appealed to the SPL Club Licensing Appeal Committee (also known as the 'Appeal Body') in accordance with the SPL Club Licensing Regulations.
  - 3.5. The SPL Competition Compliance Committee shall make all decisions relating to disciplinary matters in accordance with this Handbook. Its decisions are final and binding and not appealable.
  - 3.6. All decisions of the SPL and its bodies are final and binding and not appealable, unless specifically provided for within this Handbook or any other SPL regulation.

#### **4. Clubs**

- 4.1. Each Club shall ensure that they, and any individual affiliated to them:
  - 4.1.1. comply with all matters provided within this Handbook;
  - 4.1.2. comply with all Circulars issued by the SPL in relation to the Competition;
  - 4.1.3. comply with all other SPL regulations, including without limitation the SPL Club Licensing Regulations;
  - 4.1.4. comply with all FIFA, SAFF, and AFC regulations, including without limitation the Laws of the Game, the FIFA RSTP, the SAFF RSTP, the FIFA Football Agent Regulations, and the SAFF Football Agent Regulations;
  - 4.1.5. comply with all decisions made by the SPL, SAFF, SSAC, FIFA, and AFC;
  - 4.1.6. participate in any SAFF (including but not limited to the King's Cup and Super Cup), FIFA, and AFC competition for which they qualify through sporting merit and (if applicable) receive a licence to participate;
  - 4.1.7. respect and comply with all commercial agreements entered into by the SPL related to the Competition;
  - 4.1.8. recognise and enforce all decisions of the FIFA judicial bodies, AFC judicial bodies, SAFF judicial bodies, SAFF Club Control Body, SPL Competition Compliance Committee, Court of Arbitration for Sport, and SSAC; and
  - 4.1.9. do not engage in behaviour or activities that:
    - 4.1.9.1. compromise the reputation or integrity of the Competition, the SPL, SPL staff, SAFF, SAFF staff, KSA, or football generally within KSA; or
    - 4.1.9.2. are contrary to the cultural values and ethics of KSA.
- 4.2. Each Club shall ensure that they:
  - 4.2.1. participate in all Matches that they are scheduled to play; and
  - 4.2.2. host all Matches that they are designated as the Host Club.
- 4.3. Each Club may exercise the rights and powers granted to it in this Handbook or the SPL Statutes, or that are assigned by the SPL via Circular.
- 4.4. Each Club is responsible for all costs associated with its participation in the Competition, unless otherwise specified in this Handbook. This includes without limitation the cost of hosting Matches, attending away Matches, and any medical costs associated with its Club Delegation.
- 4.5. Each Club is liable for all actions and behaviour of its Players, its Club Officials, its Club Delegation, its Club Partners, the operator of its approved Stadium, and its spectators.

- 4.6. Each Club shall ensure that any agreement that it signs with a third-party respects their obligations pursuant to this Handbook.
- 4.7. Each Club shall ensure that no unauthorised person enters their Dressing Room, Team Bench, or the technical area.
- 4.8. Each Club shall ensure that no individual affiliated to it gains access to any Controlled Access Area without holding the necessary Accreditation Card.
- 4.9. Each Club shall ensure that its Players and Club Officials attend and participate in all Official Functions (including any award ceremonies) and any other activity requested by SPL.
- 4.10. A Club that is relegated at the end of the Season may no longer exercise the rights and powers granted in this Handbook or the SPL Statutes, or that are assigned by the SPL via Circular.
- 4.11. Each Club shall ensure that it, and any individual affiliated to it, always acts with the utmost good faith. For the avoidance of doubt, it shall be a breach of this rule to:
- 4.11.1. act dishonestly towards the SPL, the SAFF, another Club, or any individual affiliated to any of those entities; or
  - 4.11.2. engage in conduct that is intended to circumvent this Handbook or obstruct any SPL or SAFF investigation into compliance with its provisions.
- 4.12. Each Club shall ensure that it, and any individual affiliated to it, does not:
- 4.12.1. conduct themselves in an abusive, derogatory, insulting, intimidating or offensive manner towards the SPL, the SAFF, another Club, or any individual affiliated to any of those entities; or
  - 4.12.2. commit any act (or omission) or make any statement that brings the game of football, the SPL, the SAFF, the Competition, a Club, an SPL Partner, a Broadcast Partner, or KSA into disrepute.
  - 4.12.3. For the avoidance of doubt, this includes any conduct, act, omission, or statement made on any Club Channel.
- 4.13. No Club or individual affiliated to it shall disclose or divulge to any person whatsoever (either directly or indirectly), or otherwise make use of any confidential information regarding the business or finances of the SPL or any other Club, except to statutory and regulatory authorities or as may be required by law. This includes information relating to any of their dealings, transactions or affairs, as well as any matters that may come to a Club's knowledge by reason of its membership of or participation in the SPL.
- 4.14. Each Club and any individual affiliated to it shall comply promptly and in full with any request for information and/or documents made by the SPL.

- 4.15. Each Club shall, at its own cost, indemnify, defend, and hold the SPL and all SPL Match Officials, agents, subsidiaries, SPL Partners, Broadcast Partners, and all other auxiliary persons free and harmless against any and all liabilities, obligations, losses, damages, penalties, claims, actions, fines, taxes, charges, fees, and expenses (including reasonable legal expenses) of any kind whatsoever resulting from, arising out of, or attributable to, any breach of this Handbook.

SPL

## COMPETITION SYSTEM

### 5. Participation

- 5.1. The Competition shall consist of the eighteen (18) clubs that meet the following sporting criteria:
  - 5.1.1. the fifteen (15) highest-ranked Clubs in the SPL from the previous Season; and
  - 5.1.2. the 3 highest-ranked Clubs in Saudi First Division League from the previous Season in accordance with the regulations of the Saudi First Division League.
- 5.2. Each Club that meets the sporting criteria shall undertake a club licensing process in accordance with the SPL Club Licensing Regulations to determine whether it shall be awarded a Licence to participate in the Competition.
- 5.3. If a club that has met the sporting criteria is deemed ineligible to participate in the Competition through a decision of the the SAFF, FIFA, the AFC, the SSAC, or the Court of Arbitration for Sport, the SAFF will determine the club that shall replace the ineligible club and any other connected measures to be taken. In such cases, considering sporting merit and the integrity of the Competition as the primary factors in making its decision.
- 5.4. Each Club shall communicate its Club Name and Club Logo to the SPL no later than 1 July prior to the Competition Period. The Club Name and Club Logo may not be changed after such submission until the following Season.

### 6. Withdrawal

- 6.1. Each Club shall field a team in all Matches in which they are scheduled to participate.
- 6.2. The SAFF DEC has jurisdiction to determine disciplinary matters in all cases where a Club unilaterally withdraws from the Competition, fails to field a team in a Match (cf Article 6.1), causes a Match to be cancelled (cf Article 10.3), or causes a Match to be abandoned (cf Article 11.5).
  - 6.2.1. If the SAFF DEC decides that the case is not subject to Force Majeure, it may sanction the Club concerned in accordance with the provisions of the SAFF Code. In serious cases, it may deem that the Club has withdrawn from the Competition.
  - 6.2.2. If the SAFF DEC deems that the case is due to Force Majeure, it shall decline to discipline the Club and refer the matter to the SPL for its decision.
- 6.3. In all cases, the SPL has the right to determine and order a Club to pay compensation for all damages or losses suffered by, where applicable, the SPL, other Clubs,

Broadcast Partners, SPL Partners, and any other impacted party. Such compensation may be ordered in addition to any sanction issued by the SAFF DEC.

- 6.4. A Club that withdraws or is deemed to have withdrawn after the first Match of the Competition shall have all its Matches cancelled and considered null and void. No points or goals scored in those previous Matches shall be taken into consideration when determining the final ranking.
- 6.5. Where a Club withdraws or is deemed to have withdrawn from the Competition, the SPL shall be responsible (in alignment with SAFF) for making the necessary operational decisions, including without limitation whether to change the competition system, amend the Match Schedule, and/or replace the Club.
  - 6.5.1. If a Club withdraws or is deemed to have withdrawn from the Competition prior to the announcement of the Match Schedule, and it participated in the Saudi First Division League in the previous Season, it shall be replaced by the next ranked club in the Saudi First Division League from the previous Season (subject to that club receiving a Licence).
  - 6.5.2. If a Club withdraws or is deemed to have withdrawn from the Competition prior to the announcement of the Match Schedule, and it participated in the SPL in the previous Season, it shall be replaced by the highest-ranked club that was relegated from the SPL in the previous Season.

## 7. Competition Principles

- 7.1. The Competition shall be played in a home-and-away league format. Where possible and subject to its own discretion and/or any exceptional circumstances, the SPL shall organise the Competition in accordance with the following principles:
  - 7.1.1. there shall be thirty-four (34) match-weeks with nine (9) Matches played during each match-week;
  - 7.1.2. there shall be no more than four (4) Matches on the same day (subject to Articles 8.2.2 and 8.2.3);
  - 7.1.3. each Club shall play every other Club twice, once at their home Stadium and once away from their home Stadium;
  - 7.1.4. each Club shall play seventeen (17) home Matches and seventeen (17) away Matches;
  - 7.1.5. in the first half of the Competition period, each Club shall have a 'home and away' ratio of nine (9) home Matches and eight (8) away Matches, or eight (8) home Matches and nine (9) away Matches. The ratio in the second half of the Competition Period will be the opposite;
  - 7.1.6. no Club may play more than two (2) consecutive home Matches;
  - 7.1.7. no Club may play more than two (2) consecutive away Matches;

- 7.1.8. where two (2) Clubs are from the same Venue, one (1) of the Clubs will be scheduled for a home Match and the other for an away Match during the same match-week. Where more than two (2) Clubs are from the same Venue, the match-week pairings will be determined at the discretion of SPL;
- 7.1.9. a Club scheduled to play at home in its first Match of the Competition will be scheduled to play away in its final Match of the Competition (and vice-versa);
- 7.1.10. a Club scheduled to play at home for its first Match of the Competition will be scheduled to play away for its second Match of the Competition (and vice-versa);
- 7.1.11. in the final two (2) match-weeks, each Club will be scheduled to play one (1) home Match and one (1) away Match;
- 7.1.12. the kick-off times shall, as much as possible, ensure that the Prayer Call does not occur during the first half or second half of the Match.
- 7.2. Clubs shall be ranked in a league table accordance with Article 9.
- 7.3. All Matches shall be played in accordance with the Laws of the Game.
  - 7.3.1. Each Match shall last ninety (90) minutes, comprising two (2) periods of forty-five (45) minutes.
  - 7.3.2. The half-time interval shall not exceed fifteen (15) minutes.
- 7.4. Each Club may make a maximum of five (5) substitutes, with a maximum of three (3) substitution opportunities. Substitutions made during the half-time interval do not count towards a Club's substitution opportunities.
- 7.5. Each Club may, in addition to the maximum of five (5) substitutes, use a maximum of one (1) concussion substitute in a Match. In accordance with the "*Additional Permanent Concussion Substitutions Protocol*" provided by IFAB:
  - 7.5.1. making a 'concussion substitution' is not calculated in the maximum substitution opportunities;
  - 7.5.2. where a Club makes a 'normal substitution' at the same time as a 'concussion substitution', they have utilised one (1) of their substitution opportunities;
  - 7.5.3. if a Club has used its maximum of three (3) substitution opportunities, it cannot use a 'concussion substitution' to make a 'normal substitution'; and
  - 7.5.4. if a Club makes a 'concussion substitution', the opposing Club can make an 'additional substitution' and shall receive a fourth substitution opportunity. This fourth substitution opportunity can be used to substitute one (1) player



only. The Player that is substituted may participate in the next Match of the Club subject to the decision of the Club medical staff.

7.6. At the conclusion of a Match:

- 7.6.1. three (3) points shall be awarded to the Club that wins;
- 7.6.2. one (1) point shall be awarded to both Clubs in case of a draw; and
- 7.6.3. no points shall be awarded to the Club that loses.

7.7. At the conclusion of the final Match of the Competition:

- 7.7.1. the Club with the highest number of points shall be Champion (subject to Article 9);
- 7.7.2. the Clubs ranked in the final three (3) positions shall be relegated and shall participate in the Saudi First Division League in the following Season.

**8. Match Schedule**

8.1. All Matches shall be played in the Competition Period defined by the SPL and the SAFF.

8.2. The SPL shall set the date, time, and Stadium for all Matches.

8.2.1. When compiling the Match Schedule, the SPL may consider without limitation all sporting matters (e.g. requirements of the competition system, participation of Clubs and SAFF teams in international competitions), human matters (e.g. Player rest days), organisational matters (e.g. Stadia availability and maintenance, safety and security), geographical matters (e.g. time zones, winter seeding, weather forecast), marketing matters, spectator matters, religious matters, and broadcast matters.

8.2.2. The day and kick-off time for Matches in the penultimate Match-week which are linked to the same technical objective (e.g. the Club that becomes Champions, the Clubs that are relegated) may be amended by the SPL to kick-off on the same day, considering technical, broadcasting, and Stadia constraints.

8.2.3. The day and kick-off time for Matches in the final Match-week which are linked to the same technical objective (e.g. the Club that becomes Champions, the Clubs that are relegated) may be amended by the SPL to kick-off at the same day, considering technical, broadcasting, and Stadia constraints.

8.2.4. There shall be minimum two (2) full days between Matches. For the avoidance of doubt and by way of example only, a Club which participates in a Match on a Tuesday shall not participate in another Match until the following Friday.

- 8.2.5. A Club participating in a SAFF tournament (e.g. King's Cup), an AFC tournament (e.g. AFC Champions League Elite), or a FIFA tournament (e.g. Club World Cup), shall be given a minimum two (2) full days between a match played in that tournament and their next Match in the Competition, regardless of the country where such tournament is held.
- 8.3. A Club may request a change to the date, time, and/or Stadium for a Match (including the postponement of a Match) only in the case of Force Majeure. The Club must:
- 8.3.1. the request must clearly state the Force Majeure upon which it is based;
  - 8.3.2. if the Club is proposing a change of date, the Club must demonstrate that their Stadium is available to host the Match on the proposed date; and
  - 8.3.3. if the Club is proposing a change of date and the new date occurs in a different match-week than to that originally scheduled, the agreement of the other Club taking part in the Match must be provided as part of the request. The proposal must respect, as much as practicable, the principles set out in Article 7.1.
  - 8.3.4. The SPL will decide on the proposal. If the position of the other Club taking part in the Match is not included with the request, the SPL must receive that position prior to its decision.
- 8.4. The SPL shall have sole discretion to amend the Match Schedule at any time and for any reason, respecting as much as practicable the principles set out in Article 7.1.
- 8.4.1. For the avoidance of doubt, this includes without limitation any amendment to the dates of the match-weeks within the Competition Period.
  - 8.4.2. The SPL will notify the affected Clubs as soon as practicable.
  - 8.4.3. By way of example only, the Match Schedule may be amended due to scheduling conflicts with SAFF tournaments, international tournaments, broadcasting matters, Stadium availability, or Force Majeure.
- 8.5. Where the SPL deems that safety and security at a Match cannot be guaranteed, the SPL may order without limitation that the Match be postponed, played without spectators, played at a different Stadium, or played in a different Venue.
- 8.6. Where the SPL is required to change the date, time, and/or Stadium for a Match without having received a request prior to such decision:
- 8.6.1. the Club that caused such change shall bear its own expenses as well as any additional travel, board, and lodging expenses incurred by the other Club, the Match Referees, and SPL Delegation; and

8.6.2. if neither Club caused such change, each Club shall bear its own expenses related to the original fixture and the rescheduled Match or remaining Match time.

8.7. Where a Match cannot be held or completed due to Force Majeure, the SPL may make whatever operational decision it deems appropriate in the circumstances.

## 9. Competition Ranking

9.1. Teams shall be ranked in descending order based on the total points earned from the competition matches. If two or more teams are tied on points, the final rankings at the end of the competition shall be determined in descending order according to the following criteria.

9.1.1. The highest number of points obtained in the match(es) played between the tied teams.

9.1.2. The highest goal difference (goals scored minus goals conceded) in the match(es) played between the tied teams, without applying the away goals rule.

9.1.3. The highest number of goals scored in the match(es) played between the tied teams, without applying the away goals rule.

9.1.4. If the tie between two or more teams remains after applying clauses **(9.1.1) to (9.1.3)** above, the same clauses shall be reapplied exclusively to the matches played between the teams still tied.

9.1.5. The highest goal difference across the entire competition (goals scored minus goals conceded).

9.1.6. The highest number of goals scored across the entire competition.

9.1.7. If the tied teams are two teams and they are playing against each other on the field in the final match, the match should go to extra time without applying the away goals rule. If the tie persists after extra time, penalty kicks shall be taken from the penalty mark in accordance with the regulations of FIFA.

9.1.8. The fewest disciplinary points accumulated by players in competition matches, with a red card counting as three points and a yellow card counting as one point.

9.1.9. If the tie persists after applying clauses (9.1.1) to (9.1.8) above, and the tied teams are more than two teams, or two teams not playing each other on the field, a single-elimination play-off match or matches shall be held between the tied teams. SPL shall determine the mechanism, date, and venue for such match(es).

9.2. In the event that two or more teams are tied on points during the competition, and until the end of the penultimate round of the competition, rankings shall be determined in descending order according to the following criteria;

9.2.1. The highest goal difference across the entire competition (goals scored minus goals conceded).

9.2.2. The highest number of goals scored across the entire competition.

9.2.3. The highest-ranked team in the competition from the previous season.

## **10. Cancellation of Matches prior to their scheduled start time**

- 10.1. If a Match cannot commence for any reason, the following procedure applies:
  - 10.1.1. the Match shall be delayed for up to thirty (30) minutes. The referee may decide that the Match can commence before the completion of this first delay;
  - 10.1.2. following this first delay, the referee may either:
    - 10.1.2.1. order a second delay of thirty (30) minutes if they believe that this may allow the Match to commence; or
    - 10.1.2.2. cancel the Match;
  - 10.1.3. following the second delay, if the Match cannot commence, the referee shall cancel the Match.
- 10.2. Where a Match is cancelled, it shall be rescheduled to take place at the same time and Stadium on the following day, unless otherwise decided by the SPL. In making such decision, the SPL shall respect, as much as practicable, the principles set out in Article 7.1.
- 10.3. Any Match which is cancelled and subsequently abandoned, except in cases of Force Majeure, may lead to the imposition of sanctions by the SAFF DEC against the Club that caused the cancellation and/or abandonment of the Match.

## **11. Suspension or Abandonment of Matches after their scheduled start time**

- 11.1. At any stage of a Match, if a Club (for any reason) is unable to field at least seven (7) Players, the referee must declare the Match abandoned.
  - 11.1.1. The Club that was able to field seven (7) or more Players at the time the Match was abandoned shall be declared the winner by the score of 3-0 or the score at the time of the abandonment, whichever is higher.
  - 11.1.2. The principles set out in the SAFF Code shall apply.
- 11.2. If a Match is stopped by the referee for any other reason, the following procedure applies:
  - 11.2.1. the Match shall be delayed for up to thirty (30) minutes. The referee may decide that the Match can resume before the completion of this first delay;
  - 11.2.2. following the first delay, the referee may either:
    - 11.2.2.1. order a second delay of thirty (30) minutes if they believe that this may allow the Match to resume; or
    - 11.2.2.2. declare the Match suspended;

- 11.2.3. following the second delay, if the Match is unable to recommence, the referee must declare the Match suspended.
- 11.3. Where a Match is suspended, it shall be rescheduled to resume at the same time and Stadium on the following day, unless otherwise decided by the SPL in coordination with the MOS. In making such decision, the SPL shall respect, as much as practicable, the principles set out in Article 7.1.
- 11.4. Where a suspended Match is rescheduled to resume, the following principles shall apply:
- 11.4.1. the Match shall resume with the same score at the minute at which play was suspended;
  - 11.4.2. the Match shall recommence with the same Players on the Field of Play and the same substitutes at the time it was initially suspended;
  - 11.4.3. no additional substitutes may be added to the Match Start List;
  - 11.4.4. the participating Clubs may only make the number of substitutions to which they were still entitled when the Match was suspended;
  - 11.4.5. any sanction imposed by the referee before the Match was suspended remains valid for the remainder of the resumed Match; and
  - 11.4.6. any other matters not set out above shall be decided by the SPL.
- 11.5. Any Match which is suspended and subsequently abandoned, except in cases of Force Majeure, may lead to the imposition of sanctions by the SAFF DEC against the Club that caused the suspension and/or abandonment of the Match.

## **12. Match Stoppage**

- 12.1. Depending on the weather conditions, the referee may decide to stop a Match for cooling breaks. The following principles shall apply:
- 12.1.1. the Match shall be stopped in the 30th minute and the 75th minute (i.e. once per half);
  - 12.1.2. the referee shall blow the whistle to signal the start of the cooling break and inform the Clubs and other Match Referees;
  - 12.1.3. the Players shall go to their Team Bench (not their Dressing Room); and
  - 12.1.4. the cooling break shall not exceed three (3) minutes.
- 12.2. The relevant government authorities, after coordinating with the Match Director assigned by SPL, may order the referee to stop a Match if, at their discretion, they

deem that safety and security are not guaranteed in the Stadium and/or there is a potential danger to the Players, Club Officials, Match Referees, and/or spectators.

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## REGISTRATION OF PLAYERS AND CLUB OFFICIALS

### 13. Registration of Players

- 13.1. Each Club shall register Players in the approved platform by SPL exclusively during the registration periods established by the SAFF.
  - 13.1.1. Exceptions to this rule may be set out within the SAFF RSTP and/or established by the SAFF and communicated to Clubs via circular letter.
- 13.2. Each Club shall register its Players with the SAFF in accordance with the SAFF RSTP and (where applicable) the FIFA RSTP.
- 13.3. Each Club shall submit its Official List and Additional Youth Player List by the deadline stipulated via Circular. The following information must be submitted for each Player:
  - 13.3.1. Name in Arabic as written on their ID card, passport, or residence permit;
  - 13.3.2. Name in English as written on their passport;
  - 13.3.3. Name as it will appear on their Jersey (in English);
  - 13.3.4. SAFF registration number;
  - 13.3.5. position and Number (between #1 and #99);
  - 13.3.6. nationality;
  - 13.3.7. date of birth;
  - 13.3.8. height and weight; and
  - 13.3.9. updated photograph of the Player wearing the Official Playing Kit taken against a white background.
- 13.4. The SPL may request any further information at its discretion.
- 13.5. A Player shall wear the same Number as allocated to them in their registration for all Matches during the Competition Period.
  - 13.5.1. The number #1 (if utilised) may only be used by a goalkeeper.
  - 13.5.2. If a Player transfers to a second Club during the same Competition period, they may be registered with a different Number from that they were allocated with their first Club.
  - 13.5.3. If a Player transfers away from a Club during the Competition Period, the Number they were allocated shall remain unavailable for use until the following Season.



### Official List

- 13.6. Each Club shall register a minimum of sixteen (16) and a maximum of twenty-five (25) Players on its Official List. At least two (2) Players shall be goalkeepers.
- 13.7. After the close of the first registration period establish by SAFF, each Club may amend its Official List only during the second registration period established by the SAFF, subject to any exceptions provided in the SAFF RSTP.
- 13.8. The Official List shall meet the following conditions (unless, for the avoidance of doubt, any variation is officially communicated by SAFF):
- 13.8.1. all Players shall be professional (as defined by the SAFF RSTP);
  - 13.8.2. all Players shall be at least sixteen (16) years old at the time of their registration;
  - 13.8.3. up to ten (10) non-Saudi Players may be registered. Of these non-Saudi Players:
    - 13.8.3.1. up to eight (8) without any restriction; and
    - 13.8.3.2. At least two (2) foreign professional players must be born in 2004 or later, in accordance with the annual circular issued by SAFF.;
    - 13.8.3.3. In the event that same ten (10) non-Saudi players remain with the team for the following season, the instructions issued by SAFF shall be observed and applied accordingly.
  - 13.8.4. A maximum of (1) one foreign player born in the Kingdom from the year 1999 and later.
- 13.9. If any slot on the Official List designated for a particular category is not filled, it shall remain vacant and cannot be used for any other category.

### Additional Youth Player List

- 13.10. Each Club may register an unlimited number of players on its Additional Youth Player List.
- 13.11. Players may be registered on the Additional Youth Player List at any time during the Season, with the exception that a Club may not register a Player on the Additional Youth Player List from twenty-four (24) hours before a Match until midnight of the day following the Match.
- 13.12. The Additional Youth Player List shall meet the following conditions:
- 13.12.1. all Players shall be at least sixteen (16) years old at the time of their registration;

- 13.12.2. all Players must turn twenty-three (23) or younger in the calendar year in which the Season commences. As an exception, goalkeepers may turn up to twenty-five (25) years old in the calendar year in which the Season commences; and
- 13.12.3. all Players must have been registered with an age-restricted team of the Club prior to the close of the last registration period set by SAFF. If a Player is registered with an age-restricted team of the Club after the close of the last registration period set by SAFF, they are not able to be registered on the Additional Youth Player List until the opening of the next registration period set by SAFF.

#### **14. Eligibility of Players**

- 14.1. Each Club shall ensure that its Players are:
  - 14.1.1. duly and properly registered with SAFF in accordance with the SAFF RSTP and where applicable the FIFA RSTP; and
  - 14.1.2. duly and properly registered with the SPL on the Official List or Additional Youth Player List in accordance with this Handbook.
- 14.2. Individuals who meet these criteria are *prima facie* eligible to participate in Matches, subject to the disciplinary decision of a competent body.
- 14.3. Each Club is liable for all documentation submitted during the registration of its Players.
- 14.4. The fact that a Player's registration has been approved by the SPL does not mean that they are eligible to participate in the Competition. Each Club is responsible for fielding only eligible Players in a Match. Failure to do so shall result in the consequences stipulated in the SAFF Code.
- 14.5. A Player shall be deemed ineligible, without limitation, if:
  - 14.5.1. there is a violation of Article 14.1;
  - 14.5.2. they participate in a Match contrary to the disciplinary decision of a competent body, or the operation of the SAFF Code, or the operation of this Handbook; or
  - 14.5.3. a competent body determines that any document submitted during the registration of the Player with the SAFF and/or the SPL was falsified, forged, or otherwise invalid.

#### **15. Player Status**

- 15.1. The transfer of Players shall be governed by the SAFF RSTP (for national transfers) and the FIFA RSTP (for international transfers).

- 15.2. After the close of the first registration period established by SAFF, a Player may only change their sporting nationality which was submitted as part of their registration on the Official List during the second registration period established by SAFF.

## **16. Registration of Club Officials**

- 16.1. Each Club shall register its Club Officials by the deadline stipulated by the SPL prior to the commencement of the Competition Period.

16.1.1. Each Club may have a maximum of twenty-six (26) Club Officials registered at any one time.

16.1.2. Each Club may replace any registered Club Official with another individual up to three (3) days prior to a Match.

- 16.2. The following information must be submitted for each Club Official:

16.2.1. a colour copy of a valid passport, showing the full name, passport number, place of birth, date of birth, date of issue, date of expiry, and nationality. Group passports are not permitted;

16.2.2. a passport-size colour photograph taken against a white background within six (6) months wearing Club equipment;

16.2.3. (if applicable) their coaching licence; and

16.2.4. (if applicable) authorisation of their coaching licence by the SAFF Technical Committee and/or relevant AFC body.

- 16.3. The SPL may request any further information at its discretion.

## COMPETITION OPERATIONS

### 17. Match Protocols

- 17.1. Each Club shall observe and respect the official countdown and all other protocols set out in Appendix 3.
  - 17.1.1. Any Club that causes a delay to any scheduled kick-off of a Match (whether the first half or the second half) may be sanctioned.
- 17.2. Prior to the kick-off of a Match, each Club shall participate in the pre-Match lineup and group photograph in accordance with the protocol set out in Appendix 8.
- 17.3. In the event that discriminatory and/or racist conduct is reported to or detected by the referee or Match Director, the SPL and Host Club shall apply the procedures outlined in the Protocol for Discriminatory Incidents adopted by FIFA and the SAFF in accordance with the three-step process summarised in Appendix 9.

### 18. Home Stadium

- 18.1. Each Club must play its home Matches in the Stadium that was approved by the SPL as part of the club licensing process conducted before the start of the Competition Period.
  - 18.1.1. Prior to 30 June, each Club must submit an alternate Stadium that may be utilised for home Matches if its approved Stadium is unavailable due to unforeseen circumstances, Force Majeure, or is deemed unsuitable to host Matches by the SPL.
  - 18.1.2. Any request to utilise the alternate Stadium for a home Match must be submitted in accordance with Article 8.3.
- 18.2. Each Club is responsible for ensuring its approved Stadium is available on the dates of its home Matches as set out in the Match Schedule.
- 18.3. Each Club is liable and responsible for all activities that occur in its approved Stadium, regardless of which entity owns the Stadium.
- 18.4. Each Club must provide the SPL with all relevant legal and operational documentation for the usage of its approved Stadium as required by the Stadium operator. Where such documentation changes, each Club must immediately provide any updated documentation to the SPL.
- 18.5. The SPL may, for whatever reason, deem an approved Stadium unsuitable or unable to host a Match or Matches.
- 18.6. The Host Club must ensure that its Stadium is made available to the SPL one (1) day before the relevant Match as a Clean Stadium.

- 18.6.1. For the avoidance of doubt, the Stadium shall be free of any material relating to any business partners of the Stadium operator unless that organisation is also an SPL Partner or Club Partner and entitled to use and/or exploit any aspect of the Commercial Rights, Competition Data, and/or Competition Marks in accordance with this Handbook.
- 18.6.2. The SPL, the Broadcast Partners, and/or the SPL Partners may require use of the Stadium until latest the close of business one (1) day after the relevant Match to, without limitation, dismantle or remove any assets utilised during the Match.
- 18.7. Prior to its first home Match, each Club must notify the SPL of the home Dressing Room within its approved Stadium.
  - 18.7.1. Once the nominated home Dressing Room has been notified to the SPL, the Club must utilise that Dressing Room for all home Matches.
  - 18.7.2. If a Club fails to notify the SPL about its nominated home Dressing Room, the home Dressing Room utilised in the previous Season shall be designated as the home Dressing Room in the Competition.
- 18.8. Prior to its first home Match, each Club must notify the SPL of the home Team Bench within its approved Stadium.
  - 18.8.1. Once the nominated home Team Bench has been notified to the SPL, the Club must utilise that Team Bench for all home Matches.
  - 18.8.2. If a Club fails to notify the SPL about its nominated home Team Bench, the home Team Bench utilised in the previous Season shall be designated as the home Team Bench in the Competition.

## 19. Field of Play

- 19.1. Each Club shall ensure that the Field of Play is in playable condition and complies with the requirements set out in the Laws of the Game. The Field of Play must be cut and watered according to the instructions issued by the SPL as set out in Appendix 4.
- 19.2. All Matches shall be played on natural turf. Matches may be played on artificial turf only if such artificial turf meets the FIFA Quality Concept and is approved by the SPL.
- 19.3. Each Club shall ensure that the markings on the Field of Play are painted in white and clearly visible for the Host Broadcaster.
- 19.4. The dimensions of the Field of Play shall be as follows:
  - 19.4.1. Length: 105 metres (115 yards);
  - 19.4.2. Width: 68 metres (74 yards).

- 19.5. If a Host Club considers the Field of Play unfit for a Match, it shall immediately inform the SPL and the Away Club before the departure of the SPL Delegation and the Away Club to the Venue.
- 19.6. Prior to each Match, the Match Director shall inspect the Stadium at least four (4) hours prior to the scheduled start time of the Match and ensure that all arrangements are in accordance with the Laws of the Game. If the condition of the Field of Play is not in accordance with the Laws of the Game, the Match Director shall issue instructions to the Host Club to ensure the situation is rectified.
- 19.7. If there is any doubt regarding the condition of the Field of Play prior to the Match, the referee shall decide whether it is playable. If the referee declares that the Match cannot commence on time, Article 10.1 shall apply.

## **20. Club Delegation**

- 20.1. All members of a Club Delegation shall be issued with an Accreditation Card by the SPL.
- 20.2. Each Club shall ensure that no person in its Club Delegation, or otherwise affiliated to the Club, enters or is present on its team bus, in its Dressing Room, on the Field of Play, or in any other Controlled Access Area unless they are in physical possession of the necessary Accreditation Card issued by the SPL.
- 20.3. For a Match, each Club shall register up to a maximum of forty-six (46) individuals as part of its Club Delegation as follows:
  - 20.3.1. a minimum of sixteen (16) Players and a maximum of twenty (20) players, registered on the Match Start List;
  - 20.3.2. a minimum of six (6) and a maximum of eleven (11) Club Officials, registered on the Match Start List. Their role must require them to perform activities directly related to, and during, the Match; and
  - 20.3.3. up to fifteen (15) Club Officials, registered on the Additional Club Officials List.
- 20.4. The registered Team Manager of a Club is the point of contact and coordination with the SPL Match Officials and Match Referees for all sporting matters.
  - 20.4.1. The Team Manager shall ensure the participation of the relevant Players and Club Officials in all Official Functions, including without limitation the Match Coordination Meeting and any press conferences.
  - 20.4.2. The Team Manager shall act as the Club Media Officer if there is no such appointment made.
- 20.5. The registered Operations Coordinator for the Host Club is responsible for all administrative matters related to the Match on behalf of the Host Club.

- 20.6. The Host Club shall reserve two (2) seats with a table for each participating Club in the spectator stands for their sports analysts. The seats shall be high in the spectator stands and in line with the halfway line. The Host Club shall provide dedicated security for the sports analysts to ensure protection from spectators.

## **21. Match Start List**

- 21.1. Each Club must submit the Match Start List to the Match Director no later than seventy-five (75) minutes before the scheduled start of the Match.

- 21.2. The Match Start List shall specify:

- 21.2.1. the starting eleven (11) Players and up to nine (9) substitute Players;
- 21.2.2. the captain;
- 21.2.3. the starting goalkeeper and the substitute goalkeeper; and
- 21.2.4. the six (6) to eleven (11) Club Officials permitted to sit on the Team Bench. Their role requires them to perform activities directly related to, and during, the Match. The following seven (7) Club Officials must be registered:
  - 21.2.4.1. Team Manager;
  - 21.2.4.2. Head Coach;
  - 21.2.4.3. (first) assistant coach;
  - 21.2.4.4. (second) assistant coach;
  - 21.2.4.5. goalkeeper coach;
  - 21.2.4.6. doctor; and
  - 21.2.4.7. physiotherapist.

### Players

- 21.3. The Players selected on the Match Start List must be registered on the Official List or the Additional Youth Player List.
- 21.3.1. A maximum of eight (8) non-Saudi Players registered on the Official List may be selected on the Match Start List.
  - 21.3.2. In addition, the one (1) non-Saudi Player born in KSA registered on the Official List may also be selected on the Match Start List.
- 21.4. Seventy-five (75) minutes prior to the scheduled start of the Match, the Match Director and the fourth official shall check the documentation of the Players and the Playing Kit of each Club.



- 21.5. After the Match Start List is submitted, if a starting Player on the Match Start List is unable to participate in the Match for any reason, he may be replaced by a substitute Player named on the Match Start List.
- 21.5.1. The replaced Player shall not be permitted to participate in the Match.
- 21.5.2. The Club shall not be permitted to select another Player to replace the substitute Player who replaces the starting Player, subject to the goalkeeper exception below.
- 21.5.3. As an exception, if either goalkeeper on the Match Start List is unable to participate in the Match for any reason, the following applies:
- 21.5.3.1. if the starting goalkeeper is unable to participate, they shall be replaced on the Match Start List by the substitute goalkeeper. The substitute goalkeeper may in turn be replaced by a goalkeeper from the Official List or the Additional Youth Player List;
- 21.5.3.2. if the substitute goalkeeper is unable to participate, they shall be replaced on the Match Start List by a goalkeeper from the Official List or the Additional Youth Player List.
- 21.6. To amend the Match Start List, the Team Manager must submit a change request and the revised Match Start List. The Match Director shall immediately notify the opposing Club, the Match Referees, and the Host Broadcaster.

#### Club Officials

- 21.7. The Club Officials selected on the Match Start List must form part of the maximum twenty-six (26) Club Officials registered with the SPL.
- 21.8. At least one (1) of the assistant coaches selected on the Match Start List must hold Saudi nationality.

## **22. Additional Club Officials List**

- 22.1. Each Club may register up to fifteen (15) Club Officials on the Additional Club Officials List (i.e. in addition to those registered on the Match Start List).
- 22.2. Up to ten (10) Club Officials registered on the Additional Club Officials List shall be permitted to access the Dressing Room at any time during the Match. They shall have a role that requires them to perform sporting or operational activities for the Match (e.g. Club Media Officer, Sport Analyst, Operations Coordinator).
- 22.3. The remaining five (5) Club Officials registered on the Additional Club Officials List shall hold an executive management position (or equivalent) at the Club. They shall comply with the following access restrictions:
- 22.3.1. before the Match: they may enter the Dressing Room or competition area when they arrive at the Stadium, and they may access the Field of Play area (but not the grassed area or technical area) until the end of the warm-up

period as specified in the official countdown. At the conclusion of the warm-up period, they must exit the Dressing Room. At least ten (10) minutes before the scheduled start of the Match, they must exit the competition area and move directly to their seat;

22.3.2. at half time: they are not permitted to enter the competition area;

22.3.3. after the Match: they may enter the Dressing Room commencing from five (5) minutes after the final whistle of the Match. They are not permitted to access the Field of Play area to do so. If the Dressing Room is on the opposite side of the Stadium to the VIP Tribune, they may enter the Dressing Room from the Field of Play area (without entering the grassed area or technical area). They may only do so after the Players and Match Referees are in their Dressing Rooms.

22.4. Club Officials registered on the Additional Club Officials List shall not engage with the Match Referees at any time while accessing or exiting the Dressing Room, or while they are within the Stadium competition area.

### **23. Access to Controlled Access Areas**

23.1. Players and Club Officials shall wear their Accreditation Card when arriving at the Stadium (bus drop-off). Once inside the competition area:

23.1.1. Club Officials shall wear their Accreditation Card at all times.

23.1.2. Players in the competition area are not required to wear their Accreditation Card if they are wearing a bib, warm-up jersey, or Playing Kit.

23.2. The substitute Players and Club Officials registered on the Match Start List are permitted to sit on the Team Bench. They must be present on the Team Bench at the time specified in the official countdown.

23.3. All individuals sitting on the Team Bench must wear equipment or bibs that contrasts with both the Playing Kits being used by the Players and the kit being used by the Match Referees on the Field of Play.

23.4. Players (including substitutes, substituted Players, and expelled Players) are not permitted to wear or use any form of electronic or communications equipment, except electronic performance and tracking systems (**EPTS**) as permitted in accordance with Appendix 5.

23.5. The use of electronic means of communication by Club Officials is permitted where it directly relates to Player welfare or safety, or for tactical reasons. Only small, mobile, and handheld equipment (including without limitation, microphones, headphones, earpieces, mobile phones, smartwatches, tablets, and laptops) may be used in accordance with the Laws of the Game. Any Club Official who uses unauthorised equipment or who behaves in an inappropriate manner because of the use of electronic or communication equipment shall be sent off from the Team Bench by the referee.

23.6. Appendix 6 sets out the restrictions that apply inside the Controlled Access Areas to Players and Club Officials who have been expelled or who are serving a Match suspension.

23.7. Each Club shall ensure that only authorised individuals are present in their Dressing Room.

## **24. Warm-Up and Cool Down**

24.1. Prior to a Match, each Club may warm-up on the Field of Play in accordance with the official countdown, unless instructed otherwise by the SPL.

24.2. During a Match, the warm-up is subject to the authority of the Match Referees:

24.2.1. a maximum of five (5) Players from each Club, accompanied by a maximum of one (1) Club Official, may warm-up in a location between the technical area of each Club and the closest corner flag;

24.2.2. if there is limited space, the Match Referees may reduce the number of Players to three (3);

24.2.3. if there is still insufficient space, the warm-up may occur behind the goals with a maximum of three (3) Players accompanied by a maximum of one (1) Club Official;

24.2.4. Players shall not warm-up using a ball;

24.2.5. Players must wear bibs (in the Colour determined during the Match Coordination Meeting) that are a different colour from the Jerseys worn by the Players and Match Referees on the Field of Play.

24.3. The surface of the warm-up area shall be the same as the playing surface on the Field of Play, unless approved otherwise by the SPL.

24.4. During the Match Coordination Meeting, each Club may request a cool down on the Field of Play after the Match. If a cool down request is approved by the Match Director, the following principles shall apply:

24.4.1. the cool down shall commence approximately fifteen (15) minutes after the final whistle, unless instructed otherwise by the Match Director;

24.4.2. the cool down shall last a maximum of twenty (20) minutes;

24.4.3. the cool down shall take place in the area designated by the Match Director. No access shall be granted to the goal area(s);

24.4.4. activity shall be restricted to post-exercise cool down activities (e.g. stretching, jogging in straight lines);

24.4.5. no training equipment or footballs are permitted; and

24.4.6. Players may only participate in the cool down after they have fulfilled their post-Match obligations (e.g. flash interviews, doping control) as required by the SPL.

24.5. The Match Director or the SPL may impose further restrictions in relation to any warm-up or cool down (in particular, to protect the Field of Play).

## **25. Cooling Breaks**

25.1. Depending on the weather conditions and subject to any relevant SAFF regulations, the referee may decide to stop a Match for cooling breaks in accordance with Article 12.

25.2. If a cooling break occurs, it shall be implemented in accordance with Law 7 of the Laws of the Game.

## **26. Drinking during Matches**

26.1. Non-branded water bottles are permitted around the Field of Play. They shall be positioned at least one (1) metre outside the touchline and at least one metre (1) outside the goal line, such that they do not interfere with assistant referees.

26.2. No water bottles are allowed in the goal area. Water bottles must be kept outside the goal, and must not touch the post or the goal net.

26.3. Players participating in a Match may drink at any time. If drinking in front of the technical area, Players shall remain on the Field of Play.

26.4. Water bottles, water bags or ice cubes shall not be thrown on the Field of Play.

## **27. Ball Crew**

27.1. A maximum of twelve (12) ball crew and one (1) supervisor shall be appointed by the Host Club for each Match. The ball crew shall be:

27.1.1. dressed in the uniform provided by the SPL. For the avoidance of doubt, the Advertising Rights for such uniform are exclusively retained by the SPL;

27.1.2. between twelve (12) and sixteen (16) years old; and

27.1.3. instructed beforehand by the Match Referees or Match Director as to their duties and be capable of performing them to an appropriate standard.

27.2. The Host Club shall provide chairs for the ball crew during Matches.

27.3. The Host Club is responsible for the behaviour of the ball crew, including for the avoidance of doubt, any behaviour which has a direct impact on the Match.

## **28. Player Escorts**

- 28.1. The SPL may implement a centralised player escort activation at any time during the Competition Period. If activated for a particular Match, this will be communicated during the Match Coordination Meeting.
- 28.2. In the absence of any centralised activation, the Host Club may request approval from the SPL no later than three (3) days at 3:00pm prior to the Match for Club-organised player escorts to accompany the starting Players of each Club from the tunnel to the Field of Play prior to the scheduled kick-off. If approved, each Club is required to appoint a supervisor to oversee this activity.
- 28.3. The player escorts shall be:
  - 28.3.1. shall be dressed in the uniform provided by the SPL. For the avoidance of doubt, the Advertising Rights for such uniform are exclusively retained by the SPL; and
  - 28.3.2. between five (5) and twelve (12) years old.

## **29. Match Activities and Protocol**

- 29.1. Any pre-Match or post-Match activities on the Field of Play as approved pursuant to Article 55 shall not affect any pre-Match operations, television production, and broadcast operations, including without limitation the warm-up and the pre-Match ceremony.
- 29.2. All necessary measures shall be taken to protect the Field of Play from damage caused by any such activity.

## **30. Footballs**

- 30.1. The SPL may implement a multiple ball system during Matches to limit the time that the ball is out of play. This may impact the obligations related to ball crew set out in Article 27. The relevant procedure shall be communicated via Circular by the SPL and/or SAFF before the start of the Competition Period.
- 30.2. The SPL is responsible for selecting and providing the approved footballs for the Competition.
- 30.3. The fourth official is responsible for checking the ball pressure of each football utilised for a Match prior to the scheduled kick-off.
- 30.4. Each Club shall receive its approved footballs no later than fifteen (15) days prior to the first Match of the Competition. If the SPL changes the design of the approved footballs, it shall deliver the new approved footballs to each Club prior to their first Match with those footballs.
- 30.5. Each Club shall use only the approved footballs provided by the SPL during official training and warm-ups before and during each Match.

- 30.6. The Host Club must provide at least fifteen (15) approved footballs to the Away Club for the pre-Match warmup. The Away Club must return all approved footballs to the Host Club immediately after the warm-up.

### **31. Tifos, Mosaics, Flags, Banners, and Signs**

- 31.1. Each Club shall ensure that no offensive or inappropriate tifos, mosaics, flags, banners, or signs are displayed in the area allocated in the spectator stands for their spectators.
- 31.2. Each Club shall ensure that no tifo, mosaic, flag, banner, or sign displayed in the area allocated in the spectator stands for their spectators hinders or interrupts the television broadcast and production in any manner whatsoever.
- 31.3. Each Club is responsible for obtaining, if needed, approval in accordance with MOS Regulations or the relevant government authorities for any large tifo, mosaic, flag, banner, or sign to be displayed in the area allocated in the spectator stands for their spectators.
- 31.4. To obtain the approval referred in paragraph (31.3), Each Club should submit an approval request from the SPL no later than ten (10) days prior to the Match to display any large tifo, mosaic, flag, banner, or sign to be displayed in the area allocated in the spectator stands for their spectators. Such request must include all necessary documentation and/or requirements in accordance with MOS Regulations. Failure to provide the necessary documentation and/or requirements will result in the request being rejected.
- 31.5. Once approval from the SPL has been received:
- 31.5.1. each Club shall coordinate the position and timing of any large display with the SPL;
- 31.5.2. no amendments to the design, message, or other element of the large display shall be made.

### **32. Match Referees**

- 32.1. The SPL and SAFF shall agree before the Competition Period on the timeline for referee appointments and announcements for each Match. This shall be communicated to Clubs via Circular by SAFF.
- 32.2. If the referee is prevented from carrying out their duties after they arrive at the Venue, they shall be replaced by the fourth official. The same applies for either assistant referee if a reserve assistant referee is not appointed.
- 32.3. A video assistant referee may be appointed to assist the referee in accordance with the Laws of the Game.
- 32.4. The matters set out in the referee report are presumed to be accurate.

- 32.4.1. If there appears to be an error in the referee report regarding the identity of the Player that scored a goal, the process in Appendix 10 shall be applied.
- 32.4.2. If there appears to be an error in the referee report regarding the identity of a Player that was cautioned or expelled, the procedure set out in the SAFF Code shall apply.

### **33. Video Assistant Referee technology**

- 33.1. VAR technology shall be used in all Matches in accordance with the Laws of the Game and relevant VAR protocol.
- 33.2. No sources or systems other than the official VAR technology installed and approved by the SPL and the SAFF may be used by the referee to review replays during a Match.
  - 33.2.1. Should it be necessary for whatever reason, the SPL may allow Matches to commence and/or finish without the use of VAR technology. Any failure, unavailability, use or non-use of the VAR technology shall in no way prejudice the validity of the referee's decisions, with such decisions being final in all cases.
  - 33.2.2. The Match Director, once informed by the Match Referees, will communicate the non-use of the VAR technology to both Club captains, Broadcast Partners, and on the Stadium public address system.
- 33.3. Following a VAR review, the SPL may use any existing screens and public address system in a Stadium to show and/or announce relevant graphics and/or replays supporting the decision made by the referee.
  - 33.3.1. The SPL shall ultimately decide which graphics and/or replays are to be shown on the screens.
  - 33.3.2. The SPL may decide, at any time, to stop VAR replays from being shown.
  - 33.3.3. The use or display of any other graphics and/or replays in a Stadium that are not authorised by the SPL is strictly forbidden. The Host Club is liable for such prohibited use or display.
- 33.4. Each Club authorises the SPL, the SAFF, and/or any approved technology service providers to install the relevant VAR system for the Competition in its approved Stadium. This may include the use of existing Stadium infrastructure (e.g. cabling, WLAN, screens, and/or giant screens).
  - 33.4.1. Each Club shall at all times provide access to their approved Stadium and Stadium facilities as required by the SPL and/or any approved technology service provider.
  - 33.4.2. The VAR system and the associated technology (including all cabling) may not be used, changed, or touched by anyone other than the SPL and any approved technology service providers.



- 33.4.3. The VAR system and associated technology may utilise as many cameras as the SPL deems suitable. In any event, the minimum number of cameras stipulated in the Laws of the Game shall be utilised.
- 33.4.4. The SPL in coordination with SAFF shall determine the Referee Review Area in each Stadium. Once assigned, the position shall not be changed during the Competition Period unless determined by SPL.

#### **34. Logistical Arrangements**

- 34.1. Each Club shall arrive at the Venue of its Match no later than the evening of the day before the Match.
  - 34.1.1. Each Club shall immediately notify the SPL if there is any incident that may impact their ability to arrive at the Venue of its Match on time.
  - 34.1.2. Each Club shall immediately inform the SPL if any issue or incident occurs during the journey from its team hotel to the Stadium.
  - 34.1.3. Each Club shall share their team bus location in real time with the SPL (to allow monitoring of their location) as soon as they commence their journey from their team hotel to the Stadium.

## STADIA

### 35. General

- 35.1. Each Club must play its home Matches in the Stadium that was approved by the SPL as part of the club licensing process conducted before the start of the Competition Period.
- 35.1.1. The Host Club shall ensure that their approved Stadium always complies with the minimum technical requirements set out in Appendix 12.
- 35.1.2. The Host Club shall ensure that their approved Stadium always complies with any additional technical requirements set out in this Handbook, including without limitation those set out in the SPL Broadcast Manual.
- 35.2. The SPL shall establish a Stadium Inspection Commission to conduct all inspections and assessments of Stadia in connection with the Competition. The SPL may inspect a Stadium at any time in coordination with the MOS and/or any Stadium owner.
- 35.3. Smoking is strictly prohibited inside Stadia. In particular, smoking is prohibited in the technical area, the vicinity of the Field of Play, the stands, the competition area (including without limitation the Dressing Rooms), and any media or broadcasting area. Smoking is permitted in designated smoking areas only.
- 35.4. The use of drones or any flying object in the vicinity of a Stadium is prohibited, unless approved by the SPL.
- 35.4.1. The use of drones in this context shall specifically include drones being flown above the perimeter of a Stadium.
- 35.4.2. The Host Club shall be liable for any non-approved drones flown by its spectators, Media, representatives of Broadcast Partners, and/or any other individual in or in the vicinity of the Stadium, regardless of the question of culpable conduct or culpable oversight.
- 35.4.3. The Away Club shall be liable for non-approved drones being flown by its spectators, regardless of the question of culpable conduct or culpable oversight.
- 35.5. The use of pyrotechnics, laser activations, smoke machines, incendiary devices, fireworks, or any other similar devices, is strictly prohibited within Stadia unless approved by the SPL and the relevant government authorities.
- 35.6. This Handbook shall apply equally to Stadia that are owned by the MOS and to Stadia owned by any other party.
- 35.6.1. The Host Club is responsible and liable for any violations of this Handbook committed by a Stadium owner or operator.

- 35.6.2. Where this Handbook provides that any given activity must be authorised by the MOS or any other government authority, such authorisation may be obtained from the Stadium operator if they have been empowered to issue that authorisation by the relevant government authority.

### **36. Hosting Non-Football Events**

- 36.1. If a Stadium hosts a non-football event within seven (7) days of a Match it is scheduled to host, the Match will be automatically rescheduled by the SPL to be played at the nominated alternate Stadium of the Host Club on the same day and at the same time as set out in the Match Schedule.
- 36.2. If a Stadium hosts a non-football event between seven (7) and fourteen (14) days of a Match it is scheduled to host, the Stadium Evaluation Commission and all relevant government authorities will conduct an inspection of the Stadium no later than seventy-two (72) hours before the scheduled start of the Match to determine whether it meets all SPL requirements. All documentation for the use of the Stadium for Matches shall be provided by the Club before the inspection takes place. If the Stadium is determined not to meet all SPL requirements, the Match will be automatically rescheduled by the SPL to be played at the nominated alternate Stadium of the Host Club on the same day and at the same time as set out in the Match Schedule.

### **37. Temporary Structures for Spectator Seating**

- 37.1. If a Stadium utilises or intends to utilise temporary structures for spectator seating (e.g. demountable stands) for a Match and/or for the entire Competition Period, it must comply with all requirements established by the relevant government authorities.
- 37.2. In such case, the Host Club must submit to the SPL no later than seventy-two (72) hours before each impacted Match:
- 37.2.1. results of a live load test attended by the Stadium Evaluation Commission and relevant government authorities demonstrating the safety of the relevant structure;
  - 37.2.2. a comprehensive compliance report certified by the relevant government authorities; and
  - 37.2.3. all necessary safety and security plans (e.g. evacuation, emergency, medical) certified by the relevant government authorities.
- 37.3. If a Host Club fails to comply with this requirement, the Match will be automatically rescheduled by the SPL to be played at the nominated alternate Stadium of the Host Club (where the nominated alternate Stadium of the Host Club is owned by the MOS, the SPL shall book that Stadium) on the same day and at the same time as set out in the Match Schedule.

## 38. Technical Requirements

### Power Sources

- 38.1. The Host Club shall ensure that their approved Stadium has a constant and uninterruptible power supply.
- 38.2. The Host Club shall ensure that a constant source of electricity is provided for the Broadcast Compound in a separate technical room or container.
- 38.3. The Host Club shall provide the SPL with a copy of its safety and maintenance inspection of electricity sources:
  - 38.3.1. latest four (4) weeks prior to the first Match of the Competition Period; and
  - 38.3.2. during the mid-year break.

### Floodlights

- 38.4. Before the commencement of the Competition Period, the SPL may request each Club to submit a floodlight certificate from a specialised third-party organisation to demonstrate that their approved Stadium meets the minimum lux capacity.
- 38.5. This certificate shall be dated no more than six (6) months prior to the first Match of the Competition Period.
- 38.6. Following the commencement of the Competition Period, the SPL may request that a new floodlight certificate from a specialised third-party organised be submitted.
- 38.7. Floodlights must be turned on for all Matches (including those played during daylight hours). Floodlights shall be:
  - 38.7.1. fully turned on from three (3) hours before the scheduled start of the Match until one (1) hour after the final whistle; and
  - 38.7.2. at least twenty-five percent (25%) illuminated from one (1) hour after the final whistle until three (3) hours after the final whistle.

### Clocks

- 38.8. All Stadia must have a clock that shows the playing time during a Match.
- 38.9. The time shown on the clock must run from 0 to 45 minutes for the first half and from 45 to 90 minutes for the second half. Time must be stopped at the end of normal playing time (i.e. after 45 and 90 minutes respectively) in each half.

### Pitch Preparation

- 38.10. The Field of Play for every Match must be prepared and maintained by the Host Club in coordination with the Stadium owner in accordance with the protocols set out in Appendix 4.

## 39. Production and Broadcast requirements

- 39.1. The Host Club is responsible for implementing all production and broadcast requirements within its approved Stadium as provided in the SPL Broadcast Manual, which shall form an essential part of this Handbook.
- 39.2. The SPL may amend the SPL Broadcast Manual at any time. Any such amendments shall be communicated via Circular.

#### **40. Safety and Security requirements**

- 40.1. Each Club must comply with all SPL guidelines, MOS Regulations, and the regulations of any other government authority regarding safety and security matters.
- 40.2. The Host Club is responsible for liaising with public authorities in the Venue and to obtain all necessary certifications and documentation to ensure that they meet all safety and security guidelines or protocols.
- 40.3. Each Host Club shall appoint an Operations Coordinator that holds qualifications in accordance with MOS Regulations who shall:
  - 40.3.1. develop, implement, and review safety and security policies and procedures, including risk management and planning;
  - 40.3.2. be the main point of contact between the public authorities and the Host Club, and between the Host Club and the SPL, in respect of the safety and security measures for Matches;
  - 40.3.3. manage the safety and security operations associated with the Match including resourcing, briefing, deployment and debriefing; and
  - 40.3.4. ensure that Stadium infrastructure, systems and equipment are certified as fit for purpose.
- 40.4. The Host Club shall ensure that there are sufficient stewards and private security in their Stadium and its immediate environs in accordance with MOS Regulations.
- 40.5. The Host Club shall engage an event-management company approved by the MOS, in accordance with MOS Regulations.
- 40.6. The Host Club shall ensure that security personnel enforce all Ticketing prohibitions implemented for a Match.
- 40.7. The Host Club shall be responsible for implementing the accreditation system in accordance with Appendix 7 and ensuring that all stakeholders comply with this system.
- 40.8. Once the accreditation system has been established, access to a Stadium and its Controlled Access Areas shall only be permitted for individuals in possession of an Accreditation Card.

- 40.9. The SPL may independently control, through the engagement of independent private security providers, access to the 'SPL Red Zone'.

40.9.1. The 'SPL Red Zone' includes the competition area (Dressing Rooms, tunnel, and Field of Play), media areas (Mixed Zone, Media Centre, and Media Tribune) and broadcasting areas (Broadcast Compound, camera platforms, and commentary rooms) within the timing decided by SPL from two (2) days before the Match until one (1) day after the Match.

#### **41. Information for Spectators**

- 41.1. Latest one (1) day before each Match, the Host Club shall provide the following information to all spectators on its Club Channels:

41.1.1. Stadium opening time;

41.1.2. Stadium map, including approach roads, car parks, public transport stops, prayer locations, and the locations of viewing sectors; and

41.1.3. the applicable Ticketing terms and conditions and spectator code of conduct, which shall detail the items prohibited from being taken into the Stadium, in accordance with MOS Regulations, as well as the search procedure.

#### **42. Access Control**

- 42.1. The Host Club shall be responsible for the operation, maintenance and on-going development of the access control system at their approved Stadium.

- 42.2. The Host Club shall manage the access control system and all associated operations (including crowd management) for each Match.

- 42.3. The Host Club shall provide the SPL Delegation and nominated staff with access to the access control system and associated servers as and when required. The Host Club shall inform the SPL of any works being undertaken in and around the Stadium that may interfere with the access control system.

- 42.4. The Host Club shall ensure that the access control gates are switched on at a time agreed in the Match Coordination Meeting before the scheduled start of the Match and are switched off after the Match has concluded.

- 42.5. Appendix 7 provides further details on access control protocols.

#### **43. Giant screen and infotainment / Lightshows**

- 43.1. The use of giant screens, including without limitation to make any display, replay or announcement, must comply with the requirements in this Handbook, and instructions of the SPL and relevant government authorities.

43.1.1. For the avoidance of doubt, a 'giant screen' shall include any attached or connected asset which is able to be utilised for advertising purposes (regardless of whether this is a static or electronic advertisement).

- 43.2. As a minimum, during a Match the giant screen(s) shall display the names of the participating Clubs, the score, and the time lapsed.
- 43.3. The Host Club may display the live broadcast feed from the Host Broadcaster on any giant screen(s). The giant screen(s) must meet all SPL technical requirements be able to receive an HD SDI signal.
- 43.4. The Host Club shall ensure that no commercial, political or personal messages or slogans in any language or form are transmitted on any giant screen, unless approved by the SPL and relevant government authorities.
- 43.5. The Host Club shall comply with the SPL replay policy to ensure that replays shown on any giant screen do not disrupt a Match. Specifically:
- 43.5.1. replays of goals, shots on goal, impressive football skills or saves, or any other replays decided by SPL from time to time, may be shown on a giant screen during play;
- 43.5.2. replays of controversial decisions, fouls or unsporting behaviour are not permitted to be shown on any giant screen at any time.
- 43.6. In the event of any controversial situation on the Field of Play involving Players, Club Officials and/or Match Referees, the live television feed shall not be shown on any giant screen.
- 43.7. Highlights may be shown on any giant screen after the Match in accordance with the below guidelines:

Examples of replays to be shown	Examples of replays NOT to be shown
Indisputable goals	All offside decisions
Different angles of goals	Controversial goals (e.g. fouls before goal)
Goalscoring opportunities	All fouls and all penalty decisions
Saves by the goalkeeper	Unsporting behaviour
Demonstrations of excellent skill	Controversial referee decisions
Fair play situations	Tense situations in the technical area

- 43.8. Generic light shows and infotainment utilising a Master of Ceremonies and public address equipment are permitted. The Host Club shall request approval (with a full detailed plan) from the SPL no later than three (3) days at 3:00pm prior to the Match. If approved, the light show shall be displayed as follows:



- 43.8.1. pre-Match: at any time prior to the commencement of the Match protocol (as established in the official countdown);
- 43.8.2. commencing from fifteen (15) seconds after a goal is scored and shall be completed prior to the restart of the Match;
- 43.8.3. post-Match: commencing at any time from five (5) minutes after the final whistle.

#### 44. Billboards

##### 'First Row'

- 44.1. Each Stadium shall have LED billboards situated around the perimeter of the Field of Play (i.e. the 'first row').
  - 44.1.1. For the avoidance of doubt, static billboards are not permitted in the 'first row' situated around the perimeter of the Field of Play.
  - 44.1.2. The 'first row' runs from corner to corner. If the LED billboards are unable to cover the full first row, the SPL shall utilise static billboards displaying SPL Partners to cover the required space.
- 44.2. The Host Club shall ensure that the 'first row' shall be placed:
  - 44.2.1. at least five (5) metres beyond each goal line; and
  - 44.2.2. at least three (3) meters beyond the touchline opposite the primary camera.
- 44.3. The Host Club shall ensure that at least two and a half (2.5 x 2.5) metres beyond the 'first row' is allocated for the placement of Host Broadcaster cameras, tools, and equipment of Broadcast Partners and Media.

##### 'Second Row'

- 44.4. The Host Club may choose to install a 'second row' of static billboards or LED billboards directly behind the 'first row'. Any 'second row' shall not impede the view from the spectator stands. In the case of LED billboards:
  - 44.4.1. The 'second row' shall meet the same minimum broadcasting and technical standards as the 'first row'.
  - 44.4.2. The 'second row' of LED billboards shall only be utilised, at the discretion of the Host Club, as follows:
    - 44.4.2.1. extension: the advertisement on the 'first row' shall be extended across the 'second row' to create a large single image; or
    - 44.4.2.2. mirror: the advertisement on the 'first row' shall be duplicated on the 'second row' to create two (2) identical images.

- 44.4.3. If the material utilised by the Host Club does not meet the SPL's broadcasting requirements, the SPL may request to change the material utilised by the Host Club.

'Second Tier' (and 'Third Tier', if applicable)

- 44.5. If possible in their approved Stadium, the Host Club may choose to install static billboards or LED billboards around the perimeter of the 'second tier' (and 'third tier', if applicable) of the spectator stands. In the case of LED billboards:
- 44.5.1. The 'second tier' (and 'third tier', if applicable) shall meet the same minimum broadcasting and technical standards as the 'first row'.
- 44.5.2. The 'second tier' (and 'third tier', if applicable) may display advertising that is different from the 'first row' (and 'second row', if applicable) and the 'vomitory walls'.
- 44.5.3. If a 'third tier' is installed, it shall display the same advertisements as the 'second tier'.

'Vomitory Walls'

- 44.6. If possible in their approved Stadium, the Host Club may choose to install static billboards or LED billboards on 'vomitory walls' within the spectator stands. In the case of LED billboards:
- 44.6.1. The 'vomitory walls' shall meet the same minimum broadcasting and technical standards as the 'first row'.
- 44.6.2. The 'vomitory walls' may display advertising that is different from the 'first row' (and 'second row', if applicable).
- 44.6.3. If the 'vomitory walls' are installed, they shall mirror the advertisements shown on the 'second tier' (and 'third tier', if applicable).

Operating Models

- 44.7. The SPL has determined two (2) different operating models for LED billboards. Each Club must notify the SPL of the operating model which they wish to implement in their approved Stadium by latest fifteen (15) days prior to their first home Match of the Competition Period.
- 44.8. If a Club decides to change the operating model which they wish to implement in their approved Stadium during the Competition Period, they must notify the SPL by latest fifteen (15) days prior to the first Match at which they wish to implement the new operating model.

*First model: Club ownership*

- 44.9. The Host Club shall purchase, install, and maintain the LED billboards within their Stadium. for avoidance of doubts, the Host Club is locked into this option if they choose to install a 'second row' as is set out at Article 44.4.

44.10. The Host Club shall operate the LED billboards on Match-day, ensuring the proper execution of the Commercial Rights.

44.11. The assignment of Advertising Rights for this operating model is set out at Article 57.12.

*Second model: SPL ownership*

44.12. The Host Club shall request the necessary equipment from the SPL. The SPL is responsible for the installation and maintenance of the LED billboards within the Stadium.

44.13. The SPL shall operate the LED billboards on Match-day, ensuring the proper execution of the Commercial Rights.

44.14. For the season 2025/2026 SPL is responsible for (100%) of the cost accrued for LED operation for this model.

44.15. For the season 2026/2027 onward SPL may apply alternative operation model.

Quality Control

44.16. The SPL shall implement a quality-control process to certify all suppliers of LED equipment to the SPL and Clubs. The SPL shall notify the Clubs via Circular of the SPL-approved suppliers.

44.17. The SPL shall regularly audit Clubs and suppliers to ensure that the LED billboards are maintained to the highest quality and specifications to ensure no negative impact on broadcasting and are properly utilised on Match-day in accordance with the assignment of Commercial Rights.

44.18. The Host Club shall:

44.18.1. appoint an individual to act as a single point of contact for the SPL for all matters related to the LED billboards;

44.18.2. establish a storage area outside the Stadium for the LED billboards; and

44.18.3. provide security personnel to protect the LED billboards and the billboard control unit during Matches.

44.19. All static billboards shall be printed on matte materials that are not shiny or glossy for broadcast purposes.

## MEDICAL AND ANTI-DOPING

### 45. General

- 45.1. Each Club shall ensure that all medical equipment and facilities required by this Handbook are available, functional, and present in their approved Stadium at all Matches.
- 45.2. The SPL shall issue a Circular prior to the Competition which sets out the medical equipment and facilities required to be present in a Stadium on Match-day. This includes, for the avoidance of doubt, the medical equipment that is required in the Stadium medical rooms and on the Field of Play.

### 46. Medical

- 46.1. Each Stadium shall have one (1) fully equipped medical room for the purpose of providing medical care to the Club Delegations and SPL Delegation on Match-day.
- 46.2. The medical room shall be in the tunnel close to the Field of Play and Dressing Rooms and shall be used primarily for the emergency treatment of seriously injured Players.
- 46.3. Each Club shall ensure that their Club Delegation at each Match includes a team doctor and a physiotherapist.
- 46.4. If required by relevant government authorities, the Host Club must also provide a doctor specifically for spectators in accordance with MOS Regulations.
- 46.5. The Host Club must prepare an emergency (medical and safety) action plan (**EAP**) for each Match and make this plan available to the SPL and the Away Club.
  - 46.5.1. The EAP shall be compiled by the Club's medical staff and Operations Coordinator.
  - 46.5.2. The EAP shall stipulate that before each Match the medical staff of the Host Club shall liaise with the medical staff of the Away Club to clarify all arrangements for emergency care.
- 46.6. Key medical personnel should be present in the Stadium control room and have access to various forms of properly functioning electrical communication devices to communicate with Officials, staff, and any relevant external parties inside and outside the Stadium.
- 46.7. The Host Club shall ensure that a written plan is available detailing all the forms of communication that are available in the event of an emergency.
- 46.8. Notwithstanding the above requirements, the SPL may at its sole discretion and at any time, in relation to a specific Match or for the entire Competition Period, direct the Host Club to increase its medical requirements and/or appoint an SPL Medical Officer to attend a specific Match or Matches.

#### **47. Ambulances**

- 47.1. The Host Club must ensure that at least two (2) ambulances are stationed at the designated tunnel near the medical room and at the Field of Play from ninety (90) minutes before the scheduled start of each Match until the Clubs leave the Stadium.
- 47.2. Each ambulance must be equipped with advanced life support equipment and staffed by trained emergency medical personnel, suitable to transport an emergency casualty to hospital, and staffed by a person qualified to perform emergency care.
- 47.3. The Host Club shall be responsible for establishing communication channels with the ambulance(s) for emergency evacuation.
- 47.4. The tunnel where the ambulance(s) are stationed shall be kept free of obstructions at all times. Media are not permitted within this area.
- 47.5. A Match shall not commence or continue unless and until at least one (1) ambulance is present in the Stadium.

#### **48. Concussion**

- 48.1. A Player who experiences a suspected concussion during a Match must undergo an examination by their Club doctor in accordance with the protocols established by the FIFA Medical Concussion Protocol.
- 48.2. The referee may temporarily suspend play for up to three (3) minutes whenever a suspected concussion occurs. The referee shall only permit the injured Player to continue playing with the authorisation of the Club doctor, who will make the final decision as to whether the Player can continue.
- 48.3. The SPL, SAFF, and FIFA all recommend that Clubs follow the return to play protocol set out in the Sport Concussion Assessment Tool 6 (SCAT6) for any Player that suffers a concussion. SCAT6 recognises that the timeframe for return to play may vary depending on a range of factors, including the Player's age and history, and that doctors must use their clinical judgment in making decisions with respect to return to play.

#### **49. Hospitals**

- 49.1. The Host Club shall identify at least two (2) hospitals for its approved Stadium and its alternate Stadium to provide, as a minimum, 24-hour accident and emergency department services, including without limitation the ability to manage major trauma.
- 49.2. All designated hospitals must be located within the proximity of a Stadium to minimise any response time for emergency incidents and/or transfers of a patient to hospital.
- 49.3. The transfer by road of any officially escorted medical emergency vehicle shall not take longer than fifteen (15) minutes. If this cannot be guaranteed due to logistical, geographical or other challenges, helicopter evacuation and transfer should be provided.

- 49.4. Hospitals and emergency departments selected by the Host Club are subject to the approval of the SPL.

## **50. Medical response for spectators**

- 50.1. The Host Club must implement all emergency medical requirements for spectators established by MOS Regulations and any other relevant government authorities.

## **51. Anti-Doping**

- 51.1. Doping control may be carried out by FIFA, the Saudi Arabian Anti-Doping Committee, or the SAFF in accordance with the FIFA Anti-Doping Regulations and/or the SAFF Anti-Doping Regulations.
- 51.2. The Saudi Arabian Anti-Doping Committee is responsible for the appointment of all anti-doping officers required pursuant to the SAFF Anti-Doping Regulations.
- 51.3. Each Club and all individuals affiliated to it shall comply with the FIFA Anti-Doping Regulations and the SAFF Anti-Doping Regulations, including any requirements with respect to doping control (both in-competition and out-of competition) and Player whereabouts.
- 51.4. The Host Club shall ensure that their approved Stadium and Official Training Site are equipped with the required doping control facilities as mandated by the SAFF Anti-Doping Regulations.

## **52. Uniforms**

- 52.1. The Host Club shall provide an identifiable uniform for all medical and doping control personnel that allows them to be recognised easily by the SPL Delegation, Club Delegations, spectators, and Media.
- 52.2. The SPL may provide bibs for on-pitch medical staff and doping control stewards.

## COMMERCIAL

### 53. Ownership of Commercial Rights, Competition Data, and Competition Marks

- 53.1. The SPL is the sole owner of all Commercial Rights, Competition Data, and Competition Marks, without any restriction as to content, time, place, and law.
- 53.2. The SPL may assign the Clubs any aspect, in whole or in part, of the Commercial Rights, Competition Data, and/or Competition Marks.
  - 53.2.1. The SPL may withdraw such assignment in writing at any time.
- 53.3. A Club that is assigned any aspect of the Commercial Rights, Competition Data, and/or Competition Marks shall be:
  - 53.3.1. strictly prohibited from sub-licencing, assigning, or granting its assigned rights to any third-party without the written approval of the SPL; and
  - 53.3.2. responsible for obtaining any necessary approvals and/or licences from the relevant government authorities to utilise its assigned rights.
- 53.4. Any aspect of the Commercial Rights, Competition Data, and/or Competition Marks that is not assigned to the Clubs in accordance with this Handbook shall remain the sole property of the SPL.
  - 53.4.1. For the avoidance of doubt, this includes any aspect of the Commercial Rights, Competition Data, and/or Competition Marks that do not exist at the time of this Handbook entering into force and/or may be created in future (such as, by way of example, new forms of technology which may be utilised for advertising).
  - 53.4.2. The assignment of Commercial Rights to the Clubs is set out generally in this section and summarised in Appendix 11.
- 53.5. Each Club and their Club Partners shall comply with all decisions, Circulars, and instructions from the SPL related to the use and exploitation of the Commercial Rights, Competition Data, and/or Competition Marks.
- 53.6. Each Club and their Club Partners shall take all possible measures to ensure the protection of the Commercial Rights, Competition Data, and/or Competition Marks.
- 53.7. Each Club and their Club Partners shall respect all agreements between the SPL and SPL Partners relating to the use and/or exploitation of any and all aspects of the Commercial Rights, Competition Data, and/or Competition Marks.
- 53.8. Each Club shall ensure that its affiliated Players and Club Officials, and all Stadium staff (for their home Matches) agree that the SPL may capture, use, record, and broadcast their image, name, number, and any other representation without restriction when they attend and/or participate in Matches.



53.9. No Club, Club Partner, or individual affiliated to a Club or Club Partner, may use and/or exploit any aspect of the Commercial Rights, Competition Data, and/or Competition Marks without written authorisation from the SPL, nor engage in any action or activity that purports to demonstrate a relationship with the SPL or the Competition.

53.9.1. Each Club is liable for the actions of any individual affiliated to it, any Club Partner, any individual affiliated to a Club Partner, the management authority of the Stadium in which it plays its home Matches, or any individual affiliated to that management authority, that violate this Article.

53.9.2. Each Club is liable for the actions of any third-party company with which it has a commercial relationship that is not a Club Partner (e.g. a rights agency), that violates this Article.

53.10. The SPL Statutes set out the mechanism for the distribution of commercial revenues (if any) deriving from SPL exploitation of the Commercial Rights, Competition Data, and/or Competition Marks.

#### **54. Club marks and Club Partner marks**

54.1. Each Club shall provide the SPL by 1 July with:

54.1.1. their Club Logo and any associated trademarks; and

54.1.2. the logos of all Club Partners,  
in the following digital formats:

54.1.2.1. AI (Adobe Illustrator Vector);

54.1.2.2. PDF (Adobe Illustrator Vector); and

54.1.2.3. JPG (dpi300 Adobe Photoshop Pixel).

54.2. Each Club shall register its Club Logo and any associated trademarks with the Ministry of Commerce and the Saudi Authority for Intellectual Property. Each Club is responsible for ensuring that their associated trademarks are always valid and up to date.

54.3. If a Club signs an agreement with a new Club Partner after the deadline set out above, the Club shall immediately provide the SPL with the logo of that Club Partner in the above digital formats.

54.4. The SPL and/or SPL Partners have the right to utilise Club Logos collectively when activating any of the Commercial Rights.

54.4.1. The collective utilisation of Club Logos must include at least four (4) Club Logos as well as the SPL name and logo.

54.4.2. For the avoidance of doubt, this includes utilisation by SPL Partners that operate in the same sector or industry as Club Partners.

## 55. Match-day activities and events on the Field of Play or competition area

55.1. The SPL and/or the Host Club may organise activities or events (e.g. commercial activations, ceremonies, celebrations) on the Field of Play on Match-day in accordance with the following schedule:

Start Time	End Time	Activity
Stadium is open to spectators	20 minutes before the scheduled start of the Match	Host Club (with SPL approval)
20 minutes before the scheduled start of the Match	Kickoff	SPL
End of the first half	5 minutes before the start of the second half	SPL Host Club (with SPL approval)
10 minutes after the final whistle	Stadium is closed to spectators	Host Club (with SPL approval)

55.2. A Host Club may organise activities or events with spectators and/or Club Partners in the competition area, commencing thirty (30) minutes after the final whistle. Such activity or event is limited to a maximum of ten (10) individuals not forming part of a Club Delegation.

55.3. A Host Club may make a written request no later than three (3) days at 3:00pm prior to the Match to host an activity or event on the Field of Play or in the competition area on Match-day. The request must include the approval(s) received (if applicable) from all relevant government authorities.

55.4. The Host Club shall ensure that any activity or event:

55.4.1. respects the timings of and does not disrupt the official countdown set out at Appendix 3;

55.4.2. respects the Commercial Rights, Competition Data, and/or Commercial Marks;

55.4.3. complies with all safety and security provisions set out in this Handbook;

55.4.4. does not cause any damage to the Field of Play; and

55.4.5. has no adverse effect on any spectators.

- 55.5. The Host Club is liable for any damage caused or violation of this Handbook by any party associated with the activity or event.
- 55.6. The Host Club is responsible for obtaining any necessary approvals and/or commercial licences from relevant government authorities to conduct the activity or event.
- 55.7. The Host Club shall appoint a representative to oversee the activity and event and to act as point of contact with the SPL regarding the activity or event.

## **56. Concession Rights**

- 56.1. This Article governs the limited assignment of Concession Rights to each Club.
- 56.2. A Host Club may request to utilise a spectator-facing area in the Stadium to display and sell Club-related products and services, and products and services of its Club Partners.
  - 56.2.1. The written request must be received no later than three (3) days at 3:00pm prior to the Match.
  - 56.2.2. It shall include comprehensive details about the relevant site in the Stadium and the products to be displayed and sold.
  - 56.2.3. The request must include the approval(s) received (if applicable) from the MOS, all relevant government authorities, and the Stadium owner.
  - 56.2.4. The proposed location and installation process shall be in accordance with MOS Regulations.
- 56.3. The SPL may utilise its Concession Rights in all areas outside of the Stadium, including without limitation in any Facility Area.
- 56.4. The Host Club shall ensure that any utilisation of the Concession Rights:
  - 56.4.1. does not disrupt the official countdown set out at Appendix 3;
  - 56.4.2. complies with all safety and security provisions set out in this Handbook;
  - 56.4.3. does not cause any damage to the Stadium; and
  - 56.4.4. has no adverse effect on any spectators.
- 56.5. The Host Club is liable for any damage caused or violation of this Handbook by any party associated with its utilisation of the Concession Rights.
- 56.6. The Host Club shall appoint a representative to oversee the utilisation of its Concession Rights and to act as point of contact with the SPL regarding the activity or event(s) concerned.

## 57. Advertising Rights

- 57.1. This Article governs the limited assignment of Advertising Rights to each Club.
- 57.2. The SPL may advertise the SPL and SPL Partners on all assets (whether television-facing or non-television-facing) inside and outside a Stadium before, during, and after Matches.
- 57.3. Each Host Club is assigned the limited right to advertise their Club Partners inside and outside a Stadium before, during, and after home Matches on the assets defined below.
- 57.4. The Host Club shall ensure the quality of all advertisements in their Stadium is of sufficient broadcast quality. The Host Club shall obtain authorisation from the SPL regarding the size, brightness, and all other technical elements of advertisements that may impact the quality of broadcasting. This includes, for the avoidance of doubt, the quality of potential suppliers.
- 57.5. The Host Club shall ensure that all physical assets owned by the SPL are properly stored in its Stadium prior to and following its Matches.
- 57.6. For any asset for which it has been assigned Advertising Rights, the Host Club shall provide the SPL with the written proposal it has received to purchase advertising on that asset from a (potential) Club Partner.
- 57.6.1. The Host Club is not permitted to sell any advertising until it receives approval from the SPL.
- 57.6.2. The SPL shall review the written proposal to determine whether the (potential) Club Partner operates in a sector or is a direct competitor of an SPL Partner. In such case, the SPL may reject the request and shall pay to the Club the amount that would have received if the request was approved in exchange for the Advertising Rights of that asset. The SPL shall provide the relevant SPL Partner the opportunity to advertise on that asset.
- 57.6.3. The SPL shall approve or reject request within two (2) business days.
- 57.7. For all assets for which it has been assigned Advertising Rights, the Host Club shall provide the proposed advertisements of itself and any Club Partner that it intends to display no later than three (3) days at 3:00pm prior to the scheduled start of the Match for SPL approval.
- 57.8. If the Host Club does not comply with the deadline for providing its proposed advertisements for a Match, the advertisements utilised during its previous home Match shall be displayed during the Match.
- 57.9. The following categories of advertising by Club Partners are prohibited:

57.9.1. advertising containing words, images, statements or messages that are political, religious, controversial, derogatory or insulting in nature or other commercial messages of any kind; or

57.9.2. advertising for causes that offend common decency.

57.10. Any bans or restrictions deriving from a decision of a relevant government authority or national legislation shall also apply.

#### LED billboards (all rows and tiers)

57.11. Advertisements may commence from one (1) hour before the scheduled start of the Match until the final whistle.

57.12. For Clubs which selected the first operating model pursuant to Article 44, the Advertising Rights are assigned as follows:

57.12.1. The SPL shall advertise the SPL and SPL Partners on twenty five percent (25%) of the LED billboards. This shall include exclusive utilisation of the billboard in the middle of the sideline directly opposite the main camera for the entire Match.

57.12.2. The Host Club shall advertise the Host Club and Club Partners on seventy five percent (75%) of the LED billboards.

57.13. For Clubs which selected the second operational model pursuant to Article 44, the Advertising Rights are assigned as follows:

57.13.1. The SPL shall advertise the SPL and SPL Partners on twenty five percent (25%) of the LED billboards. This shall include exclusive utilisation of the billboard in the middle of the sideline directly opposite the main camera for the entire Match.

57.13.2. The Host Club shall advertise the Host Club and Club Partners on seventy five percent (75%) of the LED billboards.

57.14. Notwithstanding the assignment of Advertising Rights set out above, the SPL shall exclusively advertise the SPL and SPL Partners on one hundred percent (100%) of the LED billboards from the ninetieth (90th) minute of the Match until the final whistle.

#### Static billboards

57.15. The Host Club may utilise static billboards for advertisements of itself and Club Partners.

#### Track around the Field of Play

57.16. In Stadia where there is a running track around the Field of Play, advertisements may be displayed in six (6) different sites.

57.17. The SPL and the Host Club shall share the advertising sites as follows:

- 57.17.1. the Host Club may utilise the four (4) sites at each corner on the track for advertisements of itself and any Club Partner; and
- 57.17.2. the SPL may utilise the two (2) sites behind the goal area on the track for advertisements of itself and any SPL Partner.

### 3D Advertising Carpets

- 57.18. The SPL and the Host Club may both display 3D advertising carpets during a Match.
- 57.19. The SPL may utilise four (4) carpets in total, two (2) next to each goal for advertisements of itself and/or any SPL Partner.
- 57.20. The Host Club may utilise six (6) carpets in total, three (3) carpets next to each goal for advertisements of itself and any Club Partner.
- 57.21. All other carpet locations and types are SPL assets. If the SPL decides not to utilise the Match ceremony entrance carpet for a particular Match, the Host Club may request to utilise this asset no later than three (3) days at 3:00pm prior to the Match.
- 57.22. The SPL shall approve the size and location of all carpets.
  - 57.22.1. They shall be placed at least two (2) hours before the scheduled start of the Match.
  - 57.22.2. If a carpet is deemed unsuitable for broadcasting, it shall be replaced by the Host Club or removed completely.
  - 57.22.3. Carpets shall be tailored to Stadia and positions on the Field of Play.
- 57.23. If any of the designated carpet spaces are not utilised, the SPL may require carpets to be repositioned for broadcasting purposes. There shall be no empty space next to the goalposts, nor between carpets, at a Match.
- 57.24. Any proposed advertisements must comply with the designs and directives provided in advance by the SPL.
- 57.25. The SPL may, in its sole discretion, utilise additional carpets and carpet locations, subject to its agreements with SPL Partners.

### Spectator Seats

- 57.26. The SPL and the Host Club may both display advertising on spectator seats during a Match.
- 57.27. The SPL may utilise all spectator seats directly behind each goal area and those connected to the VIP Tribune.
- 57.28. The Host Club may utilise all other spectator seats for advertisements of itself and any Club Partner.
- 57.29. If a Match is played without spectators:

- 57.29.1. the SPL may utilise twenty-five percent (25%) of the spectator seats in the Stadium;
- 57.29.2. the Host Club may utilise seventy-five percent (75%) of the spectator seats in the Stadium.

#### Team Bench

57.30. The Host Club may utilise both Team Benches for advertisements of itself and any Club Partner. For the avoidance of doubt, this does not include utilisation of the bench reserved for SPL Match Officials and Match Referees.

57.31. The Host Club shall ensure that this advertising does not obscure the views of any spectators.

#### Giant Screen

57.32. The SPL and the Host Club may both display advertising and social campaigns on the giant screen as follows:

57.32.1. for advertising and/or fan engagement, the SPL may utilise the giant screen at any stage;

57.32.2. for advertising, the Host Club may utilise the giant screen (if approved by the SPL):

57.32.2.1. from ninety (90) minutes prior to the scheduled start of the Match until ten (10) minutes before the scheduled start of the Match and

57.32.2.2. from five (5) minutes after the final whistle until two (2) hours after the final whistle.

57.32.3. for social campaigns, the SPL and Host Club may utilise the giant screen:

57.32.3.1. before the scheduled start of the Match; and

57.32.3.2. between the first half and second half;

57.32.4. any SPL social campaign shall be approved by the relevant government authorities before being displayed;

57.32.5. any Host Club social campaign shall be approved by the relevant government authorities and the SPL before being displayed.

#### Flash Interviews

57.33. The Host Club may display advertising on the backdrops utilised in flash interviews.

57.34. The Host Club is responsible for the production of the backdrop utilised in flash interviews.



- 57.34.1. The backdrop shall be on the design approved by the SPL. It shall include the SPL logo.
- 57.34.2. The Host Club shall utilise matte, non-reflective materials, and non-bright colours to comply with broadcasting requirements.
- 57.34.3. The SPL may remove or prohibit the utilisation of any backdrop which does not comply with these requirements.
- 57.34.4. The Host Club shall produce a minimum of two (2) backdrops to ensure that it has a clean and well-maintained backup.

#### Virtual Advertising

57.35. The SPL owns all Advertising Rights with respect to all virtual assets displayed during the broadcast of any Match.

- 57.35.1. Beginning in the 2025/26 Competition period, the SPL will exploit its Advertising Rights on virtual LED billboards and virtual 3D carpets (including the 3D carpet in the centre circle).
- 57.35.2. The SPL will notify the Clubs via Circular if it decides to exploit its Advertising Rights on any other virtual asset.

57.36. The Host Club may request to be assigned Advertising Rights on any of the virtual assets displayed during the broadcast of a Match no later than thirty (30) days prior to the relevant Match.

57.37. The SPL may approve or deny such request at its own discretion.

57.38. If the SPL assigns the Host Club any Advertising Rights on any of the virtual assets displayed during the broadcast of a Match:

- 57.38.1. for Matches where the SPL and the Host Club will advertise: the SPL shall retain a minimum of fifty percent (50%) of the virtual asset inventory, and the Host Club shall be assigned a maximum of fifty (50%) of the virtual asset inventory. The SPL and the Host Club shall share the costs of utilising the technology proportionately, unless otherwise agreed in a separate contract;
- 57.38.2. for Matches where only the Host Club will advertise: the Host Club shall be assigned one hundred percent (100%) of the virtual asset inventory. The Host Club shall pay all costs related to utilising the technology. If, prior to the commencement of the Match, the SPL decides to advertise during the Match, the Advertising Rights assigned to the Host Club shall be revoked and Article 57.38.1 shall apply; and
- 57.38.3. for Matches where only the SPL will advertise: the SPL shall be assigned one hundred percent (100%) of the virtual asset inventory. The SPL shall pay all costs related to utilising the technology. If, prior to the commencement of the Match, the Host Club requests to be assigned

Advertising Rights on any virtual assets displayed during the broadcast of a Match, and the SPL grants that request, Article 57.38.1 shall apply.

57.39. In all cases, the relevant technology shall be chosen and fully operated by the SPL.

## **58. Fan Zones**

58.1. The SPL may establish a 'Fan Zone' in a location to be determined at each Stadium for a particular Match.

58.1.1. No charge shall be levied by the Stadium operator to the SPL and/or the Host Club in respect of the area and location utilised for a 'Fan Zone'.

58.1.2. If a charge is levied to the SPL, it shall be borne by the Host Club.

58.1.3. If a suitable location within a Stadium precinct cannot be identified, the 'Fan Zone' may be established in the car park / parking lot.

58.2. The SPL may decide to utilise the 'Fan Zone' exclusively or invite the Host Club to also utilise the 'Fan Zone'.

58.2.1. The SPL and the Host Club may undertake any commercial activation within the SPL 'Fan Zone' in coordination with an SPL Partner and/or a Club Partner.

58.2.2. The SPL and the Host Club shall bear their own expenses in establishing any commercial activation within the SPL 'Fan Zone'.

58.2.3. The Host Club shall provide the proposed commercial activation(s) that it intends to undertake no later than three (3) days at 3:00pm prior to the scheduled start of the Match for SPL approval.

58.3. All items to be utilised for a commercial activation in the 'Fan Zone' shall be:

58.3.1. set up no earlier than the morning of the Match and no later than the opening of the Stadium to spectators; and

58.3.2. removed latest two (2) hours after the end of the Match.

58.4. The Host Club may establish an independent 'Fan Zone'.

58.4.1. The Host Club must request the approval of the SPL no later than ten (10) days prior to the Match.

58.4.2. The request must set out the location of the 'Fan Zone' and the proposed commercial activation(s) that the Host Club wishes to undertake.

## **59. Image Rights of Players and Club Officials**

- 59.1. The SPL and/or SPL Partners may use and/or exploit the Image Rights of any Player or Club Official wearing their Playing Kit or any Club equipment to promote the Competition and/or exploit the Commercial Rights, Competition Data, or Competition Marks, without restriction, on an individual or collective basis.
- 59.1.1. The SPL may only use and/or exploit the individual Image Rights of a PACE Player where it is not expressly prohibited by their contract.
- 59.1.2. For the avoidance of doubt, this includes utilisation by SPL Partners that operate in the same sector or industry as Club Partners.
- 59.2. The SPL may require any Player or Club Official to undertake any activity to promote the Competition and/or exploit the Commercial Rights, Competition Data, or Competition Marks, without restriction, individually or collectively. This may include without limitation: participation in video recordings, photography sessions, written or recorded (live or delayed) interviews, Media interviews, Club 'media days', or other similar activities.
- 59.3. The SPL may utilise and/or exploit static or animated photographs taken of Players and Club Officials during Matches for the purpose of promoting the Competition and/or exploit the Commercial Rights, Competition Data, or Competition Marks.
- 59.4. The SPL may license SPL Partners to utilise such photographs on a collective basis.

## **60. Media Rights**

- 60.1. In advance of each Competition Period, the SPL will communicate via Circular any limited assignment of the Media Rights. Such limited assignment (if any) shall accord with the agreements between SPL and its Broadcast Partners (including for the avoidance of doubt, the Host Broadcaster).
- 60.2. Each Club must respect the Media Rights licensed by the SPL to any Broadcast Partner, whether licensed within Saudi Arabia or in any other territory.

## EQUIPMENT

### 61. General Principles

- 61.1. This Handbook governs the Playing Kit and other clothing and equipment used inside any Controlled Access Area by the:
  - 61.1.1. Club Delegation;
  - 61.1.2. Match Referees; and
  - 61.1.3. Match Support Personnel.
- 61.2. Each Club shall ensure, at its own cost, that:
  - 61.2.1. they have all rights and licences required for the members of their Club Delegation to wear and use their Playing Kit and other clothing and equipment in the Competition; and
  - 61.2.2. the wearing and use of such Playing Kit, clothing, and other equipment does not infringe upon the rights of any other party.
- 61.3. No item (of Playing Kit, other clothing or equipment or otherwise) may be worn or used in any Controlled Access Area if the SPL considers that it:
  - 61.3.1. is hazardous, dangerous, offensive, or indecent;
  - 61.3.2. incorporates insulting, political, religious, personal or controversial slogans, statements or images;
  - 61.3.3. is not in compliance with any provisions of this Handbook and/or the Laws of the Game;
  - 61.3.4. confers an unfair sporting advantage or fundamentally alters an essential aspect of the game;
  - 61.3.5. infers an association with and/or infringes the Commercial Rights; or
  - 61.3.6. has not been formally approved by the SPL.
- 61.4. If requested by the SPL at any time after the start of the Competition period, a Club shall provide the SPL (for memorabilia purposes) with thirty (30) Jerseys each signed by all Players on its Official List.
- 61.5. The SPL shall make the final decision on the approval of any Playing Kit and other clothing and equipment based on the information provided by the Clubs and/or any other information gathered by the SPL in accordance with the process in Article 62.

- 61.6. Appendix 13 provides a summary example of all equipment that is permitted to display sponsor advertising.

## **62. Approval Process**

### Application

- 62.1. Each Club shall submit a request for the approval of its Playing Kit and all other equipment together with supporting information and documents no later than forty-five (45) days prior to the Competition Period.
- 62.1.1. The application shall include, *inter alia*, a sample of all Playing Kit and any other equipment that is permitted to display sponsor advertising.
- 62.1.2. The SPL shall process each application within a reasonable period without undermining the integrity of the process.
- 62.2. The deadline for submission of samples of celebratory attire shall be no later than fifteen (15) days prior to the Match at which it is proposed to be worn.

### Assessment

- 62.3. Based on the information submitted, the SPL shall assess whether the relevant item(s) comply with this Handbook.
- 62.4. The SPL may request samples of items of equipment from Clubs for examination, which shall be provided free of charge.

### Decision

- 62.5. The granting of approval for an item constitutes confirmation that the item of equipment in question complies with the requirements of this Handbook.
- 62.5.1. The approval process shall not consider whether the equipment item in question complies with all applicable national legislation. Each Club has a responsibility to ensure compliance with national legislation.
- 62.5.2. An approval shall only be valid for the specific Competition Period.
- 62.6. Following approval of a Playing Kit by the SPL, its Colours or design may not be amended by the Club for the remainder of the specific Competition Period. The only exceptions are where:
- 62.6.1. a Club wants to change a Club Partner displayed on a Jersey or Outerwear as provided in Article 71.20;
- 62.6.2. a Club wants to utilise a once-off commemorative Official Playing Kit for a single Match as provided in Article 62.12.
- 62.7. Where an approval is granted conditionally or with restrictions, such conditions must be strictly satisfied and such restrictions must be strictly observed, otherwise the approval will be withdrawn.

- 62.8. Any approval is specific to the sample items submitted and reviewed by the SPL. It does not apply to any item that is not identical in all specifications to that sample item submitted. A new application should be made in respect of any such non-identical item.
- 62.9. Notwithstanding an approval from the SPL, Match Referees retain the right to determine whether any item may be used during a Match.
- 62.10. Where the SPL refuses an application for approval in respect of an item, it will provide reasons for that refusal so that the Club may understand what changes are required to obtain an approval for the item.

#### Commemorative Official Playing Kit

- 62.11. The SPL may designate a specific theme to a particular Match-week which requires each Club to design and wear a once-off commemorative Official Playing Kit during their Match. In such case, the SPL shall notify the Club of the application and approval process for the commemorative Official Playing Kit via Circular.
- 62.12. Alternatively, a Club may request approval to wear a once-off commemorative Official Playing Kit during a particular Match.
  - 62.12.1. The application shall be made no later than fourteen (14) days prior to the relevant Match. It shall include reasons explaining the application (e.g. celebration of a significant milestone, recognition of cultural heritage).
  - 62.12.2. The application shall include a sample of the once-off commemorative Official Playing Kit to be worn during the Match. The Club Partners displayed on the Jersey shall be identical to the regular approved Playing Kit.
  - 62.12.3. The process in Article 62.1 to 62.10 shall apply to this application.

### **63. Playing Kit worn during Matches**

- 63.1. Each Club shall bring its Official Playing Kit and at least one (1) Reserve Playing Kit to all Matches.
- 63.2. The SPL shall establish an electronic system through which Clubs shall request to wear a specific Playing Kit in a particular Match. Such request must be received by no later than three (3) days at 3:00pm prior to the Match.
  - 63.2.1. The SPL will review the request and determine the Playing Kit which each Club shall wear during the Match.
  - 63.2.2. The confirmation of SPL shall be communicated by the Match Director at the Match Coordination Meeting. This decision is final. It shall only be amended if the referee deems that the Playing Kits are too similar.
- 63.3. The following principles shall generally apply:

- 63.3.1. the Host Club has priority to wear its Official Playing Kit. The referee may request the goalkeeper of the Host Club to use a goalkeeper Jersey from a Reserve Playing Kit if necessary;
  - 63.3.2. the Away Club may wear its Official Playing Kit, unless it is deemed not to contrast sufficiently from the colours of the Host Club; and
  - 63.3.3. if the Playing Kits are similar, the SPL shall make the final decision as to which Playing Kits should be worn for the Match.
- 63.4. If at any stage after the start of a Match it is determined by the referee that there is similarity between the Playing Kits, the referee may order one (1) or both Clubs to change their Playing Kit at half-time.

## **64. Manufacturing Conditions**

### Safety

- 64.1. The Playing Kit and other clothing and equipment must not pose any risk of injury or illness to the individual wearing or using it, or to anyone else.

### Construction

- 64.2. All elements incorporated into an item of Playing Kit (including without limitation Names, Numbers, Competition Marks, Team Identifiers, Manufacturer Identifiers, Decorative Elements, and Quality Seals) must be attached permanently by stitching, heat transfer, a special manufacturing technique as set out below, or any other technique approved by the SPL. Temporary or removable attachments (e.g. Velcro) are not permitted.
- 64.3. No item of Playing Kit, or anything displayed on a Playing Kit, may be made of a reflective material, or of a material that changes colour or appearance due to an external influence, such as pressure, light, temperature, water or other liquid.
- 64.4. Team Identifiers and Manufacturer Identifiers may only be constructed as holograms if they remain visible from all angles (i.e. the hologram cannot incorporate more than 1 image) and the hologram does not materially impact the perceived colour of the item on which it is displayed.

### Special manufacturing techniques

- 64.5. The following manufacturing techniques are permitted:
- 64.5.1. jacquard weave (i.e. weaving which incorporates a specific pattern into a fabric using threads of the same basic colour as the surrounding fabric);
  - 64.5.2. tonal print (i.e. a printing technique used to incorporate elements, patterns (etc) of a similar colour into an item);
  - 64.5.3. embossing (i.e. adding texture to the surface of a fabric using heated rollers under pressure to produce a combination of raised and flat areas);



- 64.5.4. laser etching (i.e. incorporating a specific pattern into a fabric using a laser machine); and
- 64.5.5. any other special manufacturing techniques that the SPL expressly approves from time to time.

#### Uniformity

##### 64.6. During a Match:

- 64.6.1. all outfield Players from the same Club shall wear the same Playing Kit as each other;
  - 64.6.2. all goalkeeper Players from the same Club shall wear the same Playing Kit as each other; and
  - 64.6.3. all substitute Players from the same Club shall wear the same Playing Kit while seated on the Team Bench.
- 64.7. All items of a Playing Kit shall be produced by the same Manufacturer or remain unbranded in whole or in part. The equipment worn by the Club Officials while in the technical area or seated on the Team Bench shall be produced by the same Manufacturer as the Playing Kit or remain unbranded.

#### Interior areas

- 64.8. Interior surfaces and other areas of an item shall not contain any marks or identifiers that may be visible on the exterior or that might constitute an ambush marketing attempt.

### **65. Colours**

- 65.1. Except where expressly stated otherwise, there is no limit on the number of colours that may appear on a Playing Kit.
- 65.1.1. Restrictions on the use of colours on items of Playing Kit do not apply to colours in Team Identifiers, Manufacturer Identifiers, and/or Decorative Elements.
- 65.2. The colours used on the Playing Kits worn by the Clubs must contrast sufficiently to allow viewers (including, whenever reasonably practicable, those with a colour vision deficiency) to distinguish clearly between the Players and the Match Referees, between the Clubs, and between the goalkeepers and the outfield Players on the same team, even in difficult weather conditions. For these purposes:
- 65.2.1. each item of Playing Kit worn by a Club must contrast sufficiently with the equivalent item worn by the other Club, to ensure a clear distinction;
  - 65.2.2. each Club must have an Official Playing Kit and at least one (1) Reserve Playing Kit in clearly differing colours or colour combinations, to ensure a clear distinction;

- 65.2.3. the colour(s) of the Official Playing Kit must contrast clearly with the colour(s) of each Reserve Playing Kit;
  - 65.2.4. where an item of Official Playing Kit is predominantly light in colour, the equivalent item in at least one (1) Reserve Playing Kit should be predominantly dark in colour, and vice versa;
  - 65.2.5. each Club is encouraged to have a second Reserve Playing Kit in a colour or colours differing from both its Official Playing Kit and its first Reserve Playing Kit; and
  - 65.2.6. the colour(s) of any item(s) worn underneath the Playing Kit must not be visible through the Playing Kit and must in no way affect the colour of, or the visual impression given by, the Playing Kit.
- 65.3. Subject to Article 65.2, if a Playing Kit item features more than a single colour, one (1) of the colours must be clearly predominant (the “**Dominant Colour**”) over the others and must predominate to the same extent on the front and back of the item of Playing Kit.
- 65.3.1. Close variants and shades of a colour shall be considered a single colour, whereas broader variants and shades of a colour shall be considered multiple colours.
- 65.4. The Jerseys of outfield Players (but not the goalkeeper) may feature a basic geometric repeated pattern (such as stripes, hoops or checks) with two (2) equally prominent colours. In such cases, the Jersey of at least one (1) of the Reserve Playing Kits must not feature either of those colours as its Dominant Colour.
- 65.5. Where the SPL or the Match Referees consider that there is an insufficient contrast between the colours used on the Playing Kits of the Clubs to distinguish clearly between the Players and the Match Referees, between the Clubs, and/or between the goalkeepers and the outfield Players on a team, they may require a Club (including after the Match has started, if necessary) to switch to, or to combine, different items from its different Playing Kits as necessary in order to achieve a clear distinction.
- 65.6. Any temporary material (such as tape or similar material) applied to a Playing Kit item during a Match must match the Dominant Colour of the Playing Kit item.

## 66. Names and Numbers

- 66.1. The SPL shall license a supplier to supply standardised Numbers, letters (to spell Names), and SPL logos.
  - 66.1.1. Each Club shall utilise the standardised Numbers, letters (to spell Names), and SPL logos on their Playing Kits.
  - 66.1.2. The SPL may advertise inside any standardised Numbers on Playing Kit, including without limitation inserting the SPL logo.

**66.2. All Names and Numbers must:**

- 66.2.1. correspond to those registered for the Player. They must not represent an abbreviated form of that Name;
- 66.2.2. be of a single colour, which must contrast sufficiently with the surrounding colour(s) of the item of Playing Kit (or of the Number Zone, where used) to be clearly legible, so that viewers are able to identify the Player;
- 66.2.3. (in the case of Names) comprise letters of Latin characters only, in upper or lower case;
- 66.2.4. be consistent in terms of style, font, size, position and colour for all Players from the same Club, save that:
  - 66.2.4.1. the colour of the Number on the Jersey may be different from the colour of the Number on the Shorts; and
  - 66.2.4.2. the colour of the goalkeeper Name and Number may differ from the colour used for the outfield Players;
- 66.2.5. not include any Team Identifiers;
- 66.2.6. not include any Decorative Elements; and
- 66.2.7. not function as a trademark or include anything that gives the visual impression of a Manufacturer Identifier or sponsor advertising, or that creates an association with a Manufacturer, a sponsor, or other third party, or that constitutes a promotion or other message of any kind.

**67. Team Identifiers**

- 67.1. Playing Kit and/or other clothing or equipment may display the following types of Team Identifiers:
  - 67.1.1. Team Symbol;
  - 67.1.2. Club Name;
  - 67.1.3. Club Nickname;
- 67.2. Permitted Team Identifiers must be displayed in the same colour and form across all items of Playing Kit of outfield Players and goalkeepers (save that they may be incorporated into the Reserve Playing Kit in a different colour).
- 67.3. The Team Identifier(s) must not:
  - 67.3.1. impair the ability of viewers (including, whenever reasonably practicable, those with a colour vision deficiency) to distinguish clearly between the

Players and Match Referees, between Clubs, or between the goalkeepers and the Players on each team, even in difficult weather conditions;

- 67.3.2. undermine the contrast between an Official Playing Kit and any Reserve Playing Kit;
  - 67.3.3. impair the predominance of a Dominant Colour on a Playing Kit item;
  - 67.3.4. impair the legibility of a Name or Number on a Playing Kit item;
  - 67.3.5. include anything that gives the visual impression of a Manufacturer Identifier or sponsor advertising, or that creates an association with a Manufacturer, a sponsor, or other third party, or that constitutes a promotion;
  - 67.3.6. contain any words, images, statements or messages that are political, religious, controversial, derogatory or insulting in nature or commercial messages of any kind; or
  - 67.3.7. touch and/or be incorporated into any of the other Team Identifiers or any Name, Number, Competition Mark, or Manufacturer Identifiers on the Playing Kit (save that the Club Logo may be incorporated into Numbers).
- 67.4. There are no restrictions on the shape of the Team Identifier(s), unless its elements are being used as a Decorative Element.

## **68. SPL badges and commemorative symbols**

- 68.1. The reigning champion may display an SPL Champions Badge (as provided by the SPL) on its Jersey in the position determined by the SPL.
- 68.2. The SPL may decide to introduce other SPL badges or commemorative symbols to be incorporated into the Playing Kit of the Clubs for one (1) or more particular Matches. This may include without limitation badges or symbols that commemorate the winner of a FIFA, AFC, or SAFF competition, or form part of a social campaign.

## **69. Decorative Elements**

- 69.1. Decorative Elements may be displayed on, or incorporated into, items of Playing Kit and other clothing and equipment subject to the approval of the SPL.
- 69.2. A Decorative Element must not:
  - 69.2.1. limit the ability of viewers (including, whenever reasonably practicable, those with a colour vision deficiency) to distinguish clearly between the Players and Match Referees, between the different Clubs, and between the goalkeepers and the outfield Players on each team, even in difficult weather conditions;
  - 69.2.2. undermine the contrast between an Official Playing Kit and any Reserve Playing Kit;

- 69.2.3. dominate a Playing Kit item or impair the predominance of a Dominant Colour on a Playing Kit item;
  - 69.2.4. impair the legibility of a Name or Number on a Playing Kit item;
  - 69.2.5. function as a trademark or include anything that gives the visual impression of a Manufacturer Identifier or sponsor advertising, or that creates an association with a Manufacturer, a sponsor, or other third party, or that constitutes a promotion;
  - 69.2.6. contain any words, images, statements or messages that are political, religious, controversial, derogatory or insulting in nature or commercial messages of any kind; or
  - 69.2.7. portray, or give the impression of, a person's face or identity, or the shape of a country or territory.
- 69.3. A Decorative Element may incorporate elements of a Team Identifier. It may incorporate elements of the National Flag (e.g. its colours) even if they do not maintain the official geometric form and usual proportions of the National Flag.
- 69.4. Unless otherwise stated in respect of a particular item, there is no limit on the number, the size, or the positioning of the Decorative Element(s) on an item of Playing Kit or other clothing or equipment.

## **70. Manufacturer Identifiers**

- 70.1. The following types of Manufacturer Identifiers may be displayed on a Playing Kit and/or other clothing or equipment in accordance with this Handbook, subject to the approval of the SPL:
- 70.1.1. name or work mark;
  - 70.1.2. logo or graphic mark;
  - 70.1.3. composite mark (name and logo);
  - 70.1.4. product line name, logo, or mark.
- 70.2. Technology Labels and Quality Seals may be included as a means of evidencing the technological purpose and functioning of the item in question and/or as a means of evidencing the sustainable sourcing of the material used to make the item. Technology Labels and Quality Seals are treated in this Handbook as a type of Manufacturer Identifier.
- 70.3. A Manufacturer Identifier may be of any shape. It must not:
- 70.3.1. limit the ability of viewers (including, whenever reasonably practicable, those with a colour vision deficiency) to distinguish clearly between the Players

and Match Referees, between the different Clubs, and between the goalkeepers and the outfield Players on each team, even in difficult weather conditions;

- 70.3.2. undermine the contrast between an Official Playing Kit and any Reserve Playing Kit;
  - 70.3.3. impair the predominance of a Dominant Colour on an item of Playing Kit;
  - 70.3.4. impair the legibility of a Name or Number on an item of Playing Kit;
  - 70.3.5. touch and/or be incorporated into, or be positioned adjacent to, any other Manufacturer Identifier or any Name, Number, or Team Identifier on the item;
  - 70.3.6. contain or constitute any form of machine-readable code, such as a barcode or a QR code that provides a link to further information; or
  - 70.3.7. incorporate, by any means, any Team Identifier or sponsor advertising or any element(s) thereof.
- 70.4. A Manufacturer Identifier may appear:
- 70.4.1. on any buttons, zips, drawstrings, and/or similar functional devices, as long as it blends in with the colour of the device; and/or
  - 70.4.2. on a size label, care instruction, anti-counterfeit label or similar that appears on or is attached to the interior surface of the item.
- 70.5. Where this Handbook permits the use of an MI Band on more than one item of Playing Kit, the MI Band must be identical on each item. It may not touch and/or be incorporated into, or be positioned adjacent to, any Manufacturer Identifier or any Name, Number, or Team Identifier on the item.

## **71. Sponsor Advertising**

- 71.1. No Manufacturer Identifier, Decorative Element, or other elements may be incorporated into any sponsor advertising.
- 71.2. Club Partner logos on Playing Kit shall:
  - 71.2.1. ideally be standardised in the same monochrome colour. On a dark Jersey, white colour shall be utilised; and
  - 71.2.2. be appropriately spaced to ensure that the relevant Club Partner (and Manufacturer, if relevant) can be identified.
- 71.3. Each Club shall utilise the same Club Partners for sponsor advertising on their Official Playing Kit and all Reserve Playing Kits.

### Playing Kit – 2025/26 Season

71.4. For the current Competition Period, each Club may display logos of up to ten (10) Club Partners on their Playing Kit as follows:

71.4.1. four (4) logos are permitted on the front of the Jersey:

71.4.1.1. the first shall be the main logo in the centre of the Jersey and a maximum of four hundred square centimetres (400cm<sup>2</sup>);

71.4.1.2. the second shall be directly above the main logo and a maximum of two hundred square centimetres (200 cm<sup>2</sup>);

71.4.1.3. the third shall be directly under the collar of the Jersey and a maximum of seventy square centimetres (70cm<sup>2</sup>);

71.4.1.4. the fourth shall be on the right collarbone of the Jersey and a maximum of seventy square centimetres (70cm<sup>2</sup>);

71.4.2. three (3) logos are permitted on the back of the Jersey:

71.4.2.1. the first shall be at the top of the Jersey above the Name and a maximum of two hundred square centimetres (200cm<sup>2</sup>);

71.4.2.2. the second shall be at the bottom of the Jersey below the Number and a maximum of two hundred square centimetres (200 cm<sup>2</sup>);

71.4.2.3. the third shall be directly below the second logo and a maximum of two hundred square centimetres (200cm<sup>2</sup>);

71.4.3. two (2) logos are permitted on the right shoulder of the Jersey. Their total size shall be a maximum of fifty square centimetres (50 cm<sup>2</sup>) each. If only one (1) logo is utilised, it shall be a maximum of one hundred square centimetres (100 cm<sup>2</sup>);

71.4.4. one (1) logo is permitted on the left leg at the front of the Shorts. It shall be directly placed above the Manufacturer Identifier and a maximum of one hundred square centimetres (100 cm<sup>2</sup>).

#### Playing Kit – 2026/27 Season

71.5. For the following Competition Period, each Club may display logos of up to six (6) Club Partners on their Playing Kit as follows:

71.5.1. two (2) logos are permitted on the front of the Jersey:

71.5.1.1. the first shall be the main logo in the centre of the Jersey and a maximum of three hundred square centimetres (300cm<sup>2</sup>);

71.5.1.2. the second shall be directly under the collar of the Jersey and a maximum of seventy square centimetres (70cm<sup>2</sup>);



- 71.5.2. two (2) logos are permitted on the back of the Jersey:
- 71.5.2.1. the first shall be at the top of the Jersey above the Name and a maximum of one hundred square centimetres (100cm<sup>2</sup>);
  - 71.5.2.2. the second shall be at the bottom of the Jersey below the Number and a maximum of two hundred square centimetres (200 cm<sup>2</sup>);
- 71.5.3. one (1) logo is permitted on the right shoulder of the Jersey. It shall be a maximum of one hundred square centimetres (100 cm<sup>2</sup>);
- 71.5.4. one (1) logo is permitted on the left leg at the front of the Shorts. It shall be directly placed above the Manufacturer Identifier and a maximum of one hundred square centimetres (100 cm<sup>2</sup>).
- 71.6. As an exception to the above, due to existing agreements with Club Partners executed prior to this Handbook entering into force, a Club may exceptionally display more Club Logos on its Playing Kit than the maximum number set out in Article 71.5. Any renewal of existing agreements with Club Partners or any new agreements with Club partners executed after this Handbook entering into force shall respect the maximum number set out in Article 71.5.

#### Outerwear

- 71.7. Each Club may display logos of Club Partners on Outerwear as set out below.

#### *Training shirt worn during pre-Match warmup*

- 71.8. Up to two (2) logos are permitted on the training shirt worn by their Players during the pre-Match warmup specified on the official countdown as follows:
- 71.8.1. one (1) logo is permitted on the front area of the training shirt. It shall be maximum three hundred square centimetres (300cm<sup>2</sup>);
  - 71.8.2. one (1) logo is permitted on right shoulder of the training shirt. It shall be maximum one hundred square centimetres (100 cm<sup>2</sup>);
- 71.9. The Club Partner(s) advertised on the training shirt may be different to the Club Partner(s) advertised on the Playing Kit.
- 71.10. Each Club shall ensure that Players are identifiable for broadcasting purposes during the pre-Match warmup through the display of a Number on the training shirt or their Shorts.

#### *Shirt worn by medical personnel during Match*

- 71.11. One (1) logo on the back of the shirt worn by any medical personnel registered on the Match Start List. The logo shall be a maximum of two hundred square centimetres (200cm<sup>2</sup>).
- 71.12. The Club Partner advertised may be different to the Club Partner(s) advertised on the Playing Kit, warm-up training shirt, or anthem jacket. The Club Partner shall be from the medical sector or an associated industry (e.g. health insurance).

*Anthem jacket worn during pre-Match ceremony*

71.13. One (1) logo on the anthem jacket worn by the Players during the pre-Match ceremony. The logo shall be maximum fifty square centimetres (50cm<sup>2</sup>).

71.14. The Club Partner advertised on the anthem jacket must be the same Club Partner advertised in the main advertising position on the front of the Jersey.

Medical Bag

71.15. Each Club may display one (1) logo of a Club Partner on medical bags utilised by any medical personnel registered on the Match Start List. The logo shall be a maximum of two hundred square centimetres (200cm<sup>2</sup>).

71.16. The Club Partner advertised on the medical bag shall be the same Club partner advertised on the shirt worn by medical personnel.

Prohibited Categories

71.17. The following categories of sponsor advertising are prohibited:

71.17.1. advertising containing words, images, statements or messages that are political, religious, controversial, derogatory or insulting in nature or other commercial messages of any kind; or

71.17.2. advertising for causes that offend common decency.

71.18. Any bans or restrictions deriving from a decision of a relevant government authority or national legislation shall also apply.

Approval Process

71.19. Clubs must obtain the written authorisation of the SPL for any sponsor advertising. In principle, such authorisation shall be provided via the approval process set out in Article 62, subject to the necessary information being submitted.

71.20. During the Competition Period, a Club may request to change the Club Partner displayed on any equipment no later than one (1) day prior to the Match for which the change is to take effect. It shall submit:

71.20.1. sample photographs with measurements;

71.20.2. the category of the Club Partner; and

71.20.3. actual samples for physical checks if requested by the SPL.

71.21. The SPL may request copies of commercial agreements to verify the nature of the partnership. Failure to comply may result in the relevant request being denied.

71.22. The conditions applicable to the application process for equipment generally set out in Article 62 are also applicable to any request during the Competition Period to change the Club Partner displayed on equipment.

### Charity Logos

71.23. A Club may display the logo of a charity organisation on its Jersey.

71.23.1. The charity logo may only be displayed in a position on the back of the Jersey reserved for sponsor advertising.

71.23.2. For the avoidance of doubt, by displaying a charity logo the Club shall have one (1) less slot for sponsor advertising on the back of its Jersey.

71.24. The Club must provide a duly signed declaration in which the charity organisation concerned confirms that it:

71.24.1. is a not-for-profit organisation duly registered in Kingdom of Saudia Arabia;

71.24.2. is an apolitical organisation pursuing its objectives regardless of political affiliation and does not openly take any political stance;

71.24.3. pursues its objectives without any discrimination on account of politics, gender, religion, race, nationality or any other reason;

71.24.4. has a financial report audited and published in accordance with Kingdom of Saudia Arabia standards;

71.24.5. will not offer or give to the Club any financial or other form of compensation or recompense for allowing its charity logo to appear on the Jersey;

71.24.6. has duly registered its charity logo in an official state register and has expressly permitted the Club to use it;

71.24.7. has concluded a written agreement with the Club defining all the rights and duties of each party; and

71.24.8. agrees to provide all such relevant information to the SPL upon request.

71.25. The Club must also declare that:

71.25.1. the charity organisation meets the requirements above;

71.25.2. the Club will not receive any financial or other form of compensation or recompense for allowing the registered logo of the charity organisation to appear on its Jersey;

71.25.3. the Club has concluded a written agreement with the charity organisation defining all the rights and duties of each party; and

71.25.4. the Club will immediately update the SPL about any change to the written agreement with the charity organisation.

- 71.26. Clubs must obtain the written authorisation of the SPL for the use of any charity logo. In principle, such authorisation shall be provided via the approval process set out in Article 62, subject to the necessary declarations being submitted.
- 71.27. The charity logo shall not contain any words, images, statements or messages that are political, religious, controversial, derogatory or insulting in nature or other commercial messages of any kind.
- 71.28. The SPL may, at any time, request that the Club provide the statutes of the charity organisation and/or a copy of their agreement so that the SPL can assess whether the relevant criteria are met.

## **72. Playing Kit: Jersey**

### Colour(s)

- 72.1. As per Article 65, the front area and the back area of the Jersey must feature the same single Dominant Colour. The sleeves must be the same colour(s) as each other and must not undermine the predominant visual impression of the single Dominant Colour on the front area and the back area of the Jersey.
- 72.2. As the sole exception to the single Dominant Colour rule, the front area of the Jersey of an outfield Player may feature a basic geometric repeated pattern (such as stripes, hoops, or checks) featuring two (2) equally prominent colours. In such a case:
- 72.2.1. the back area of the Jersey must:
- 72.2.1.1. feature the same pattern and colours;
  - 72.2.1.2. feature the same two (2) colours, giving them equal prominence;  
or
  - 72.2.1.3. feature the lighter colour as its Dominant Colour; and
- 72.2.2. the sleeves must feature predominantly the same two (2) colours as the front area of the Shirt, but the sleeves do not need to be identical to each other.
- 72.3. Any prominent additional colour(s) on the Jersey (in particular, on a sash or bar, or in the area around the Player's shoulders) must not undermine the predominant visual impression of the Dominant Colour (or the two (2) equally prominent colours, as applicable) of the Jersey.
- 72.4. If the prominent additional colour on the Jersey is different from the Dominant Colour of the Jersey, the SPL may require that the Jersey of at least one (1) of the Reserve Playing Kits features neither that prominent colour nor that Dominant Colour.

### Name

- 72.5. The Name must be positioned on the back area of Jersey, at least four (4) centimetres above the Number. The space taken up by the Name shall not exceed two hundred and ten square centimetres (210 cm<sup>2</sup>).

### Number

72.6. The Number on the back area must be:

- 72.6.1. in a vertical space not exceeding nine hundred and eighty square centimetres (980 cm<sup>2</sup>);
- 72.6.2. positioned in the centre of the back area;
- 72.6.3. (where necessary to ensure the Number is legible) located within a Number Zone that:
  - 72.6.3.1. has a horizontal boundary two (2) centimetres above the highest point of the Number and another horizontal boundary three (3) centimetres below the lowest point of the Number;
  - 72.6.3.2. has a vertical boundary three (3) centimetres from the left edge of the left-hand digit, and another vertical boundary three (3) centimetres from the right edge of the right-hand digit (or of the same digit, if there is only a single digit);
  - 72.6.3.3. is the same Dominant Colour as the Jersey (unless that would render the Number illegible, in which case the Number Zone must be a colour that ensures the Number is legible);
  - 72.6.3.4. does not include any Team Identifier, other than as permitted by Article 67;
  - 72.6.3.5. does not include any Manufacturer Identifier; and
  - 72.6.3.6. is entirely visible when the Jersey is tucked into the Shorts.

### Team Identifiers

- 72.7. The Club Logo shall be displayed once on the left chest area on the front of the Jersey. It must be a maximum of one hundred square centimetres (100cm<sup>2</sup>).
- 72.8. No Team Identifiers may be displayed on the sleeves.
- 72.9. In addition, in accordance with Article 69, elements of Team Identifiers may appear on the Jersey as part of a Decorative Element.
- 72.10. One (1) Team Identifier may be displayed on the Jersey as part of a special manufacturing technique (cf Article 64). The colour used must blend in with the Dominant Colour of the Jersey and must not affect the predominance of that colour.

### Decorative Elements

- 72.11. Decorative Elements may be included on the Jersey.

### Captain's armband

- 72.12. The captain of each Club in a Match shall wear the captain's armband provided by the SPL. If the SPL provides a choice of captain's armbands, the captain should wear the armband that contrasts most clearly with the sleeve on which it is worn.
- 72.13. If the SPL does not provide a captain's armband, any captain's armband worn by the captain of each Club in a Match:
- 72.13.1. must be of a colour or colour(s) that ensure a clear contrast with the sleeve on which it is worn;
  - 72.13.2. must be separate from the Jersey itself;
  - 72.13.3. must not include any Manufacturer Identifiers, Sponsor Advertising or Decorative Elements; and
  - 72.13.4. may display the word "captain" (or an abbreviation or translation thereof) in a legible font and with lettering no higher than five (5) centimetres.

#### Manufacturer Identifiers

- 72.14. A single Manufacturer Identifier no bigger than twenty-five square centimetres (25cm<sup>2</sup>) may be displayed once on the right chest area on the front of the Jersey.
- 72.15. Clubs may display either:
- 72.15.1. a single graphic form of Manufacturer Identifier no bigger than twenty-five square centimetres (25cm<sup>2</sup>) which may be displayed once on each sleeve. It must not be wholly visible when viewing the Jersey from the front or the back; or
  - 72.15.2. an MI Band, which may be included on both the left-hand side and the right-hand side of the Jersey (with the same MI Band used on both sides). It must be displayed in a continuous band that is no more than eight (8) centimetres wide, and is positioned:
    - 72.15.2.1. around the end of the sleeves; or
    - 72.15.2.2. along the shoulder seam or along the lateral or outer seam of the Jersey, provided it is not wholly visible when viewing the Jersey (as worn) from either the front or the back.
- 72.16. A single Technology Label and/or Quality Seal, each no bigger than ten square centimetres (10cm<sup>2</sup>), may be included once each on the front or the back of the Jersey. Each such Technology Label and/or Quality Seal must be positioned with its top edge no more than fifteen (15) centimetres above the bottom edge of the Jersey.
- 72.17. A Quality Seal no bigger than five square centimetres (5cm<sup>2</sup>) may be included once anywhere on the Jersey other than in the collar zone, chest area, or sleeves.

### **73. Playing Kit: Shorts**

- 73.1. Shorts must feature the same single Dominant Colour whether viewed from the front or the back.
- 73.2. A Name must not appear on the Shorts.
- 73.3. A Number must appear on the front of the Shorts on the right leg directly above the Club Logo:
- 73.3.1. in a space not exceeding one hundred and seventy square centimetres (170 cm<sup>2</sup>); and
  - 73.3.2. (where necessary to ensure legibility) positioned within a Number Zone that:
    - 73.3.2.1. is proportionate in size to the size of the Number, and provides sufficient space around the Number to ensure the legibility of the Number whatever the weather conditions;
    - 73.3.2.2. is the same Dominant Colour as the Shorts (unless that would render the Number illegible, in which case the Number Zone must be a colour that ensures the Number is legible);
    - 73.3.2.3. does not include any Team Identifier or Manufacturer Identifier; and
    - 73.3.2.4. is entirely visible when the Jersey is untucked and hanging loose over the waist edge.

#### Team Identifiers

- 73.4. The Club Logo shall be displayed once on the right leg on the front of the Shorts, directly under the Number. It must be a maximum of fifty square centimetres (50cm<sup>2</sup>).

#### Decorative Elements

- 73.5. Decorative Elements may be included on the Shorts.

#### Manufacturer Identifiers

- 73.6. This part also applies to any tracksuit bottoms worn by a goalkeeper during a Match.
- 73.7. A single form of Manufacturer Identifier no bigger than twenty-five square centimetres (25cm<sup>2</sup>) may be displayed once on the left leg on the front of the Shorts, directly under any sponsor advertising.
- 73.8. An MI Band may be displayed on the Shorts, once on each leg (with the MI Band being the same on both legs), either:
- 73.8.1. around the bottom edge of the Shorts; or
  - 73.8.2. along the lateral or outer seam, provided it is not wholly visible when viewing the Shorts (as worn) from either the front or the back.



- 73.9. A single Technology Label and single Quality Seal, each no bigger than ten square centimetres (10cm<sup>2</sup>), may be included once on the front or the back of the Shorts. Each Technology Label and/or Quality Seal must be positioned with its top edge no more than five (5) centimetres above the bottom edge of the Shorts, or with its bottom edge no lower than five (5) centimetres below the waist edge.

#### **74. Playing Kit: Socks**

- 74.1. Only a single pair of Socks may be visible on a Player during a Match.
- 74.2. Each Sock must constitute a single piece of material and must not appear to be cut or altered in any way.

##### Colour(s)

- 74.3. The leg area of both Socks must be the same Dominant Colour or feature a basic repeated geometric pattern (such as hoops) featuring two (2) equally prominent colours. In the latter case, the two (2) colours must appear throughout all regions of the leg area.
- 74.4. Where the Jersey displays a basic repeated geometric pattern (such as stripes, hoops or checks) featuring two (2) equally prominent colours, and the Shorts are a different Dominant Colour, the Dominant Colour or the two (2) equally prominent colours of the Socks in that Playing Kit must be one (1) or two (2) of those three (3) colours (as applicable).
- 74.5. The colour of any support bandage or similar item that covers any part of the leg area of a Sock must blend in with the colour(s) of the leg area of the Sock.

##### Name and Number

- 74.6. A Name must not appear on the Socks.
- 74.7. A Number must not appear on the Socks.

##### Team Identifiers

- 74.8. The Club Logo shall be displayed once on one (1) or both Socks in the pair. It must be a maximum of fifty square centimetres (50cm<sup>2</sup>).

##### Decorative Elements

- 74.9. Decorative Elements may be included on the Socks.

##### Manufacturer Identifiers

- 74.10. One (1) or two (2) Manufacturer Identifiers, with a combined maximum size of twenty square centimetres (20cm<sup>2</sup>) (i.e. a single identifier of twenty square centimetres (20 cm<sup>2</sup>) or two (2) identifiers of ten square centimetres (10 cm<sup>2</sup>) each), may be displayed horizontally in the leg area of each Sock. They must be the same on each Sock.
- 74.11. A MI Band may be included across the top edge of each Sock (with the MI Band being the same on each Sock).

- 74.12. A further Manufacturer Identifier no bigger than twenty-five square centimetres (25cm<sup>2</sup>) may appear once in the foot area of each Sock.

## **75. Footwear and Shinguards**

- 75.1. There is no restriction on the types of footwear and shinguards that may be worn, except that they must comply with the Laws of the Game.
- 75.2. Players on the same team do not have to wear the same footwear or shinguards. They may wear footwear or shinguards that are made by different manufacturers and that differ in colour and/or appearance.
- 75.3. If the colour of a part of a Player's footwear diminishes the contrast between the colour of the Player's Socks and the colour of the Socks of the opposing Club, the Match Referees may require the Player to cover that part of the boots with a temporary material (such as tape) to restore that colour contrast.
- 75.4. Footwear and shinguards may display a Name and/or Number, any Team Identifiers, Decorative Elements, and Manufacturer Identifiers (provided in the case of shinguards that they are not visible outside or beneath the Socks).
- 75.5. Other than Manufacturer Identifiers, footwear and shinguards may not display anything that gives the visual impression of sponsor advertising or that creates an association with a sponsor, or other third party, or that constitutes a promotion or other commercial or insulting message of any kind.
- 75.6. The Match Director or the Match Referees may prohibit the use of any footwear or shinguards that they consider to be dangerous or non-compliant.

## **76. Gloves**

### Goalkeeper gloves

- 76.1. Goalkeepers from the same Club may wear gloves that are made by different Manufacturers and/or that differ in size, colour, and/or other appearance.
- 76.2. The goalkeeper's Name and Number may each appear once on each goalkeeper glove with numbering and lettering no higher than two (2) centimetres. They must be identical to the Name and Number on the goalkeeper's Jersey.
- 76.3. The Club Logo may be displayed once on each goalkeeper glove. It must be a maximum of fifty square centimetres (50cm<sup>2</sup>).
- 76.4. A single Manufacturer Identifier no bigger than twenty square centimetres (20cm<sup>2</sup>) may be displayed once on each goalkeeper glove, in any position.
- 76.5. A single Technology Label no bigger than ten square centimetres (10cm<sup>2</sup>) may be displayed once on each goalkeeper glove, in any position.
- 76.6. A single Quality Seal may be displayed once on each goalkeeper glove, in any position. The Quality Seal must be no bigger than ten square centimetres (10cm<sup>2</sup>).

#### Gloves worn by outfield Players

76.7. Outfield Players on the same team may wear gloves that differ in size and/or appearance. The gloves must:

76.7.1. be made by the same Manufacturer as the Playing Kit;

76.7.2. be either the same colour as the Dominant Colour of the respective sleeve of the Jersey or black; and

76.7.3. not feature any Name or Number.

76.8. The Club Logo may be displayed once on each glove. It must be a maximum of twelve square centimetres (12cm<sup>2</sup>).

76.9. A single Manufacturer Identifier no bigger than twenty square centimetres (20cm<sup>2</sup>) may be displayed once on each glove, in any position.

76.10. A single Technology Label no bigger than ten square centimetres (10cm<sup>2</sup>) may be displayed once on each glove, in any position.

76.11. Two (2) Quality Seals may be displayed once on each glove, in any position, one (1) no bigger than ten square centimetres (10cm<sup>2</sup>) and the other no bigger than five square centimetres (5cm<sup>2</sup>).

#### **77. Caps**

77.1. Goalkeepers from the same Club may wear caps on the Field of Play that differ in size, colour, and/or other appearance. They must be made by the same Manufacturer as the Playing Kit.

77.2. Members of the Club Delegation not participating in the Match may wear caps that differ in size, colour, and/or other appearance. If they are not made by the same Manufacturer as the Playing Kit, they must not display any Manufacturer Identifiers.

#### Name and Number

77.3. The goalkeeper's Name and/or Number may each appear once on the goalkeeper cap with numbering and lettering no higher than two (2) centimetres. They must be identical to the Name and Number on the goalkeeper's Jersey.

77.4. The cap worn by members of the Club Delegation not participating in the Match may also display (in the case of Players) their Name and Number.

#### Team Identifiers

77.5. The Club Logo may be displayed once in any position on the cap. It must be a maximum of fifty square centimetres (50cm<sup>2</sup>).

#### Manufacturer Identifiers

77.6. A single Manufacturer Identifier no bigger than twenty square centimetres (20cm<sup>2</sup>) may be displayed once anywhere on any cap.

- 77.7. A single Technology Label no bigger than ten square centimetres (10cm<sup>2</sup>) may be displayed once anywhere on any cap.
- 77.8. Two (2) Quality Seals, one (1) no bigger than ten square centimetres (10cm<sup>2</sup>) and the other no bigger than five square centimetres (5cm<sup>2</sup>) may be displayed (in each case no more than once) anywhere on any cap.

## **78. Hairbands, Headbands and Wristbands**

- 78.1. Players on the same team may wear hairbands, headbands, and/or wristbands that differ in size and/or other appearance. However, they must:
- 78.1.1. be either the same colour as a colour on the Jersey, Shorts or Socks. or be black or white; and
- 78.1.2. not feature any Name or Number, or any abbreviation of them.

### Team Identifiers

- 78.2. The Club Logo may be displayed once in any position on each hairband, headband, and/or wristband. It must be a maximum of twelve square centimetres (12cm<sup>2</sup>).

### Manufacturer Identifiers

- 78.3. If the Manufacturer of the hairband, headband, and/or wristband is also the Manufacturer of the Playing Kit:
- 78.3.1. a single Manufacturer Identifier no bigger than twenty square centimetres (20cm<sup>2</sup>) may be displayed once anywhere on each hairband, headband and/or wristband;
- 78.3.2. a single Technology Label no bigger than ten square centimetres (10cm<sup>2</sup>) may be displayed once anywhere on each hairband, headband and/or wristband;
- 78.3.3. two (2) Quality Seals, one (1) no bigger than ten square centimetres (10cm<sup>2</sup>) and the other no bigger than five square centimetres (5cm<sup>2</sup>) may be displayed (in each case no more than once) anywhere on each hairband, headband and/or wristband.

## **79. Undergarments**

- 79.1. Players may wear an Undergarment underneath their Playing Kit. It must:
- 79.1.1. be made by the same Manufacturer as their Playing Kit;
- 79.1.2. not be visible outside or beneath the Playing Kit, or, if it is visible:
- 79.1.2.1. be of the same Dominant Colour as the item it is underneath;

- 79.1.2.2. not display any Manufacturer Identifiers or Decorative Elements;  
and
- 79.1.3. not display any sponsor advertising.
- 79.2. An item designed to house an EPTS is not considered an Undergarment but instead must comply with Appendix 5.
- 79.3. An Undergarment must not be attached to any part of the Playing Kit.
- 79.4. An Undergarment may not display a Name or Number, or any abbreviation of them.
- 79.5. An Undergarment may display a single Team Identifier.
- 79.6. An Undergarment that is not visible outside or beneath the Playing Kit may display Manufacturer Identifiers as follows:
  - 79.6.1. a single Manufacturer Identifier no bigger than twenty square centimetres (20cm<sup>2</sup>) may appear once on the front and/or the back of an undershirt, positioned anywhere other than in the collar zone;
  - 79.6.2. a single Manufacturer Identifier no bigger than twenty square centimetres (20cm<sup>2</sup>) may appear once anywhere on underwear, undershorts, or thermal shorts;
  - 79.6.3. a single Technology Label no bigger than ten square centimetres (10cm<sup>2</sup>) may be displayed once on each Undergarment, in any position; and
  - 79.6.4. two (2) Quality Seals, one (1) no bigger than ten square centimetres (10cm<sup>2</sup>) and the other no bigger than five square centimetres (5cm<sup>2</sup>), may be displayed on each Undergarment, in each case no more than once in any position.

## 80. Special Equipment

- 80.1. Equipment covered by this Handbook and used by Players for medical reasons during a Match (e.g. protective headgear, protective face masks, knee and arm protectors, eyewear, and medical casts or splints) must:
  - 80.1.1. be approved by the SPL in writing prior to use;
  - 80.1.2. not feature any Name or Number, or any abbreviation of them; and
  - 80.1.3. not display any Team Identifier, Manufacturer Identifier, Decorative Element or other words or marks unless the SPL so permits.
- 80.2. An EPTS may be worn by Players during a Match subject to the following conditions:
  - 80.2.1. they must be certified and approved for use under the FIFA Quality Programme for Wearable Electronic Performance and Tracking Systems;

- 80.2.2. they must be worn underneath the Jersey and (unless agreed by the SPL) must not protrude outside of the Jersey;
- 80.2.3. they must not endanger the safety of any Player or Match Referee, whether because of their shape, the manner of their construction, the materials used, or otherwise;
- 80.2.4. they may display a Name and Number only once; and
- 80.2.5. they may not display any Team Identifier, Manufacturer Identifier, Decorative Element, or sponsor advertising.

## **81. Formal Attire**

- 81.1. Members of the Club Delegation before and after a Match may wear formal attire such as a shirt, jacket, tie, suit trousers, and/or waistcoat that displays:
  - 81.1.1. Team Identifiers no bigger than one hundred square centimetres (100cm<sup>2</sup>) in total in any position and quantity; and
  - 81.1.2. no Manufacturer Identifiers or sponsor advertising.

## **82. Outerwear**

- 82.1. Members of the Club Delegation before and after a Match may wear Outerwear. Celebratory Attire is not included in the definition of Outerwear.
- 82.2. Each item of Outerwear may display:
  - 82.2.1. Team Identifiers in any size, quantity, and positioning;
  - 82.2.2. up to five (5) Manufacturer Identifiers, in any position, each no bigger than twenty (20) square centimetres (20cm<sup>2</sup>);
  - 82.2.3. (on upper body Outerwear) up to two (2) MI Bands:
    - 82.2.3.1. around the end of the sleeves; and
    - 82.2.3.2. along the shoulder seam or along the lateral or outer seam, provided in each case that the MI Band is not wholly visible when viewed from the front or the back (as worn);
  - 82.2.4. (on lower body Outerwear) up to two (2) MI Bands, as follows:
    - 82.2.4.1. around the bottom edge; and
    - 82.2.4.2. along the lateral or outer seam, provided that the MI Band is not wholly visible when viewed from the front or the back (as worn).

82.2.5. a single Technology Label, in any position, no bigger than ten square centimetres (10cm<sup>2</sup>); and

82.2.6. two (2) Quality Seals, in any position, one (1) no bigger than ten square centimetres (10cm<sup>2</sup>) and the other no bigger than five square centimetres (5cm<sup>2</sup>);

provided always that the Outerwear worn by members of the Club Delegation next to the Field of Play must not undermine the clear distinctiveness of the Playing Kit worn by the Players or the equipment worn by Match Referees on the Field of Play.

82.3. No sponsor advertising may be displayed on any Outerwear unless permitted pursuant to Article 71.

### **83. Bibs**

83.1. The SPL shall supply the bibs used by Clubs during Matches.

83.2. Each Club is responsible for ensuring that its Players only wear the bib supplied by the SPL during the pre-Match warmup, when sitting on the Team Bench, and for any warmup during Matches.

83.3. The SPL may display sponsor advertising on the bibs used by Clubs during Matches.

### **84. Bags and Other Items**

84.1. Bags used by Club Delegations within the Controlled Access Areas (including medical bags, equipment bags and ball bags):

84.1.1. may display Team Identifiers no bigger than one hundred square centimetres (100cm<sup>2</sup>) in total in any position and quantity;

84.1.2. in the case of equipment bags only, may display a single Manufacturer Identifier no bigger than twenty square centimetres (20cm<sup>2</sup>) once in any position;

84.1.3. must not display any sponsor advertising unless permitted pursuant to Article 71; and

84.1.4. must not contain or incorporate any political, religious, controversial, derogatory or insulting words, images, statements or other commercial messages of any kind.

84.2. Any other items used by a Club Delegation within the Controlled Access Areas (including, by way of example, personal devices, personal bags, accessory clothing items, and other fashion accessories):

84.2.1. may display Team Identifiers in any position, size, and quantity;



- 84.2.2. must not display Manufacturer Identifiers or sponsor advertising, or include or incorporate anything that creates an association with a Manufacturer, a sponsor, or other third party, or that constitutes a promotion or other commercial message of any kind;
- 84.2.3. must not be used in a manner that could amount to ambush marketing; and
- 84.2.4. must not contain or incorporate any political, religious, controversial, derogatory or insulting words, images, statements or other commercial messages of any kind.

## **85. Celebratory Attire**

- 85.1. A Club may wear attire commemorating its having won the Competition after the trophy presentation at which it is crowned Champion. Such celebratory attire:
  - 85.1.1. must all be made by the same Manufacturer;
  - 85.1.2. may display Team Identifiers in any size, position, and quantity;
  - 85.1.3. may refer to the fact of the victory, but may not display any Competition Marks unless the Manufacturer has been formally licensed by the SPL to do so;
  - 85.1.4. may display the same Manufacturer Identifier as that on the Playing Kit only once in any position, but no bigger than twenty square centimetres (20cm<sup>2</sup>); and
  - 85.1.5. must not display any Sponsor Advertising.

## TICKETING

### 86. General

- 86.1. The SPL has established a centralised electronic Ticketing Platform for the sale and distribution of Tickets.
- 86.1.1. Each Club shall enter into a commercial agreement with the operator of the Ticketing Platform as directed by the SPL.
- 86.1.2. Tickets shall be purchased and distributed electronically via the Ticketing Platform. Each Club must ensure that Tickets for its home Matches are available for sale and distribution on the Ticketing Platform.
- 86.1.3. Each Club is responsible for the payment of any sales commission from the sale of Tickets for its home Matches to the operator of the Ticketing Platform in accordance with the commercial agreement.
- 86.1.4. Each Club may request permission from the SPL to sell and distribute Tickets for their home Matches on their own electronic platform. The Club shall not sell or distribute any Tickets on their own electronic platform until such permission has been received. The Club platform must be integrated with the Ticketing Platform to ensure that no duplication occurs. The Club must ensure that the sale of Tickets on its own electronic platform complies with all requirements set out in this Handbook.
- 86.2. The SAFF (or the SPL, in the absence of any directive from the SAFF) shall issue specific Ticketing terms and conditions and a spectator code of conduct which are binding on all parties that are issued Tickets.
- 86.3. The Host Club shall ensure that the enforcement of the Ticketing terms and conditions and spectator code of conduct occurs at their home Matches.

### 87. Ticketing Plan

- 87.1. Each Club shall submit a comprehensive Ticketing plan for both its approved Stadium and alternate Stadium to the SPL by latest thirty (30) days prior to the first Match of the Competition Period.
- 87.2. The Ticketing plan(s) shall cover the following minimum information, as well any other details related to the Ticketing plan determined by SPL by time to time:
- 87.2.1. number of Tickets available for each Match;
- 87.2.2. tentative pricing and product types of Tickets (e.g. special offers, early bird Tickets, and season Tickets) to be sold during the Competition Period;
- 87.2.3. categories of Tickets;

- 87.2.4. design of Tickets;
- 87.2.5. tentative sales period (offer duration) for Tickets;
- 87.2.6. phased sale (wave sale) for Tickets within different stands, sectors, and categories;
- 87.2.7. allocation of Tickets (seating plan), in particular covering spectators of the Away Club, supporter groups and 'ultras' of both Clubs, Media, and representatives of government authorities.

87.3. The SPL may approve, amend, or reject the Ticketing plan submitted by a Club.

- 87.3.1. Each Club must have a comprehensive Ticketing plan approved prior to the start of the Competition Period.

## 88. Pricing and Categories

88.1. Each Club shall determine the price of Tickets to attend their home Matches in accordance with MOS Regulations.

- 88.1.1. The price of individual Tickets to attend may vary between different home Matches.
- 88.1.2. Each Club may establish and sell different Ticket products (i.e. beyond simply selling an individual Ticket to attend a single home Match).
- 88.1.3. The price of Tickets for each Match must be set in accordance with the requirements of this Handbook, and notified in writing to SPL no later than fifteen (15) days prior to the date set out in the Match Schedule.

88.2. The following main categories are mandatory for all Clubs at all Stadia. The minimum prices for Ticketing at each Match are:

Main Category	Subcategory (Example)	Minimum Price
Hospitality	Gold	SAR 300
	Silver	SAR 100
General Admission	Category 1	SAR 10
	Category 2	SAR 10
	Category 3	SAR 10

88.3. Subject to the size and design of their approved Stadium and/or the importance of a Match, each Club may propose in its Ticketing plan to customise the categories of Tickets available for sale at Matches by utilising additional or reducing the number of subcategories. There must be a clear link between the main categories and any subcategories.

88.4. In any case, the Host Club shall:

- 88.4.1. price-cap a minimum of thirty percent (30%) of Tickets allocated to Away Club spectators at a maximum of thirty (30) SAR;
- 88.4.2. price-cap a minimum of thirty percent (30%) of Tickets allocated to Host Club spectators at a maximum of thirty (30) SAR; and
- 88.4.3. allocate and provide not less than 2% of sale Tickets to individuals with non-motor disability, in addition to (subject of their Stadium capacity) tickets for individual with motor disability. In both cases the disabled individual might be accompanied by one person as a maximum.
- 88.5. The Host Club shall set equal prices for each individual Match for Host Club spectators and Away Club spectators for the same category of Tickets.

## **89. Design**

- 89.1. The SPL shall provide a design template for electronic Tickets.
- 89.2. Each Ticket shall include (in Arabic and English):
  - 89.2.1. the Club Name, name of the Stadium, date, kick-off time, and clear seat location including external and internal gates, corridors, vomitories, stair number, sector, row, and seat number;
  - 89.2.2. the relevant Competition Marks. This shall include the SPL logo;
  - 89.2.3. the logo of the Clubs participating in the Match; and
  - 89.2.4. the BQ code and/or serial number.
- 89.3. Subject to these minimum requirements being met, each Club may customise the design template as it sees fit. This includes, without limitation, adjusting the colour palette and incorporating the logo of any Club Partner.

## **90. Sales Period and Phased Sale**

- 90.1. Tickets must be made available for sale for each Match no later than ten (10) days prior to the date set out in the Match Schedule. All Ticket release requirements shall be notified to the SPL at the same time as the Ticket prices.
  - 90.1.1. Tickets must be made available to sale to Host Club spectators and Away Club spectators for the same category of Tickets at the same time.
  - 90.1.2. Each Club may decide to establish a longer sales period for Tickets.
- 90.2. If the Host Club fails to make Tickets available for sale for a Match by the specified deadline, the SPL is automatically authorised to make the Tickets available for sale. In such case, the pricing set by the SPL shall be in accordance with the minimum prices.
- 90.3. The Host Club shall prioritise the sale of Tickets for seats opposite the main camera platform. This prioritisation is applicable to the sale of Tickets for both Host Club spectators and Away Club spectators.

- 90.4. The Host Club shall retain all receipts from the sale of Tickets, except for any fee to be provided to the SPL-authorised Ticketing agent.

## 91. Allocation

- 91.1. Where the Host Club and Away Club do not agree on the allocation of Tickets for a Match, the Tickets shall be allocated as follows:

91.1.1. minimum ten percent (10%) of the seats in the Stadium shall be allocated to and made available for sale to Away Club spectators.; and

91.1.2. the remaining ninety percent (90%) of the seats in the Stadium shall be allocated to the Host Club spectators.

- 91.2. The Clubs may agree a different allocation. This must be communicated to the SPL for its approval by the same deadline provided for communication of the price of Tickets.

- 91.3. The Host Club shall ensure that the seats allocated to Away Club spectators are in working condition and have direct visibility of the Field of Play.

- 91.4. At one (1) day at 1:00pm prior to a Match, the Tickets allocated to the spectators of the Away Club shall no longer be offered for sale. The unsold Tickets shall be reallocated to the Host Club, which may make those Tickets available for sale to Host Club spectators. The number of reallocated Tickets from the away sector that may be sold to Host Club spectators is subject to the approval of relevant government authorities.

- 91.5. The Host Club must ensure that access to the Stadium is granted to the SPL Delegation, the Match Referees, the Away Club and its Club Delegation, SPL Partners, Media, and all spectators without discrimination.

## 92. Complimentary Tickets

- 92.1. Unless written approval has been provided by SPL to distribute a higher number of complimentary Tickets, the Host Club shall distribute a maximum number of complimentary Tickets (including those allocated to the SPL and the Away Club) for a Match based on the capacity of their Stadium as follows:

Capacity	Maximum Distribution
Less than 10,000 spectators	20% complimentary Tickets
10,000 – 20,000 spectators	15% complimentary Tickets
20,001 – 40,000 spectators	10% complimentary Tickets
More than 40,000 spectators	5% complimentary Tickets

- 92.2. After the distribution of complimentary Tickets to the SPL, the Away Club, and the MOS, the Host Club may distribute the remainder of the complimentary Tickets as it deems suitable.

- 92.3. The Host Club shall provide the SPL latest fifteen (15) days before each Match with the complimentary Tickets that are contractually required to be provided to SPL Partners. Unless otherwise instructed by the SPL, the Host Club shall provide the SPL:
- 92.3.1. two (2) VIP boxes;
  - 92.3.2. sixty (60) Hospitality (highest subcategory) Tickets; and
  - 92.3.3. one hundred and fifty (150) general admission Tickets.
- 92.4. If the Host Club fails to provide the minimum complimentary Tickets to the SPL for a Match, the amount equivalent to the cost of those Tickets shall be deducted from any financial distribution made to the Host Club by the SPL. This deduction shall be made without prejudice to any potential disciplinary proceedings.
- 92.5. The Host Club shall ensure that its VIP boxes are sufficiently suitable to host SPL Partners and important dignitaries at Matches. The hospitality provided shall include, as a minimum, food and beverages, seating in the VIP Tribune, a dedicated entrance to the Stadium, and premium car parking spaces.
- 92.6. The Host Club shall provide the Away Club with:
- 92.6.1. a minimum of ten (10) complimentary Tickets for protocol purposes; and
  - 92.6.2. subject to the Clubs reaching a reciprocal agreement, up to a maximum of one hundred (100) general admission Tickets for the Away Club's guests.
- 92.7. The host Club shall be obligated to provide the tickets allocated to government entities in accordance with the regulatory and operational guidelines for the use of sports facilities issued by the Ministry of Sport.
- 92.8. The value of complimentary tickets shall be calculated equivalent to the value of a sold ticket in the same category, with the exception of tickets allocated to government entities, for the purpose of deducting the Sports Fund's share in compliance with the relevant regulations of the Ministry of Sport.

## MEDIA, BROADCAST, CONTENT

### 93. General

- 93.1. The Host Club is responsible for any violation of this section caused by the failure of a Media organisation or its representatives to adhere to the rules set out therein.
- 93.2. The Host Club shall provide all necessary assistance to the SPL, Media, and Broadcast Partners to facilitate and ensure the successful transmission of broadcast signals for each Match including without limitation technical assistance relating to production requirements.
- 93.3. The Host Broadcaster is exclusively responsible for producing the Match signal. The Host Broadcaster and all Broadcast Partners shall provide the SPL with all information regarding their broadcast plans for a Match no later than three (3) days prior to the Match, to allow SPL to advise the Host Club. The Host Club shall comply with all requirements provided by the SPL and Broadcast Partners in relation to the broadcast plan.
- 93.4. The Host Club shall ensure that:
  - 93.4.1. it complies with the SPL Broadcast Manual at all times;
  - 93.4.2. all production and broadcast infrastructure required by the SPL Broadcast Manual is present in their approved Stadium at Matches;
  - 93.4.3. Media and Broadcast Partners are provided with safe passage for cabling pathways and television crew pathways to enter the Stadium to facilitate the entry, assembly, and installation of broadcasting equipment and facilities;
  - 93.4.4. only Media and Broadcast Partner representatives holding a valid Accreditation Card are permitted to enter the Stadium at Matches; and
  - 93.4.5. representatives of a media or broadcasting company who have not been approved by the SPL are prevented from entering the Stadium at Matches.
- 93.5. All Media and Broadcast Partners must comply with the SPL Broadcast Manual.
- 93.6. It is prohibited to broadcast any footage or images that violate Islamic law and the laws of the Kingdom, or that may constitute a violation of this manual and/or the regulations issued by the SAFF and the Ministry of Sport.

### 94. Accreditation of Media

- 94.1. The SPL shall be the authority responsible for issuing accreditation cards to media representatives after receiving applications through the designated portal. Clubs are not permitted to issue any accreditation to media representatives or broadcasting companies. Accreditation cards may be issued for the entire duration of the competition or for a single match only.
- 94.2. The SPL reserves the right to revoke the accreditation card of any media representative at any time and for any reason.



- 94.3. The host club must ensure that media-designated areas in stadiums and official training sites are accessed only by individuals holding valid accreditation cards.

## **95. SPL Media Coordinator**

- 95.1. The SPL shall appoint one (1) or more SPL Media Coordinators for each Match.
- 95.2. The SPL Media Coordinator is the representative of the SPL responsible for all media activities at Matches.
- 95.2.1. Each Club, all individuals affiliated with each Club, and all Media, must comply with any instruction from the SPL Media Coordinator.
- 95.2.2. The SPL Media Coordinator shall coordinate with each Club Media Officer to ensure that their Players and Club Officials participate in all obligatory media activities.
- 95.3. The SPL Media Coordinator has the authority, without limitation, to:
- 95.3.1. prohibit authorised Media with valid Accreditation Cards from entering Controlled Access Areas or conducting media activities if they are inappropriately dressed, or dressed in a manner that violates public morality in any way;
- 95.3.2. withdraw the Accreditation Card of any authorised Media if they fail to comply with this Handbook, with any other document issued by the SPL (e.g. terms and conditions of the Accreditation Card), or with any instruction issued by the SPL Media Coordinator. Generally, in the first instance, authorised Media shall receive a verbal warning. Their Accreditation Card will be withdrawn (and Media removed from the Stadium) only due to ongoing failure to comply. For serious matters, the Accreditation Card may be withdrawn immediately (and the Media concerned removed immediately from the Stadium).

## **96. Club Media Officer**

- 96.1. Each Club shall appoint a Club Media Officer as its representative for Club media activities at Matches.
- 96.2. The appointed Club Media Officer shall be:
- 96.2.1. an employee of the Club;
- 96.2.2. present at all Matches; and
- 96.2.3. empowered to make decisions on behalf of the Club on Match-day regarding media and broadcasting matters.
- 96.3. The appointed Club Media Officer is responsible, without limitation, for:

- 96.3.1. managing all relations with Media on behalf of the Club;
  - 96.3.2. coordinating with the SPL Media Coordinator at home Matches to ensure the proper organisation of all operational media activities, including without limitation the open training session, pre-Match press conference, the post-Match press conference, flash interviews, and facilities for production and television broadcasting;
  - 96.3.3. ensuring the participation of Players and Club Officials in all obligatory media activities; and
  - 96.3.4. the provision of statistics, historical information, and other required data as requested by the SPL.
- 96.4. In addition to the Club Media Officer, the Host Club shall appoint enough staff on Match-day to meet all operational requirements required by this Handbook.

## **97. Dressing Rooms**

- 97.1. Each Club must prepare its Dressing Room no later than three (3) hours prior to each Match.
- 97.2. The SPL Match Officials, including without limitation members of the SPL content team and representatives of the Host Broadcaster, may enter the Dressing Rooms at any time prior to the Club Delegation arrival at the Stadium to take photographs.
- 97.3. The SPL and/or Broadcast Partners may enter the Dressing Rooms to film for a maximum of sixty (60) seconds from between twenty (20) minutes to fifteen (15) minutes prior to the scheduled kickoff of the Match. The SPL shall notify the Clubs in advance if such filming is to occur.
- 97.4. Each Club may appoint up to two (2) members of its Club Delegation as a photographer or content creator to capture:
- 97.4.1. the arrival of its Club Delegation at the Stadium and their entry into their Dressing Room;
  - 97.4.2. the exit of its Players from their Dressing Room for their pre-Match warmup; and
  - 97.4.3. activities in their Dressing Room after the final whistle.
- 97.5. The members of a Club Delegation registered as photographer or content creator:
- 97.5.1. are not permitted to enter the Dressing Rooms and competition area from twenty (20) minutes prior to the scheduled start of the Match; and
  - 97.5.2. must always wear their designated bib.

## **98. Media Tribune and Media Centre**

- 98.1. Each Host Club shall establish a Media Tribune and a Media Centre within their approved Stadium in accordance with Appendix 12.
- 98.2. Each Host Club shall ensure the Media Centre:
  - 98.2.1. has pigeonholes and a secure storage room for Media;
  - 98.2.2. provides basic catering which is sufficient in quantity; and
  - 98.2.3. has a secure and exclusive access route for the Media from the Media Centre to the Media Tribune, press conference room, and Mixed Zone.

## **99. Interviews**

- 99.1. Players and Club Officials shall not give interviews at the Stadium without the express permission of the SPL.
- 99.2. The Host Club shall designate an interview area on the Field of Play for 'flash' interviews conducted by Broadcast Partners with Players and the Head Coach.
  - 99.2.1. All interviews shall be conducted in front of an approved backdrop.
  - 99.2.2. The interview area must meet all minimum SPL requirement, including without limitation, lighting requirements for broadcast purposes.
  - 99.2.3. No interviews shall be conducted at any other location in the Stadium unless specified within this Handbook or approved by the SPL.
  - 99.2.4. Media shall not conduct or seek to conduct an interview with any member of the SPL Delegation (including Match Referees) at any stage before, during, or after a Match which is not permitted pursuant to this Handbook.
- 99.3. Each Club must provide an accredited interpreter if its Players and Club Officials do not speak Arabic and/or English.
- 99.4. Media should ask questions in Arabic or English.
  - 99.4.1. Questions shall be limited to technical and sporting matters relating to the relevant Match.
  - 99.4.2. Questions shall not be insulting towards the SAFF, the SPL, Head Coach, any Club, any member of any Club Delegation, or the Match Officials. Questions shall avoid provocation or incitement.
- 99.5. Any Player or Club Official who provides an interview shall ensure that their answers respect the principles of sportsmanship and fair play, and are not insulting towards the SAFF, the SPL, Media, the opposing Club, any members of the opposing Club Delegation, or the Match Referees.

- 99.6. The SPL may introduce any new category of interview during the Competition Period. The SPL shall notify Clubs of any new interview obligations via Circular. This shall include the date of implementation of the new interview obligations.

#### Head Coach interview on arrival at Stadium

- 99.7. The Head Coach of a Club shall perform a television interview immediately upon their arrival at the Stadium.

- 99.7.1. The interview shall be up to sixty (60) seconds in length.
- 99.7.2. The interview shall occur in the Mixed Zone, or alternatively in a position agreed by the SPL in advance.

#### Pre-Match 'Flash' interviews

- 99.8. If requested by the SPL in the Match Coordination Meeting, a Club Official registered as part of the Club Delegation shall perform a flash interview immediately upon their arrival at the Stadium.

- 99.8.1. The Broadcast Partner must receive approval from the SPL to conduct the pre-Match 'flash' interview.
- 99.8.2. The interview shall be no more than one hundred and twenty (120) seconds in length.
- 99.8.3. The interview shall take place in the designated area on the Field of Play.
- 99.8.4. The interview shall be concluded at least fifteen (15) minutes prior to the scheduled start of the Match.

#### Post-Match 'Flash' interviews

- 99.9. Between two (2) and four (4) Players from each Club who were registered on the Match Start List shall participate in flash interviews.

- 99.9.1. The interview(s) shall be no more than one hundred and twenty (120) seconds in length each. If an interpreter is utilised for the interview(s), they shall be no more than one hundred and eighty (180) seconds each.
- 99.9.2. The interview(s) shall occur at the designated area on the Field of Play.

- 99.10. A representative of each Broadcast Partner shall deliver the form calling Players to the flash interview to the SPL Media Coordinator no later than fifteen (15) minutes before the scheduled completion of the Match. The SPL Media Coordinator shall notify each Club Media Officer of the requested Players.

- 99.10.1. A Club may request to replace a Player summoned for a flash interview no later than five (5) minutes before the scheduled completion of the Match. The only justifications for replacement are that the Player has suffered a serious injury requiring treatment off the Field of Play, or the Player was expelled from the Match.

- 99.10.2. A Broadcast Partner may request the replacement of a summoned Player for the same reasons.
- 99.10.3. If a replacement request is approved by the SPL, the Club may summon any other Player registered on the Match Start List to participate in place of the replaced Player.
- 99.11. A Player who is summoned for a flash interview shall immediately report to the designated area after concluding any post-Match formalities. For the avoidance of doubt, the Player is not permitted to attend their Dressing Room prior to the flash interview.
- 99.12. A Player who is summoned for a flash interview and is also randomly selected to undergo doping control shall first conduct the flash interview and then immediately attend their doping control.
- 99.13. A Player may refuse to participate in a flash interview and/or leave the designated area if a Broadcast Partner does not report to the flash interview area within five (5) minutes of the Player's arrival.
- 99.14. A Broadcast Partner shall not select the same Player for a flash interview for three (3) consecutive Matches.
- 'Super Flash' interviews
- 99.15. If requested by the SPL, one (1) Player from each Club who was registered on the Match Start List shall participate in a 'super flash' interview at half-time or post-Match.
- 99.15.1. The interview shall last between thirty (30) and sixty (60) seconds in length.
- 99.16. The SPL Media Coordinator shall notify each Club Media Officer of the Player summoned to the 'super flash' interview.
- 99.17. A Player who is summoned for a 'super flash' interview to be conducted at half-time shall immediately conduct the interview prior to exiting the Field of Play. For the avoidance of doubt, the Player is not permitted to attend their Dressing Room prior to the flash interview.
- 99.18. A Player who is summoned for a 'super flash' interview to be conducted post-Match:
- 99.18.1. shall immediately report to the designated area after concluding any post-Match formalities. For the avoidance of doubt, the Player is not permitted to attend their Dressing Room prior to the flash interview;
- 99.18.2. and is also randomly selected to undergo doping control shall first conduct the flash interview and then immediately attend their doping control; and
- 99.18.3. may refuse to participate in a flash interview and/or leave the designated area if a Broadcast Partner does not report to the flash interview area within five (5) minutes of the Player's arrival.

## **100. Mixed Zone**

100.1. All members of a Club Delegation shall pass through the Mixed Zone on their way from their Dressing Room to their team bus after each Match.

100.1.1. They are strongly encouraged to provide a brief statement or answer any questions asked while passing through the Mixed Zone.

100.2. The SPL Media Coordinator is responsible for arranging the position of all Media categories (e.g. broadcasters, content creators, written press) within the Mixed Zone taking into consideration the Media Rights that their respective organisation has acquired from the SPL.

100.2.1. No photographers are permitted in the Mixed Zone after a Match.

100.2.2. Media shall not conduct or seek to conduct an interview in the Mixed Zone with any member of the SPL Delegation (including Match Referees) at any stage before, during, or after a Match.

## **101. Press Conferences**

101.1. The provisions regarding translation, questions, and answers during interviews set out at Article 99 are also applicable to press conferences.

### Pre-Match press conference

101.2. Each Club is responsible for organising a pre-Match press conference with its Head Coach. This includes inviting Media to attend. This press conference shall take place no later than forty-eight (48) hours before each Match.

101.2.1. Each Club shall submit the recording of the pre-Match press conference to the SPL no later than thirty-six (36) hours before each Match.

101.2.2. Each Club may broadcast footage from the pre-Match press conference on its Club Channel no earlier than twenty-four (24) hours before each Match.

101.2.3. The SPL shall determine the distribution and use of the footage of the pre-Match press conference.

101.3. Where a Head Coach is suspended for a Match, the first assistant coach of the Club may participate instead at the Club's discretion.

### Post-Match press conference

101.4. Each Host Club shall designate an air-conditioned room to host press conferences at its approved Stadium on Match-day in accordance with Appendix 12.

101.5. The post-Match press conference shall commence no later than ten (10) minutes after the final whistle of a Match.

- 101.5.1. The Head Coach of the Away Club shall provide the first interview, which shall last up to ten (10) minutes.
- 101.5.2. The Head Coach of the Host Club shall provide the second interview, which shall last up to ten (10) minutes.
- 101.5.3. If the relevant Head Coach was suspended for the Match or was expelled during the Match, their first assistant coach shall attend and participate in their place.
- 101.5.4. The post-Match press conference shall be a question-and-answer session only. No electronic or paper materials may be displayed or shown.
- 101.5.5. The Head Coach must answer at least three (3) questions. Acknowledging and then refusing to respond to a question without reasonable justification shall not be considered an answer for the purposes of this paragraph.
- 101.6. Media and any Club Media Officer shall not broadcast any post-Match press conference live unless they have been granted such Media Rights by this Handbook, any commercial agreement, or the written approval of the SPL.
- 101.7. Representatives from NRH organisations may attend with the permission of the SPL. They shall not place their microphones on the podium.
- 101.8. At the conclusion of the post-Match press conference, the Head Coaches shall not answer any further questions from or make any other statements to Media (e.g. at the entrance to the press conference room or within the tunnel).
- 101.9. Each Club must cooperate with the SPL Media Coordinator with the utmost honesty and professionalism when coordinating and conducting the post-Match press conference.

## **102. Photographers and ENG Crew**

### Field of Play

- 102.1. The Host Club shall ensure that only photographers in possession of a valid Accreditation Card are allowed to enter the area between the Field of Play and the spectator stands, and that they do so through the designated entrance and exit.
  - 102.1.1. Photographers must wear the bib provided by the SPL Media Coordinator or Club Media Officer at all times. Bibs must be returned to the Media Centre after the Match.
  - 102.1.2. Photographers may enter area between the Field of Play and the spectator stands when the gates open on Match-day.

### Photographer Locations

- 102.2. Photographers shall normally be positioned behind the LED billboards behind the goal area.



- 102.2.1. During the pre-Match warm-up, photographers must remain in their designated location. Only the SPL official photographer may enter the technical area during this period.
- 102.2.2. Photographers may move to the assigned area for photographing team entrances and group photos no earlier than ten (10) minutes before the scheduled start of the Match. Once these activities have been concluded, photographers must immediately move back to their designated location.
- 102.2.3. Photographers may only change locations during half-time.
- 102.3. Photographers may use the nearest exit if they need to leave the Field of Play during a Match.
- 102.4. Photographers must not enter the technical area or the Field of Play at any stage of a Match.
- 102.5. Photographers (except for the ENG crew, SPL official photographer, and photographers registered in the Club Delegation by each Club) shall not enter the Mixed Zone.
- 102.6. Photographers must not:
  - 102.6.1. wear any inappropriate clothing (e.g. a Jersey, a shirt displaying an inappropriate slogan) while covering Matches;
  - 102.6.2. behave in an inappropriate manner that interferes with the Match in any way. Examples include without limitation entering the Field of Play (the grassed area), celebrating goals, physical contact with any member of a Club Official Delegation, ball crew, or Match Referee, or inciting spectators through words, actions, or gestures.
- 102.7. The SPL may appoint additional official photographers at any Match with access to all Controlled Access Areas.

### **103. Content Creators**

- 103.1. The SPL may accredit content creators to cover Matches.
- 103.2. Accredited content creators holding a valid Accreditation Card:
  - 103.2.1. must not film a Match or create content related to a Match while it is in progress;
  - 103.2.2. must respect the Media Rights assigned to Broadcast Partners;
  - 103.2.3. may be present in the following Controlled Access Areas in coordination with the Host Broadcaster: Media Centre, press conference room, Mixed Zone, and Media Tribune;
  - 103.2.4. may be present in the areas designated for content creators;

103.2.5. must not enter the Field of Play or Dressing Rooms; and

103.2.6. must register in the Media Centre when they arrive at a Match.

#### **104. Non-Rights Holders**

104.1. Representatives from NRH organisations must not enter a Stadium or its surrounding areas before, during, or after a Match, unless they have received Accreditation from the SPL. Such Accreditation will provide restricted access to the Media Centre, Mixed Zone, and Media Tribune.

104.2. Representatives of NRH organisations may request Media Tribune access from the SPL no earlier than twenty (20) minutes before the scheduled start of the Match.

104.3. If provided access to the Media Tribune, representatives from NRH organisations:

104.3.1. must not bring filming equipment into the Media Tribune;

104.3.2. must not film a Match without the prior approval of the SPL;

104.3.3. may access the Media Centre with their equipment;

104.3.4. may access the Mixed Zone with the approval of the SPL.

#### **105. Media Bibs**

105.1. Media shall wear the bibs provided by the SPL – in addition to their Accreditation Cards – at all times when attending Matches. The only exception applies to journalists conducting an on-screen television interview.

#### **106. Camera Positions**

106.1. The Host Club shall ensure that sufficient access and support is provided to the Host Broadcaster to establish the following minimum camera positions:

106.1.1. Main camera (exclusive to the Host Broadcaster): parallel to the middle of the Field of Play. Platforms must measure eight (8) metres width by two and a half (2.5) metres depth, to accommodate up to five (5) cameras;

106.1.2. Offside cameras (x2): parallel to the straight line at the top of the penalty area. The platform should be the same height as the main camera platform. Platforms must measure at least two and a half (2.5) metres width by two and a half (2.5) metres depth;

106.1.3. Cameras in stands: the platform locations, height, and dimensions shall be in accordance with the SPL Broadcast Manual.

106.2. The Host Club shall ensure that:

- 106.2.1. all cameras have an unobstructed view of the Field of Play and its immediate vicinity;
- 106.2.2. all camera platforms are stable, secure, and surrounded by safety fences;
- 106.2.3. any spectator seats that obstruct the visibility and/or security of a camera are eliminated and/or any associated Ticket is not sold; and
- 106.2.4. all locations where recording of the Match is taking place (whether video or images) are safely isolated from spectators and will not be disrupted by the normal movement of spectators.

106.3. Up to seventy-two (72) hours prior to a Match, the SPL may grant production permission to Broadcast Partners for additional cameras to be utilised at Matches. In such case, the Host Club shall ensure that it provides all necessary support to the SPL and Broadcast Partners to facilitate the additional equipment and infrastructure requirements. This includes providing access to the Broadcast Compound and any broadcasting areas.

106.4. In addition to the specific camera positions identified above, the SPL may introduce any new camera position or type of camera during the Competition Period. The SPL shall implement these within the SPL Broadcast Manual and shall notify Clubs via Circular. This shall include the date of implementation of any new obligations.

## **107. Cabling**

107.1. The Host Club is responsible for ensuring that its approved Stadium provides all pre-cabling facilities, and that these facilities connect to a dedicated room in the Broadcast Compound in accordance with the SPL requirements for that Stadium.

107.1.1. The SPL shall produce distribution plans showing the locations of pre-connected cameras and cables for each Stadium.

107.2. The Host Club shall ensure that cables do not cause any obstruction or pose any safety hazard. Measures shall be taken to ensure that cables are as unobtrusive as possible and meet all statutory health and safety requirements.

107.2.1. The Host Broadcaster shall determine the best cable pathways.

107.3. The Host Club shall provide the SPL and the Host Broadcaster with access, free of charge, to any existing pre-cabled systems if requested to do so.

## **108. Broadcast Compound**

108.1. Each Host Club must provide a dedicated Broadcast Compound of no less than one thousand square metres (1000m<sup>2</sup>) at their approved Stadium which:

108.1.1. must be suitable for television broadcasts, with sufficient lighting and safe passages allowing the entry of large vehicles;

- 108.1.2. must be fenced and secured by at least one (1) security officer from the start of installation prior to the Match until the departure of the broadcast equipment;
  - 108.1.3. must be ready to host VAR works inside or near the main broadcast vehicle;
  - 108.1.4. must be equipped with minimum two (2) fire extinguishers;
  - 108.1.5. shall include one (1) designated smoking area;
  - 108.1.6. must be equipped with a dedicated fibre connection; and
  - 108.1.7. must meet all other technical requirements as stipulated in the SPL Broadcast Manual.
- 108.2. Each Host Club must ensure that the Broadcast Compound is prepared at least one (1) day prior to a Match, including, if required, prepared to host VAR works inside or near the main broadcast vehicle.
- 108.3. Each Host Club shall designate a clear cable route between the Broadcast Compound and all production areas and camera positions inside and outside the Stadium. If necessary, cable routes shall be equipped with cable trays, hooks, bridges, trenches, and preferably full pre-cabling (patching system).
- 108.4. Each Host Club shall install telecommunications cabling between the Broadcast Compound and the main distribution frame of the Stadium to facilitate the activation of additional dedicated telecommunication services.
- 108.5. A Host Club shall ensure that the Broadcast Compound contains, as a minimum, the following rooms (either within a permanent building or in a temporary stackable container):
- 108.5.1. connectivity/technical room;
  - 108.5.2. production room;
  - 108.5.3. broadcast staff room; and
  - 108.5.4. bathroom facilities for both genders.

## **109. Commentary Rooms**

- 109.1. Each Host Club shall ensure that its approved Stadium has a minimum of two (2) fully soundproofed, air-conditioned, covered rooms for use as commentary rooms. These rooms shall be close to the halfway line on the same side of the Stadium as the main camera.
- 109.2. Each Host Club shall also ensure that it has a site available for external (non-enclosed) commentary positions, with the number and size of these sites to be approved by the SPL as required.

109.3. The SPL shall distribute and assign the commentary rooms at its discretion.

#### **110. Television Studio**

110.1. The Host Club shall ensure that its approved Stadium has at least one (1) air-conditioned and covered room to be used as an enclosed television studio.

110.2. The SPL may require the use of additional non-enclosed television studio areas next to the Field of Play near the corner(s).

#### **111. Presentation Location**

111.1. Each Host Club shall ensure that its approved Stadium has an appropriate location for Media to film Match presentations prior to the scheduled start of the Match. This location shall be close to a corner of the Field of Play.

111.2. This area must be vacated no later than fifteen (15) minutes before the scheduled start of the Match.

111.3. The SPL may, on request, grant permission to Broadcast Partners to utilise these locations at half-time and after the final whistle.

#### **112. Team bus arrival area**

112.1. The team bus arrival area must be at the drop-off point designated in advance by the SPL. The team buses shall arrive at the Stadium at least five (5) minutes apart.

112.2. If the team buses arrive at the Stadium simultaneously, the Club Delegation of the team bus that arrived second shall stay on their team bus until the Club Delegation on the bus that arrived first have been filmed and their team bus has left the area.

#### **113. Pre-Match filming**

##### Dressing Room

113.1. The Host Broadcaster may request to film the Dressing Rooms prior to the scheduled start of the Match.

113.1.1. Such requests shall be subject to the approval of the SPL and relevant Club.

113.1.2. If approved, the timing of filming shall be decided at the Match Coordination Meeting.

113.2. The Host Broadcaster must conduct its filming between one hundred and twenty (120) minutes and ninety (90) minutes prior to the scheduled start of the Match.

##### Tunnel and/or technical area

113.3. Only the Host Broadcaster, with the permission of the Match Director, may be inside the tunnel or technical area at any stage of a Match.

113.4. The SPL may exceptionally permit, on request, the Host Broadcaster to enter the tunnel to film. Such activity shall be supervised directly by the SPL Media Coordinator.

#### **114. Content outside the scope of Match day**

##### Pre-season photography

114.1. Each Club, no later than ten (10) days before the first Match of the Competition Period, shall confirm dates with the SPL for its registered Players to be formally photographed in their Official Playing Kit.

114.1.1. The photographs shall be taken in front of backdrops approved by the SPL.

114.1.2. All registered Players on the Official List must attend the photography session.

114.2. Where a Club registers a new Player after this photography session, they shall immediately arrange for the Player to be formally photographed in their Official Playing Kit.

114.3. Where a Club receives approval to amend its Official Playing Kit after this photography session, the Club shall immediately arrange for all registered Players on the Official List to be formally photographed in their amended Official Playing Kit.

##### Interviews not related to Match-day activities

114.4. Each Club shall make available for interview any Player, Head Coach, and/or Club Official who has been requested by the SPL, an SPL Partner, or a Broadcast Partner, to provide a filmed interview.

114.4.1. The SPL shall coordinate availability and timing with the relevant Club.

114.4.2. Upon receipt of such request, a Club shall make the requested individual available during a training session for an interview lasting no longer than fifteen (15) minutes.

114.5. The Head Coach of each Club shall provide three (3) sit-down interviews per Season with the SPL and/or Broadcast Partners.

114.5.1. The first interview shall be conducted during the first half of the Competition Period; the second interview shall be conducted during the second half of the Competition Period. The third interview shall be conducted at any stage of the Competition Period.

114.5.2. The interviews shall last between fifteen (15) to forty-five (45) minutes.

114.5.3. The SPL shall coordinate availability and timing with the relevant Club and Broadcast Partners.

##### Official Training

114.6. Media may attend official training sessions as follows:

- 114.6.1. open training sessions: Media may attend (whether at the Stadium used for Matches or an official training site). They must respect the seating allocation provided;
- 114.6.2. closed training sessions: Media may attend the first fifteen (15) minutes of the session. The Club shall provide at least one (1) Player for an interview with the SPL and/or Broadcast Partners after the official training session.
- 114.7. Each Club shall notify the SPL of the dates, times, and locations of its official trainings on a monthly basis.
  - 114.7.1. Each Club shall confirm whether each training session is open or closed.
  - 114.7.2. The SPL will inform the Media accordingly.

## **115. Content created by SPL**

- 115.1. The SPL may create content in a Stadium before, during, and after Matches, in any manner that it deems appropriate.
- 115.2. Each Club shall ensure the facilitation of the following SPL-created content:
  - 115.2.1. at least four (4) times per Season: filming at a Club premises (including without limitation its administrative headquarters and/or official training site). The SPL must provide reasonable notice of such filming to the Club concerned. Upon receipt of such notice, a Club shall provide access and logistical support to the SPL, including without limitation its cooperation in facilitating interviews and filming with Club legends and Club Officials;
  - 115.2.2. up to two (2) filming days during each international window (as defined in the FIFA RSTP): with up to three (3) requested Players. The SPL must provide at least one (1) month notice to a Club prior to a filming day. Upon receipt of such notice, a Club shall ensure Player availability and cooperation with the SPL;
  - 115.2.3. up to one (1) filming day per month outside of an international window: with one (1) requested Player. The SPL must provide at least three (3) days' notice to a Club before filming. Upon receipt of such notice, a Club shall ensure Player availability and cooperation with the SPL.
- 115.3. The SPL may utilise any of this content in its discretion, including without limitation broadcasting it on any SPL Channel.
- 115.4. The SPL shall offer Clubs (and their Players and Club Officials) the first right to collaborate on Club-related content.
- 115.5. The SPL may 'cross-post' any content published on Club Channels on any SPL Channel.



115.6. Each Club shall utilise the SPL-designated distribution platforms and methods for any SPL-created Dressing Room, training, and Player content. Content must be distributed promptly and within the designated timeframe following its production.

115.7. Each Club shall ensure that any broadcast of SPL-owned and SPL-created content on Club Channels does not promote any Club Partners or violate the terms of any commercial agreement entered into by the SPL.

#### **116. Distribution of Match Start List**

116.1. The SPL Media Coordinator shall provide the Match Start List to Media in the following priority order: Broadcast Partners in commentary rooms, Broadcast Partners in television studio(s); Broadcast Partners in the Broadcast Compound; all other Media at the Stadium.

#### **117. Club filming of Matches**

117.1. Each Club may privately record a Match for technical purposes.

117.1.1. A Club must provide a reasoned request to the SPL no later than three (3) days at 3:00pm prior to the relevant Match to privately record the Match for technical purposes.

117.1.2. If approval is granted, the SPL shall determine the person(s) who will represent the Club that is authorised to film the Match.

117.2. All footage created by the Club must be provided to the SPL within four (4) hours of the end of the Match.

#### **118. Club broadcasting at home Matches**

118.1. The Host Club is entitled to:

118.1.1. obtain the live feed for its Match to broadcast on internal screens within the Stadium (e.g. in the VIP Tribune); and

118.1.2. obtain the live feed for its Match (secured by the Host Broadcaster in 16:9 HD SDI so that it does not include any replays), for display on giant screens within the Stadium.

## DISCIPLINARY AND DISPUTE RESOLUTION

### 119. Disciplinary Measures

- 119.1. All disciplinary measures in relation to the Competition shall be undertaken in accordance with the SAFF Statutes, the SPL Statutes, the SAFF Code, and this Handbook.
- 119.2. The sanctioning guidelines for any violation of this Handbook that falls within the competence of the SPL Competition Compliance Committee are set out at Appendix 1.
- 119.3. Only Players and Club Officials who have been registered to participate in the Competition may serve Match suspensions in the Competition.
- 119.4. All Players and Club Officials agree to:
- 119.4.1. comply with all rules set out in this Handbook;
  - 119.4.2. comply with all provisions set out in the SAFF Code, including without limitation respecting the authority of Match Referees, not making bets in connection with any Match, and not engaging in activities linked to the manipulation of Matches; and
  - 119.4.3. refrain from doping and doping-related activities, and to comply with the SAFF Anti-Doping Regulations.
- 119.5. Each Club is liable for any improper conduct in violation of this Handbook on behalf of:
- 119.5.1. any member of its Club Delegation; and/or
  - 119.5.2. any Club Partner and any individual affiliated to it; and/or
  - 119.5.3. any individual affiliated to the operator of its approved Stadium for home Matches; and/or
  - 119.5.4. any individual affiliated to it and/or carrying out duties on its behalf throughout the Competition.
- 119.6. Any fine issued by the SPL Competition Compliance Committee shall be paid within thirty (30) days of notification of the sanction.
- 119.6.1. Where the SPL has fined a Club and that Club has failed to comply with the specified time limit, the SPL may deduct the fine amount from the next financial distribution to the relevant Club.

## **120. Cautions and Expulsions**

120.1. All matters relating to cautions (yellow cards) and expulsions (red cards) shall be undertaken in accordance with the SAFF Code, except where expressly set out below.

120.1.1. A Player or Club Official that receives a caution in four (4) separate Matches is automatically suspended from their next Match. The number of cautions accumulated by a Player or Club Official shall reset after the automatic suspension is served. A Player or Club Official that receives a caution in four (4) separate Matches after such reset is again automatically suspended from their next Match.

120.1.2. A Player or Club Official that is expelled (direct or indirect) from a Match is automatically suspended from the next Match, subject to any decision of the SAFF DEC.

120.1.3. Where a Match has been abandoned, replayed, or not completed, the provisions of the SAFF Code shall apply.

120.1.4. Each Club is solely responsible for monitoring the eligibility of its Players and Club Officials to participate in Matches. This includes, for the avoidance of doubt, any potential Match suspension at national level notified by FIFA, AFC, or through FIFA TMS following an international transfer.

120.1.5. Where a Player or Club Official moves between Clubs in the same Competition Period, any cautions and expulsions received when participating for their former Club shall be maintained when calculating the cautions and expulsions received when participating for their new Club.

## **121. Disciplinary Jurisdiction**

121.1. The SAFF DEC has jurisdiction to determine disciplinary matters related to the Competition in accordance with the SAFF Code.

121.2. The SPL Competition Compliance Committee has jurisdiction to determine any violation of this Handbook which does not fall within the competence of the SAFF DEC.

121.3. The SPL, pursuant to Article 138 of the SAFF Code, shall have the right to lodge a complaint or file a report regarding any conduct that occurs in the Competition that potentially violates the SAFF Code, and receive notice of any decision made by the SAFF DEC related to that complaint or report.

## **122. SPL Competition Compliance Committee**

122.1. The SPL Competition Compliance Committee shall be appointed by the SPL Board of Directors for a fixed term.

122.1.1. The SPL shall notify the SAFF of the proposed appointments in advance.

122.1.2. The SAFF may raise a reasonable objection to the proposed appointment of any individual within five (5) business days of notification.

- 122.1.3. In such case, the SPL may propose to appoint an alternative individual or proceed to appoint the original individual.
- 122.2. The SPL Competition Compliance Committee shall be composed of a chairperson and number of members that the SPL Board of Directors deems necessary.
- 122.2.1. The chairperson or ordinary members shall have legal qualifications and/or relevant experience in football and/or sports disciplinary matters.
- 122.2.2. If a vacancy occurs, the SPL Board of Directors may appoint a replacement for the remainder of the term of office.
- 122.2.3. An ordinary member selected by the pool of ordinary members shall deputise for the chairperson in their absence.
- 122.3. The SPL Competition Compliance Committee shall maintain strict confidentiality on all matters that come to their attention and any case that they decide.
- 122.4. SPL staff shall provide the day-to-day operational and administrative support for the SPL Competition Compliance Committee.
- 122.5. The persons appointed to the SPL Competition Compliance Committee and/or the SPL staff providing operational support shall not be held liable for any action or omission relating to any decision or procedure undertaken in accordance with this Handbook.
- 122.6. The SPL Competition Compliance Committee shall operate independently from the SPL Board of Directors and staff, in accordance with the principles of neutrality, integrity, and regulatory compliance.
- 122.6.1. Any internal or external interference in the SPL Competition Committee's work, deliberations, or decisions is strictly prohibited.
- 122.6.2. No person or entity, whether affiliated with SPL, SAFF, or a Club, shall attempt to influence the SPL Competition Committee independent judgment.
- 122.6.3. Any such attempt shall result in the initiation of disciplinary proceedings before the SAFF DEC.

### **123. Procedural Rules**

- 123.1. Generally, the procedure shall be efficient, simple to follow, and with limited formality.
- 123.2. The Committee shall set the relevant procedure.
- 123.3. A party shall always act in good faith, tell the truth, and cooperate with any request for information made by the SPL.
- 123.4. The same obligations apply to any natural or legal person under the jurisdiction of the SPL that is not a party but has been requested to participate.

- 123.5. The procedure shall be conducted in Arabic. Submissions made by a party shall be in Arabic.
- 123.6. Decisions of the SPL Competition Compliance Committee shall be issued in Arabic.
- 123.7. The SPL Competition Compliance Committee may consider and rely on any evidence not submitted by a party. Reports received from Match Referees and/or members of the SPL Delegation are presumed to be accurate.
- 123.8. The standard of proof shall be comfortable satisfaction of the SPL Competition Compliance Committee. A party that asserts a fact has the burden of proving it.
- 123.9. There shall be no procedural or legal costs. Parties shall bear all their own costs in connection with any procedure.

#### **124. Decision**

- 124.1. An investigation may be opened by the SPL Competition Compliance Committee based on a report from a third party or *ex officio*.
- 124.2. After opening the investigation, the SPL Competition Compliance Committee shall inform the relevant party(ies) that a disciplinary procedure has been commenced.
- 124.3. Upon completion of their investigation, the SPL Competition Compliance Committee shall:
- 124.3.1. determine the appropriate sanction, taking into consideration the sanctioning guidelines set out in Appendix 1; or
  - 124.3.2. close the matter due to no violation occurring.
- 124.4. The SPL Competition Compliance Committee shall issue its decision within three (3) business days of the investigation being opened.
- 124.5. Unless otherwise specified, violations of this Handbook are punishable regardless of whether they have been committed deliberately, recklessly, or negligently. Acts amounting to an attempt are also punishable. Any person that takes part in committing a violation or induces someone to do so, whether as an instigator or accomplice, may also be sanctioned.
- 124.6. The SPL Competition Compliance Committee may issue the following sanctions:
- On natural persons and legal persons
- 124.6.1. warning;
  - 124.6.2. **fine**
  - 124.6.3. return of award;

On natural persons only

- 124.6.4. suspension for a specific number of Matches or for a specific period;
  - 124.6.5. ban from Dressing Rooms and/or Team Bench;
  - 124.6.6. ban on taking part in any SPL-related activity;
  - 124.6.7. community football service;
- 124.7. Clubs are jointly liable for fines imposed on their Players and Club Officials.
- 124.8. The disciplinary measures set out above may be combined.

**125. No Appeal**

- 125.1. Decisions of the SPL Competition Compliance Committee are final and binding and not appealable.

**126. Dispute Resolution**

- 126.1. Any dispute in connection with the Competition shall be promptly settled by negotiation.
- 126.2. Member Clubs, Players, Officials, and any other persons subject to this Handbook shall refrain from submitting any dispute relating to the implementation of this Handbook except before the bodies specified herein or the competent bodies in accordance with the SAFF Statutes, unless there is an explicit provision in the FIFA or AFC regulations or in the mandatory laws of the Kingdom permitting recourse to ordinary courts.

## FINAL PROVISIONS

### 127. Financial Matters

- 127.1. Each Club shall bear all its own costs related to its participation in the Competition. This includes without limitation the cost of:
- 127.1.1. travel, transport, accommodation, logistics and all other expenses for its Club Delegation to attend and participate in Matches;
  - 127.1.2. whenever it is the Host Club, ensuring that its approved Stadium meets the requirements in this Handbook to host Matches; and
  - 127.1.3. any taxes, duties, and other charges payable in relation to the implementation of any matter set out in this Handbook.
- 127.2. The SAFF shall bear the cost of travel, transport, accommodation, logistics, and all other expenses for Match Referees and Referee Assessors to attend and participate in Matches, except where any SAFF regulation or decision requires such costs to be borne by a Club (e.g. if a Club requests foreign Match Referee(s) and such request is granted by the SAFF).
- 127.3. The SPL shall bear the cost of travel, transport, accommodation, logistics, and all other expenses for the SPL Delegation to attend and participate in Matches.
- 127.4. The SPL shall conduct a cost reconciliation process at the end of the Season to determine which costs it has incurred for the benefit of each Club. The corresponding amount will be deducted from any payment that the SPL owes to the respective Club.
- 127.5. The SPL shall establish a certification process for suppliers that provide services to Clubs. The SPL shall notify the Clubs via Circular once the certification process has been established.
- 127.5.1. Following the establishment of the certification process and the identification of the relevant service(s), Clubs shall only engage SPL-approved suppliers for the provision of those services.
- 127.6. The SPL shall establish a procurement process for Clubs to identify and contract suppliers for any common services required. The SPL shall notify the Clubs via Circular once the procurement process has been established.
- 127.6.1. If a Club is unable to secure a suitable provider, the SPL may identify and contract a supplier to provide the required service.
  - 127.6.2. In such cases, the costs shall be borne by the Club utilising the service. The SPL will ensure transparency in pricing and service allocation to maintain fairness across all Clubs.



127.7. The SPL may establish additional guidelines and procedures to govern cost-sharing, procurement, and service provision, to ensure financial sustainability and operational efficiency.

## **128. Annual Awards Ceremony**

128.1. The SPL may hold an annual awards ceremony at the end of the Season to present awards to the best participants during the Competition Period.

128.2. Each Club is obliged to attend the annual awards ceremony. Each Club must ensure the attendance at and/or participation in the annual awards ceremony of any individual affiliated to it that is invited by the SPL to attend and/or participate.

128.3. Awards shall be determined following an evaluation of performance throughout the Competition Period conducted by a committee formed by the SPL Board of Directors.

## **129. Trophies and Medals**

129.1. The SPL shall organise a presentation to the Champion directly after the Match after which they can no longer be mathematically caught by the Club ranked second.

129.1.1. The Champion shall be awarded the original SPL trophy and fifty (50) gold mini-trophies or medals.

129.2. If it is not possible for the Champion to be determined prior to the final Match-week of the Competition Period:

129.2.1. the original SPL trophy and twenty-five (25) gold mini-trophies or medals shall be brought to the Match in which the Club ranked first are participating;

129.2.2. a replica SPL trophy and twenty-five (25) gold mini-trophies or medals shall be brought to the Match(es) in which the Club(s) ranked second or below that can still mathematically become Champion are participating.

129.3. The Champion shall be held responsible for maintaining the original SPL trophy during the period in which it is Champion.

129.3.1. The Champion shall return the original SPL trophy at least sixty (60) days prior to the final Match-week of the subsequent Competition Period.

129.3.2. The Champion shall be held liable for any damage caused to the original SPL trophy during the period in which it is Champion, and for failing to return it on time.

129.3.3. The Champion shall receive a commemorative replica after it returns the original SPL trophy.

129.4. The Club that finishes the Competition Period ranked second shall receive fifty (50) silver mini-trophies or medals during the annual awards ceremony.

129.5. The Club that finishes the Competition Period ranked third shall receive fifty (50) bronze mini-trophies or medals during the annual awards ceremony.

129.6. The Clubs that finish the Competition Period ranked first, second, or third may request that additional mini-trophies or medals be produced at their own expense.

### **130. Match Memorabilia**

130.1. The SPL shall determine the use and final destination of footballs and other items used during Matches for the purpose of memorabilia, fan engagement, or promotions.

130.2. Clubs shall comply with all instructions from SPL regarding the retention, delivery, or use of such items.

### **131. Indemnification**

131.1. Clubs, Players, and Club Officials shall indemnify, hold harmless and defend the SPL, SPL Partners, Broadcast Partners, as well as their officers, members, agents, auxiliary persons, representatives and employees from and against all liabilities, obligations, damages, losses, claims, demands, recoveries, deficiencies, costs, or expenses (including without limitation all attorney's fees and expenses) that such parties may suffer or incur in connection with, resulting from, or arising out of any breach by that party (including its officers, directors, representatives, auxiliary persons, employees or agents) or any act or omission by that party (including its officers, directors, representatives, auxiliary persons, employees or agents) in connection with the performance of its obligations pursuant to this Handbook.

### **132. Third-Party Appointments**

132.1. The SPL may appoint any third-party individual or organisation to act as an agent or service provider on its behalf to deliver any of its obligations set out in this Handbook.

### **133. Language**

133.1. This Handbook is produced in Arabic and English. In the case of any discrepancy between the different language versions, the Arabic version shall prevail to the extent of the inconsistency.

### **134. Special Instructions**

134.1. The SPL may issue any instructions necessitated by special circumstances which might arise in the organisation of Matches.

134.2. These instructions, which shall generally be issued in the form of a Circular, shall form an integral part of this Handbook.

### **135. Decisions**

135.1. All decisions made in accordance with this Handbook, except where expressly identified otherwise, are final and binding and not appealable.

**136. Amendments**

- 136.1. The SPL reserves the right to make amendments to any part of this Handbook for any reason whatsoever. Such amendments shall be communicated via Circular.

**137. Force Majeure**

- 137.1. Except where expressly identified otherwise, only the SPL Board of Directors may declare a Force Majeure event for the purposes of this Handbook.

**138. Interpretation**

- 138.1. Matters not provided for in this Handbook shall be decided by the SPL Board of Directors. Such decisions are final and binding and not appealable.
- 138.2. Where any doubt exists as to interpretation of a provision within this Handbook, the SPL Board of Directors shall decide on its meaning. Such decisions are final and binding and not appealable.
- 138.3. Where there is an inconsistency between this Handbook and any other SPL regulation, this Handbook shall prevail to the extent of any inconsistency.

**139. Transitory Provisions**

- 139.1. Any deadline that occurs prior to the adoption of this Handbook shall not be enforceable. The SPL shall notify the Clubs of the new deadline via Circular.

**140. Implementing Provisions**

- 140.1. The SPL staff are entrusted with the operational management of the Competition and are therefore entitled to make decisions and adopt the detailed provisions necessary for implementing this Handbook.

**141. Adaption and Entry Into Force**

- 141.1. This Handbook was adopted by the SPL Board of Directors on 24 August 2025, ratified by the SAFF Board of Directors on date 27 August 2025, and enters into force on the same date.
- 141.2. This Handbook was amended by a resolution of the SPL Board of Directors dated 16 October 2025 and those amendments entered into force on the same date.

## APPENDIX 1 - SANCTIONING GUIDELINES

1. This recommended sanction scale relates to violations of this Handbook which fall within the competence of the SPL Competition Compliance Committee.
2. Where any violation of this Handbook may also be a violation of the SAFF Code, disciplinary jurisdiction falls within the competence of the SAFF DEC (cf Article 121).
3. The recommended sanction for a first offence refers to a non-aggravated first offence.
  - 3.1. The SPL Competition Compliance Committee shall determine whether a first offence is aggravated.
  - 3.2. In such case it may increase the recommended sanction or issue an additional sanction beyond the recommended sanction.
4. The recommended sanction for a second offence takes into consideration that this offence is a repeat offence during the same Season.
  - 4.1. Where the SPL Competition Compliance Committee determines that a second offence is further aggravated (beyond simply being a repeat offence), it may issue increase the recommended sanction or issue an additional sanction beyond the recommended sanction.
5. The recommended sanction for the third offence (and beyond) takes into consideration that this offence has been repeated on several occasions during the same Season.
  - 5.1. Where the SPL Competition Compliance Committee determines that a third offence (and beyond) is further aggravated (beyond simply being a repeat offence), it may issue increase the recommended sanction or issue an additional sanction beyond the recommended sanction.
6. Where a violation of this Handbook occurs and the relevant article that is violated is not listed in the recommended sanction scale below, the SPL Competition Compliance Committee shall determine the sanction to be issued.

LEAGUE GOVERNANCE					
Article	Violation	First Offence	Second Offence	Third Offence	Repeat Offence
4.1.7	Failure to respect and/or comply with a commercial agreement entered into by SPL related to the Competition.	Warning	Warning  and  SAR 50,000  Subject to stay of execution until end of the Season	SAR 100,000  and  Stay of execution for sanction lifted	SAR 150,000
4.7	Failure to ensure that no unauthorised person enters their Dressing Room, Team Bench, or the technical area.	Warning	SAR 10,000	SAR 20,000	SAR 50,000 for every subsequent offence
4.8	Failure to ensure that no individual affiliated to it gains access to any Controlled Access Area without holding the necessary Accreditation Card.	Warning	SAR 10,000	SAR 20,000	SAR 50,000 for every subsequent offence
4.11	Failure to always act with the utmost good faith.	Subject to the nature of the offence	Subject to the nature of the offence	Subject to the nature of the offence	Subject to the nature of the offence
4.13	Disclosing or divulging (directly or indirectly) or otherwise making use of any confidential information regarding the business or finances of the SPL or any other Club.	Subject to the nature of the offence	Subject to the nature of the offence	Subject to the nature of the offence	Subject to the nature of the offence
4.14	Failure to promptly comply (in full) with any request for information and/or documents made by the SPL.	Warning	SAR 10,000	SAR 20,000	SAR 50,000 for every subsequent offence

COMPETITION OPERATIONS					
Article	Violation	First Offence	Second Offence	Third Offence	Repeat Offence
17.1	Delayed arrival at Stadium (failure to observe and respect the official countdown).	Warning	SAR 10,000  Subject to stay of execution until end of the Season	SAR 20,000  and  Stay of execution for sanction lifted	SAR 50,000 for every subsequent offence
17.1.1	Delay kickoff of first half (failure to observe and respect the official countdown).	Warning	SAR 10,000  Subject to stay of execution until end of the Season	SAR 20,000  and  Stay of execution for sanction lifted  and  Head Coach suspended for one (1) Match  Subject to stay of execution until end of the Season	SAR 50,000  and  Stay of execution for sanction lifted  and  Head Coach suspended for two (2) Matches for every subsequent offence
17.1.1	Delay kickoff of second half (failure to observe and respect the official countdown).	Warning	SAR 10,000  Subject to stay of execution until end of the Season	SAR 20,000  and  Stay of execution for sanction lifted  and  Head Coach suspended for one (1) Match  Subject to stay of execution until end of the Season	SAR 50,000  and  Stay of execution for sanction lifted  and  Head Coach suspended for two (2) Matches for every subsequent offence
17.2	Failure to participate in the pre-Match lineup and group photograph.	Warning	SAR 10,000  Subject to stay of execution until end of the Season	SAR 20,000  and  Stay of execution for sanction lifted	SAR 50,000 for every subsequent offence

18.4	Failure to provide the SPL with all relevant legal and operational documentation for the usage of its approved Stadium as required by the Stadium operator.	Warning	SAR 10,000  Subject to stay of execution until end of the Season	SAR 20,000  and Stay of execution for sanction lifted	SAR 50,000 for every subsequent offence
18.6	Failure to ensure that its Stadium is delivered to the SPL one (1) day before the relevant Match as a Clean Stadium.  <i>Note: this sanction shall take effect in the 2026/2027 Season.</i>	Warning	SAR 50,000  and One (1) Match played in a neutral Stadium  Subject to stay of execution until end of the Season	SAR 100,000  and One (1) Match played in a neutral Stadium  Subject to stay of execution until end of the Season	SAR 200,000  and Stay of execution for sanction lifted  and One (1) Match played in a neutral Stadium
19.1	Failure to ensure that the Field of Play is in playable condition and complies with the requirements set out in the Laws of the Game.  <i>Note: this sanction shall take effect in the 2026/2027 Season.</i>	Warning	SAR 10,000	SAR 20,000	SAR 50,000 for every subsequent offence
20.2	Failure to ensure that no person in its Club Delegation, or otherwise affiliated to the Club, enters or is present on its team bus, in its Dressing Room, on the Field of Play, or in any other Controlled Access Area unless they are in physical possession of the necessary Accreditation Card issued by the SPL.	Warning	SAR 10,000	SAR 20,000	SAR 50,000 for every subsequent offence
20.6	Failure to reserve two (2) seats with a table for each Club in the spectator stands for their sports analysts and/or provides dedicated security for each Club's sports analysts.	Warning	SAR 5,000	SAR 10,000	SAR 20,000 for every subsequent offence
21.1	Failure to submit the Match Start List on time.	Warning	SAR 10,000  Subject to stay of	SAR 20,000  and	SAR 50,000 for every subsequent offence



			execution until end of the Season	Stay of execution for sanction lifted	
22.3	Club Official registered on Additional Club Officials List accesses Dressing Room when not permitted or fails to leave Dressing Room when required to do so.	Warning	SAR 10,000  Subject to stay of execution until end of the Season	SAR 20,000  and  Stay of execution for sanction lifted	SAR 50,000 for every subsequent offence
23.1.1	Failure of a Player or Club Official to wear their Accreditation Card when arriving at the Stadium.	Warning	SAR 5,000	SAR 10,000	SAR 20,000 for every subsequent offence
23.4	Wearing or using any form of electronic or communications equipment which is not an approved EPTS.	Warning	SAR 10,000	SAR 20,000	SAR 50,000 for every subsequent offence
23.7	Failure to ensure that only authorised individuals are present in their Dressing Room.	Warning	SAR 10,000	SAR 20,000	SAR 50,000 for every subsequent offence
26.1	Water bottles around the Field of Play are branded.	Warning	SAR 5,000	SAR 10,000	SAR 20,000 for every subsequent offence
26.4	Water bottle, water bag, and/or ice cubes are thrown on the Field of Play.	Warning	SAR 5,000	SAR 10,000	SAR 20,000 for every subsequent offence
27.2	Failure to provide chairs for the ball crew during Matches.	Warning	SAR 5,000	SAR 10,000	SAR 20,000 for every subsequent offence
30.5	Failure to use only the approved footballs provided by the SPL during official training or warm-ups before and during each Match.	Warning	SAR 5,000	SAR 10,000	SAR 20,000 for every subsequent offence
30.6	Failure by the Host Club to provide at least fifteen (15) approved footballs to the Away Club for the pre-Match warmup.	Warning	SAR 5,000	SAR 10,000	SAR 20,000 for every subsequent offence
30.6	Failure by the Away Club to return all approved footballs to the Host Club immediately after the warm-up.	Warning	SAR 5,000	SAR 10,000	SAR 20,000 for every subsequent offence
31.2	Failure to ensure that no tifo, mosaic, flag, banner or sign displayed in the area allocated in the spectator stands for their	Warning	SAR 10,000	SAR 20,000	SAR 50,000 for every subsequent offence

	spectators hinders or interrupts the television broadcast and production in any manner whatsoever.				
31.5	Failure to notify the SPL of any amendment to the design, message, or other element of an approved large tifo, mosaic, flag banner, and/or sign.	Warning	SAR 10,000	SAR 20,000	SAR 50,000 for every subsequent offence
33.4.1	Failure to provide access to their approved Stadium and Stadium facilities as required by the SPL and/or any approved technology service provider for the installation of the VAR system for the Competition.	Warning	SAR 10,000 Subject to stay of execution until end of the Season	SAR 20,000 and Stay of execution for sanction lifted	SAR 50,000 for every subsequent offence
33.4.2	VAR system and the associated technology is used, changed, or touched by someone other than the SPL and any approved technology service provider.	Warning	SAR 10,000 Subject to stay of execution until end of the Season	SAR 20,000 and Stay of execution for sanction lifted	SAR 50,000 for every subsequent offence
34.1.1	Failure to immediately notify the SPL if there is any incident that may impact their ability to arrive at the Venue of a Match on time.	Warning	SAR 5,000 Subject to stay of execution until end of the Season	SAR 10,000 and Stay of execution for sanction lifted	SAR 20,000 for every subsequent offence
34.1.2	Failure to immediately inform the SPL if any issue or incident occurs during the journey from its team hotel to the Stadium.	Warning	SAR 5,000 Subject to stay of execution until end of the Season	SAR 10,000 and Stay of execution for sanction lifted	SAR 20,000 for every subsequent offence
34.1.3	Failure to share their team bus location in real time to SPL as soon as they commence their journey from their team hotel to the Stadium.	Warning	SAR 5,000 Subject to stay of execution until end of the Season	SAR 10,000 and Stay of execution for sanction lifted	SAR 20,000 for every subsequent offence

STADIA					
Article	Violation	First Offence	Second Offence	Third Offence	Repeat Offence
35.1.1	Failure to ensure that their approved Stadium always complies with the minimum technical requirements for Stadia set out in Appendix 12.  <i>Note: this sanction shall take effect in the 2026/2027 Season.</i>	Subject to the nature of the offence	Subject to the nature of the offence	Subject to the nature of the offence	Subject to the nature of the offence
35.1.2	Failure to ensure that their approved Stadium always complies with any additional technical requirements set out in the Handbook.	Subject to the nature of the offence	Subject to the nature of the offence	Subject to the nature of the offence	Subject to the nature of the offence
35.3	Smoking occurs inside a Controlled Access Area outside of a designated smoking area.	Warning	SAR 5,000  Subject to stay of execution until end of the Season	SAR 10,000  and  Stay of execution for sanction lifted	SAR 20,000 for every subsequent offence
38.1	Failure to ensure that their approved Stadium has a constant and uninterruptible power supply.	SAR 50,000	SAR 100,000  and  One (1) Match played in a neutral Stadium  Subject to stay of execution until end of the Season	SAR 150,000  and  Stay of execution for sanction lifted	SAR 200,000  and  Two (2) Matches played in a neutral Stadium.
38.2	Failure to ensure that a constant source of electricity is provided for the Broadcast Compound in a separate technical room or container.	SAR 50,000	SAR 100,000  and  One (1) Match played in a neutral Stadium  Subject to stay of execution until end of the Season	SAR 150,000  and  Stay of execution for sanction lifted	SAR 200,000  and  Two (2) Matches played in a neutral Stadium.

38.3	Failure to provide the SPL with a copy of its safety and maintenance inspection of electricity sources.	Warning	SAR 5,000  Subject to stay of execution until end of the Season	SAR 10,000  and Stay of execution for sanction lifted	SAR 20,000 for every subsequent offence
38.4	Failure to provide a floodlight certificate on request before the commencement of the Competition Period.	Warning	SAR 5,000	SAR 10,000	SAR 20,000 for every subsequent offence
38.6	Failure to provide a new floodlight certificate from a specialised third-party on request.	Warning	SAR 5,000	SAR 10,000	SAR 20,000 for every subsequent offence
38.7	Floodlights are turned on too early or too late for a Match.	Warning	SAR 10,000	SAR 20,000	SAR 50,000 for every subsequent offence
39.1	Failure to implement all production and broadcast requirements within its approved Stadium as provided in the SPL Broadcast Manual.	Subject to the nature of the offence	Subject to the nature of the offence	Subject to the nature of the offence	Subject to the nature of the offence
40.1	Failure to comply with all SPL guidelines, MOS Regulations, and the regulations of any other government authority regarding safety and security matters.	Warning	SAR 10,000	SAR 20,000	SAR 50,000 for every subsequent offence
40.4	Failure to ensure that there are sufficient stewards and private security in the Stadium and its immediate environs in accordance with MOS Regulations.	Warning	SAR 10,000	SAR 20,000	SAR 50,000 for every subsequent offence
40.6	Failure to properly implement the Accreditation system.	Warning	SAR 10,000	SAR 20,000	SAR 50,000 for every subsequent offence
41.1	Failure to provide relevant information to spectators on its Club Channels.	Warning	SAR 5,000	SAR 10,000	SAR 20,000 for every subsequent offence
43.1	Failure to use the 'giant screen' in a manner which complies with the requirements of the Handbook, instructions of SPL, or instructions of relevant government authorities.	Warning  and SAR 10,000  Subject to stay of execution	SAR 20,000  and Stay of execution for sanction lifted	SAR 50,000	SAR 100,000 for every subsequent offence

		until end of the Season			
43.2	Failure to display the names of the Clubs, the score, and the time lapsed, on the giant screen.	Warning	SAR 10,000	SAR 20,000	SAR 50,000 for every subsequent offence
43.5	Failure to comply with the SPL replay policy.	Subject to the nature of the offence	Subject to the nature of the offence	Subject to the nature of the offence	Subject to the nature of the offence
43.8	Failure to comply with the time restrictions for a generic light show.	Warning	SAR 10,000	SAR 20,000	SAR 50,000 for every subsequent offence
44.1	Failure to install the first row of LED billboards situated around the perimeter of the Field of Play.	SAR 50,000	SAR 100,000  and  One (1) Match played in a neutral Stadium  Subject to stay of execution until end of the Season	SAR 150,000  and  Stay of execution for sanction lifted	SAR 200,000  and  Two (2) Matches played in a neutral Stadium.
44.2	Failure to ensure that the first row of LED billboards situated around the perimeter of the Field of Play is installed the required distance beyond each goal line and/or touchline.	Warning	SAR 10,000	SAR 20,000	SAR 50,000 for every subsequent offence
44.3	Failure to ensure sufficient space behind the first row of LED billboards for the placement of Host Broadcaster cameras, tools and equipment of Broadcast Partners and Media.	Warning	SAR 10,000	SAR 20,000	SAR 50,000 for every subsequent offence
44.18.2	Failure to establish a storage area outside the Stadium for LED billboards.	Warning	SAR 10,000	SAR 20,000	SAR 50,000 for every subsequent offence
44.18.3	Failure to provide security personnel to protect the LED billboards and the billboard control unit during Matches.	Warning	SAR 10,000	SAR 20,000	SAR 50,000 for every subsequent offence

MEDICAL AND ANTI-DOPING					
Article	Violation	First Offence	Second Offence	Third Offence	Repeat Offence
45.1	Failure to ensure that all medical equipment and facilities required by the Handbook are available, functional, and present in their approved Stadium.	Subject to the nature of the offence	Subject to the nature of the offence	Subject to the nature of the offence	Subject to the nature of the offence
46.1	Failure to have a fully equipped medical room in the Stadium on Match-day.	Warning	SAR 5,000	SAR 10,000	SAR 20,000 for every subsequent offence
46.5	Failure to prepare an emergency action plan for a Match.	SAR 10,000	SAR 25,000	SAR 50,000	SAR 100,000 for every subsequent offence
46.5	Failure to make the emergency action plan available to the SPL and the Away Club.	Warning	SAR 5,000	SAR 10,000	SAR 20,000 for every subsequent offence
47.1	Failure to ensure that at least two (2) ambulances are stationed at the designated tunnel near the medical room and at the Field of Play.	SAR 50,000	SAR 100,000 and One (1) Match played in a neutral Stadium  Subject to stay of execution until end of the Season	SAR 150,000 and Stay of execution for sanction lifted	SAR 200,000 and Two (2) Matches played in a neutral Stadium.

COMMERCIAL					
Article	Violation	First Offence	Second Offence	Third Offence	Repeat Offence
53.3	Club sub-licenses, assigns, or grants to a third-party any of the Commercial Rights, Competition Data, and/or Competition Marks assigned to it by the SPL without approval.	Warning  and  SAR 50,000  Subject to stay of execution until end of the Season	SAR 100,000  and  Stay of execution for sanction lifted	SAR 250,000	SAR 500,000 for every subsequent offence
53.5	Failure to comply with any decision, Circular, or instructions from the SPL related to the use and exploitation of the Commercial Rights, Competition Data, and/or Competition Marks.	Warning  and  SAR 50,000  Subject to stay of execution until end of the Season	SAR 100,000  and  Stay of execution for sanction lifted	SAR 250,000	SAR 500,000 for every subsequent offence
53.6	Failure to take all possible measures to ensure the protection of the Commercial Rights, Competition Data, and/or Competition Marks.	Warning  and  SAR 50,000  Subject to stay of execution until end of the Season	SAR 100,000  and  Stay of execution for sanction lifted	SAR 250,000	SAR 500,000 for every subsequent offence
53.7	Failure to respect all agreements between the SPL and SPL Partners relating to the use and/or exploitation of any and all aspects of the Commercial Rights, Competition Data, and/or Competition Marks.	Warning  and  SAR 50,000  Subject to stay of execution until end of the Season	SAR 100,000  and  Stay of execution for sanction lifted	SAR 250,000	SAR 500,000 for every subsequent offence
53.9	Use and/or exploitation of any aspect of the Commercial Rights, Competition Data, and/or Competition Marks without written authorisation from SPL.	Warning  and  SAR 50,000  Subject to stay of execution until end of the Season	SAR 100,000  and  Stay of execution for sanction lifted	SAR 250,000	SAR 500,000 for every subsequent offence



53.9	Engagement in any action or activity that purports to demonstrate a relationship with the SPL or the Competition without written authorisation from the SPL.	Warning  and  SAR 50,000  Subject to stay of execution until end of the Season	SAR 100,000  and  Stay of execution for sanction lifted	SAR 250,000	SAR 500,000 for every subsequent offence
54.1	Failure to provide their Club Logo and associated trademarks and the logos of all Club Partners to the SPL by the required deadline.	Warning  and  Deadline for compliance	SAR 50,000  and  Deadline for compliance	SAR 100,000  and  Deadline for compliance	SAR 250,000  and  Deadline for compliance
55.4	Failure to ensure that any activity of event on the Field of Play on Match-day:  (i) respects the timings of and does not disrupt the official countdown;  (ii) respects the Commercial Rights, Competition Data, and/or Commercial Marks;  (iii) complies with all safety and security provisions set out in this Handbook;  (iv) does not cause any damage to the Field of Play; and  (v) has no adverse effect on any spectators.	Warning  and  SAR 50,000  Subject to stay of execution until end of the Season	SAR 100,000  and  Stay of execution for sanction lifted	SAR 250,000	SAR 500,000 for every subsequent offence
56.4	Failure to ensure that the utilisation of the Concession Rights:  (i) respects the timings of and does not disrupt the official countdown;  (ii) complies with all safety and security provisions set out in this Handbook;	Warning  and  SAR 50,000  Subject to stay of execution until end of the Season	SAR 100,000  and  Stay of execution for sanction lifted	SAR 250,000	SAR 500,000 for every subsequent offence

	<p>(iii) does not cause any damage to the Field of Play; and</p> <p>(iv) has no adverse effect on any spectators.</p>				
57.4	Failure to obtain authorisation from the SPL regarding the size, brightness, and all other technical elements of advertisements that may impact the quality of broadcasting.	<p>Warning</p> <p>and</p> <p>SAR 50,000</p> <p>Subject to stay of execution until end of the Season</p>	<p>SAR 100,000</p> <p>and</p> <p>Stay of execution for sanction lifted</p>	SAR 250,000	SAR 500,000 for every subsequent offence
57.5	Failure to ensure that all physical assets owned by the SPL are properly stored in its Stadium prior to and following its Matches.	<p>Warning</p> <p>and</p> <p>SAR 50,000</p> <p>Subject to stay of execution until end of the Season</p>	<p>SAR 100,000</p> <p>and</p> <p>Stay of execution for sanction lifted</p>	SAR 250,000	SAR 500,000 for every subsequent offence
57.6.1	Sale of advertising on any asset within a Stadium prior to receiving SPL approval.	SAR 50,000	<p>SAR 100,000</p> <p>and</p> <p>One (1) Match played in a neutral Stadium</p> <p>Subject to stay of execution until end of the Season</p>	<p>SAR 150,000</p> <p>and</p> <p>Stay of execution for sanction lifted</p> <p>and</p> <p>Payment of compensation to SPL</p>	<p>SAR 200,000</p> <p>and</p> <p>Two (2) Matches played in a neutral Stadium.</p>
57.31	Failure to ensure that advertising on Team Benches does not obscure the views of any spectators.	Warning	SAR 5,000	SAR 10,000	SAR 20,000 for every subsequent offence
57.34	Failure to produce the backdrop utilised for flash interviews.	<p>Warning</p> <p>and</p> <p>SAR 50,000</p> <p>Subject to stay of execution</p>	<p>SAR 100,000</p> <p>and</p> <p>Stay of execution for sanction lifted</p>	SAR 250,000	SAR 500,000 for every subsequent offence

		until end of the Season			
59.2	Failure to undertake, on the request of the SPL, an activity to promote the Competition and/or exploit the Commercial Rights, Competition Data, or Competition Marks.	Warning and SAR 50,000  Subject to stay of execution until end of the Season	SAR 100,000  and  Stay of execution for sanction lifted	SAR 250,000	SAR 500,000 for every subsequent offence
60.2	Failure to respect the Media Rights licensed by the SPL to any Broadcast Partner.	Warning and SAR 50,000  Subject to stay of execution until end of the Season	SAR 100,000  and  Stay of execution for sanction lifted	SAR 250,000  and  Payment of compensation to SPL	SAR 500,000 for every subsequent offence

SPL

EQUIPMENT					
Article	Violation	First Offence	Second Offence	Third Offence	Repeat Offence
61.3	<p>Wearing or using an item inside a Controlled Access Area that:</p> <p>(i) is hazardous, dangerous, offensive, or indecent;</p> <p>(ii) incorporates insulting, political, religious, personal or controversial slogans, statements or images;</p> <p>(iii) is not in compliance with any provisions of this Handbook and/or the Laws of the Game;</p> <p>(iv) confers an unfair sporting advantage or fundamentally alters an essential aspect of the game;</p> <p>(v) infers an association with and/or infringes the Commercial Rights; or</p> <p>(vi) has not been formally approved by the SPL.</p>	Subject to the nature of the offence and whether SAFF has jurisdiction	Subject to the nature of the offence and whether SAFF has jurisdiction	Subject to the nature of the offence and whether SAFF has jurisdiction	Subject to the nature of the offence and whether SAFF has jurisdiction
61.4	Failure to provide the SPL, on request, thirty (30) signed jerseys by all Players on its Official List.	Warning  and  Deadline for compliance	SAR 50,000  and  Deadline for compliance	SAR 100,000  and  Deadline for compliance	SAR 250,000  and  Deadline for compliance
62.1	Failure to comply with the deadline for submitting a request for approval of its Playing Kit.	Warning  and  Deadline for compliance	SAR 50,000  and  Deadline for compliance	SAR 100,000  and  Deadline for compliance	SAR 250,000  and  Deadline for compliance
62.2	Failure to comply with the deadline for submitting a request for approval of celebratory attire.	Warning  and	SAR 50,000  and	SAR 100,000  and	SAR 250,000  and

		Deadline for compliance	Deadline for compliance	Deadline for compliance	Deadline for compliance
62.12.1	Failure to comply with the deadline for submitting a request for approval of its commemorative Official Playing Kit.	Warning  and  Deadline for compliance	SAR 50,000  and  Deadline for compliance	SAR 100,000  and  Deadline for compliance	SAR 250,000  and  Deadline for compliance
63.1	Failure to bring its Official Playing Kit and at least one (1) Reserve Playing Kit to a Match.	Subject to the outcome of the failure	Subject to the outcome of the failure	Subject to the outcome of the failure	Subject to the outcome of the failure
71.19	Display of sponsor advertising on any equipment without obtaining the written authorisation of the SPL.	SAR 50,000  Subject to stay of execution until end of the Season	SAR 100,000  and  Stay of execution for sanction lifted	SAR 250,000  and  Payment of compensation to SPL	SAR 500,000 for every subsequent offence
71.20	Failure to comply with the deadline for submitting a request to change the Club Partner displayed on any equipment.	Warning  and  Deadline for compliance	SAR 50,000  and  Deadline for compliance	SAR 100,000  and  Deadline for compliance	SAR 250,000  and  Deadline for compliance
71.26	Display of charity logo on any equipment without obtaining the written authorisation of the SPL.	SAR 50,000  Subject to stay of execution until end of the Season	SAR 100,000  and  Stay of execution for sanction lifted	SAR 250,000  and  Payment of compensation to SPL	SAR 500,000 for every subsequent offence
83.2	Failure to ensure that its Players only wear the bib supplied by the SPL during Matches.	Warning  and  SAR 20,000  Subject to stay of execution until end of the Season	SAR 50,000  and  Stay of execution for sanction lifted	SAR 100,000	SAR 200,000 for every subsequent offence

TICKETING					
Article	Violation	First Offence	Second Offence	Third Offence	Repeat Offence
86.1.2	Failure to ensure that Tickets for its home Matches are available for sale and distribution on the Ticketing Platform.	Warning  and  SAR 50,000  Subject to stay of execution until end of the Season	SAR 100,000  and  Stay of execution for sanction lifted	SAR 250,000	SAR 500,000 for every subsequent offence
87.1	Failure to submit the comprehensive ticketing plan to the SPL by the required deadline.	Warning  and  SAR 10,000  and  Subject to stay of execution until end of the Season  Deadline for compliance	SAR 20,000  and  Stay of execution for sanction lifted  and  Deadline for compliance	SAR 50,000  and  Deadline for compliance	SAR 100,000  and  Deadline for compliance
88.4	Failure to apply price-capping of Tickets.	Warning  and  SAR 50,000  Subject to stay of execution until end of the Season	SAR 100,000  and  Stay of execution for sanction lifted	SAR 250,000	SAR 500,000 for every subsequent offence
88.5	Failure to set equal prices for each individual Match for Host Club spectators and Away Club spectators for the same category of Tickets.	SAR 50,000  and  Forfeiture of revenue difference between cost of Tickets for Host Club spectators and Away Club spectators	SAR 100,000  and  Forfeiture of revenue difference between cost of Tickets for Host Club spectators and Away Club spectators	SAR 250,000  and  Forfeiture of revenue difference between cost of Tickets for Host Club spectators and Away Club spectators	SAR 500,000  and  Forfeiture of revenue difference between cost of Tickets for Host Club spectators and Away Club spectators
89.2	Failure to meet the minimum requirements for the design of Tickets.	Warning  and	SAR 10,000  and	SAR 20,000  and	SAR 50,000  and

		Deadline for compliance	Deadline for compliance	Deadline for compliance	Deadline for compliance
90.1	Failure to make Tickets available for sale for each Match on time (on at least three (3) occasions).	SAR 50,000	SAR 100,000	SAR 250,000	SAR 500,000
91.1 to 91.2	Failure to allocate Tickets to the Away Club in accordance with the agreed allocation and/or seating plan.	Warning and SAR 50,000  Subject to stay of execution until end of the Season	SAR 100,000  and  Stay of execution for sanction lifted	SAR 250,000	SAR 500,000 for every subsequent offence
91.2	Failure to notify the SPL of a change in Ticket allocation.	Warning	SAR 5,000	SAR 10,000	SAR 20,000 for every subsequent offence
91.3	Failure to ensure that the seats allocated to Away Club spectators are in working condition and have direct visibility of the Field of Play.	Warning and SAR 50,000  Subject to stay of execution until end of the Season	SAR 100,000  and  Stay of execution for sanction lifted	SAR 250,000	SAR 500,000 for every subsequent offence
92.3	Failure to provide the SPL with the complimentary Tickets that are to be contractually provided to SPL Partners by the required deadline.	Warning and SAR 50,000  Subject to stay of execution until end of the Season	SAR 100,000  and  Stay of execution for sanction lifted	SAR 250,000	SAR 500,000 for every subsequent offence
92.5	Failure to ensure that its VIP boxes are sufficiently suitable to host SPL Partners and important dignitaries at Matches.	Warning and SAR 50,000  Subject to stay of execution until end of the Season	SAR 100,000  and  Stay of execution for sanction lifted	SAR 250,000	SAR 500,000 for every subsequent offence
92.6	Failure to provide the minimum number of	Warning and	SAR 100,000 and	SAR 250,000	SAR 500,000



	complimentary Tickets to the Away Club.	SAR 50,000  Subject to stay of execution until end of the Season	Stay of execution for sanction lifted		for every subsequent offence
92.7	Failure to provide the minimum number of complimentary Tickets to the MOS in accordance with MOS Regulations.	Warning  and  SAR 50,000  Subject to stay of execution until end of the Season	SAR 100,000  and  Stay of execution for sanction lifted	SAR 250,000	SAR 500,000 for every subsequent offence

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MEDIA, CONTENT, BROADCAST					
Article	Violation	First Offence	Second Offence	Third Offence	Repeat Offence
93.2	Failure to provide all necessary assistance to the SPL, Media, and/or Broadcast Partners to facilitate and ensure the successful transmission of broadcast signals for each Match.	Warning  and  SAR 50,000  Subject to stay of execution until end of the Season	SAR 100,000  and  Stay of execution for sanction lifted	SAR 250,000	SAR 500,000 for every subsequent offence
93.3	Failure to comply with all requirements provided by the SPL and Broadcast Partners in relation to the broadcast plan for a Match.	Warning  and  SAR 50,000  Subject to stay of execution until end of the Season	SAR 100,000  and  Stay of execution for sanction lifted	SAR 250,000	SAR 500,000 for every subsequent offence
93.4	Failure to ensure that:  (i) it complies with the SPL Broadcast Manual at all times;  (ii) all production and broadcast infrastructure required by the SPL Broadcast Manual is present in their approved Stadium at Matches;  (iii) Media and Broadcast Partners are provided with safe passage for cabling pathways and television crew pathways to enter the Stadium to facilitate the entry, assembly, and installation of broadcasting equipment and facilities;  (iv) only Media and Broadcast Partner representatives	Subject to the nature of the offence	Subject to the nature of the offence	Subject to the nature of the offence	Subject to the nature of the offence

	<p>holding a valid Accreditation Card are permitted to enter the Stadium at Matches; and</p> <p>(v) representatives of a media or broadcasting company who have not been approved by the SPL are prevented from entering the Stadium at Matches.</p>				
94.3	Failure to ensure that the Controlled Access Areas designated for Media at Stadium and Official Training Sites are only accessed by individuals with valid Accreditation Cards.	Warning	SAR 10,000	SAR 20,000	SAR 50,000 for every subsequent offence
96.4	Failure to appoint a sufficient number of staff on Match-day to meet all media operational requirements required by the Handbook.	Warning	SAR 10,000	SAR 20,000	SAR 50,000 for every subsequent offence
97.1	Failure to prepare its Dressing Room on time.	Warning	SAR 10,000	SAR 20,000	SAR 50,000 for every subsequent offence
97.3	Failure to permit the SPL and/or Broadcast Partners to enter the Dressing Room to film for a maximum of sixty (60) seconds from between twenty (20) minutes to fifteen (15) minutes prior to the scheduled kickoff of the Match.	Warning	SAR 10,000  Subject to stay of execution until end of the Season	SAR 20,000  and  Stay of execution for sanction lifted	SAR 50,000 for every subsequent offence
97.4	Members of a Club Delegation registered to the role of photographer or content creator for a Match enter the Dressing Room and/or competition area without permission.	Warning	SAR 10,000	SAR 20,000	SAR 50,000 for every subsequent offence

97.5.2	Members of a Club Delegation registered to the role of photographer or content creator for a Match fail to wear their designated bib at all times.	Warning	SAR 5,000  Subject to stay of execution until end of the Season	SAR 10,000  and Stay of execution for sanction lifted	SAR 20,000 for every subsequent offence
98.1	Failure to establish a Media Tribune and/or a Media Centre within their approved Stadium in accordance with Appendix 12.	Subject to the nature of the offence	Subject to the nature of the offence	Subject to the nature of the offence	Subject to the nature of the offence
99.1	Giving a media interview at the Stadium without the express permission of the SPL.	Warning	SAR 5,000  Subject to stay of execution until end of the Season	SAR 10,000  and Stay of execution for sanction lifted	SAR 20,000 for every subsequent offence
99.2.1	Flash interview is conducted in front of a backdrop not approved by the SPL.	Warning  and SAR 50,000  Subject to stay of execution until end of the Season	SAR 100,000  and Stay of execution for sanction lifted	SAR 250,000	SAR 500,000 for every subsequent offence
99.3	Failure to provide an accredited translator for its Players and Club Officials that do not speak Arabic and/or English.	Warning	SAR 10,000	SAR 20,000	SAR 50,000 for every subsequent offence
99.7	Head Coach fails to perform a television interview immediately upon their arrival at the Stadium.	Warning  and SAR 50,000  Subject to stay of execution until end of the Season	SAR 100,000  and Stay of execution for sanction lifted	SAR 250,000	SAR 500,000 for every subsequent offence
99.8	Club Official fails to perform an interview immediately upon their arrival at the Stadium following request of the SPL.	Warning  and SAR 50,000  Subject to stay of execution	SAR 100,000  and Stay of execution for sanction lifted	SAR 250,000	SAR 500,000 for every subsequent offence

		until end of the Season			
99.9	Player fails to perform a post-Match 'flash' interview following request of the SPL.	Warning and SAR 50,000  Subject to stay of execution until end of the Season	SAR 100,000  and  Stay of execution for sanction lifted	SAR 250,000	SAR 500,000 for every subsequent offence
99.15	Player fails to perform a 'super flash' interview at half-time or post-Match following request of the SPL.	Warning and SAR 50,000  Subject to stay of execution until end of the Season	SAR 100,000  and  Stay of execution for sanction lifted	SAR 250,000	SAR 500,000 for every subsequent offence
100.1	Failure of all members of a Club Delegation to pass through the Mixed Zone on their way from their Dressing Room to their team bus after each Match.	Warning and SAR 50,000  Subject to stay of execution until end of the Season	SAR 100,000  and  Stay of execution for sanction lifted	SAR 250,000	SAR 500,000 for every subsequent offence
101.2	Failure to organise a pre-Match press conference with its Head Coach.	Warning and SAR 50,000  Subject to stay of execution until end of the Season	SAR 100,000  and  Stay of execution for sanction lifted	SAR 250,000	SAR 500,000 for every subsequent offence
101.2.1	Failure to submit the recording of the pre-Match press conference to the SPL on time.	Warning	SAR 5,000  Subject to stay of execution until end of the Season	SAR 10,000  and  Stay of execution for sanction lifted	SAR 20,000 for every subsequent offence
101.2.2	Footage from the pre-Match press conference is broadcast on a Club Channel earlier than permitted.	Warning and SAR 50,000	SAR 100,000  and	SAR 250,000  and	SAR 500,000 for every subsequent offence

		Subject to stay of execution until end of the Season	Stay of execution for sanction lifted	Payment of compensation to SPL	
101.4	Failure to ensure that its press-conference room meets the Stadium requirements in Appendix 12.	Subject to the nature of the offence	Subject to the nature of the offence	Subject to the nature of the offence	Subject to the nature of the offence
101.5.1	Failure of the Head Coach of the Away Club to provide a post-Match press conference interview.	Warning and SAR 50,000  Subject to stay of execution until end of the Season	SAR 100,000  and Stay of execution for sanction lifted	SAR 250,000	SAR 500,000 for every subsequent offence
101.5.2	Failure of the Head Coach of the Host Club to provide a post-Match press conference interview.	Warning and SAR 50,000  Subject to stay of execution until end of the Season	SAR 100,000  and Stay of execution for sanction lifted	SAR 250,000	SAR 500,000 for every subsequent offence
101.5.5	Failure to answer at least three (3) questions in the press conference interview.	Warning	SAR 5,000  Subject to stay of execution until end of the Season	SAR 10,000  and Stay of execution for sanction lifted	SAR 20,000 for every subsequent offence
101.9	Failure to cooperate with the SPL Media Officer with the utmost honesty and professionalism when coordinating and conducting the post-Match press conference.	Warning	SAR 5,000  Subject to stay of execution until end of the Season	SAR 10,000  and Stay of execution for sanction lifted	SAR 20,000 for every subsequent offence
102.1	Failure to ensure that only photographers in possession of a valid Accreditation Card are allowed to enter the area between the Field of Play and the spectator stands.	Warning	SAR 5,000  Subject to stay of execution until end of the Season	SAR 10,000  and Stay of execution for sanction lifted	SAR 20,000 for every subsequent offence
106.1	Failure to ensure that sufficient access and	Warning	SAR 100,000	SAR 250,000	SAR 500,000

	support is provided to the Host Broadcaster in order to establish the minimum camera positions.	and SAR 50,000  Subject to stay of execution until end of the Season	and Stay of execution for sanction lifted		for every subsequent offence
106.2	Failure to ensure the minimum requirements for cameras and camera platforms.	Warning  and SAR 50,000  Subject to stay of execution until end of the Season	SAR 100,000  and Stay of execution for sanction lifted	SAR 250,000	SAR 500,000 for every subsequent offence
107.1	Failure to provide all pre-cabling facilities in its approved Stadium.	Warning  and SAR 10,000  Subject to stay of execution until end of the Season	SAR 25,000  and Stay of execution for sanction lifted	SAR 50,000	SAR 100,000 for every subsequent offence
107.2	Failure to ensure that cables in its approved Stadium do not cause any obstruction or pose any safety hazard.	Warning  and SAR 10,000  Subject to stay of execution until end of the Season	SAR 25,000  and Stay of execution for sanction lifted	SAR 50,000	SAR 100,000 for every subsequent offence
108.1	Failure to provide a Broadcast Compound in compliance with the minimum requirements.	Subject to the nature of the offence	Subject to the nature of the offence	Subject to the nature of the offence	Subject to the nature of the offence
108.2	Failure to prepare the Broadcast Compound on time.	Subject to the nature of the offence	Subject to the nature of the offence	Subject to the nature of the offence	Subject to the nature of the offence
109.1	Failure to provide the minimum number of commentary rooms.	Warning  and SAR 50,000  Subject to stay of execution	SAR 100,000  and Stay of execution for sanction lifted	SAR 250,000	SAR 500,000 for every subsequent offence



		until end of the Season			
109.2	Failure to provide the commentary site and/or positions required by the SPL.	Warning	SAR 5,000  Subject to stay of execution until end of the Season	SAR 10,000  and  Stay of execution for sanction lifted	SAR 20,000 for every subsequent offence
110.1	Failure to provide a television studio in compliance with the minimum requirements.	Warning	SAR 5,000  Subject to stay of execution until end of the Season	SAR 10,000  and  Stay of execution for sanction lifted	SAR 20,000 for every subsequent offence
111.1	Failure to provide an appropriate location to film Match presentations prior to the scheduled start of the Match.	Warning  and  SAR 50,000  Subject to stay of execution until end of the Season	SAR 100,000  and  Stay of execution for sanction lifted	SAR 250,000	SAR 500,000 for every subsequent offence
114.1	Failure to confirm the pre-season photography session by the required deadline.	Warning  and  SAR 10,000  and  Subject to stay of execution until end of the Season  Deadline for compliance	SAR 20,000  and  Stay of execution for sanction lifted  and  Deadline for compliance	SAR 50,000  and  Deadline for compliance	SAR 100,000  and  Deadline for compliance
114.2	Failure to immediately arrange for a newly registered Player to be formally photographed in their Playing Kit.	Warning  and  SAR 10,000  and  Subject to stay of execution until end of the Season  Deadline for compliance	SAR 20,000  and  Stay of execution for sanction lifted  and  Deadline for compliance	SAR 50,000  and  Deadline for compliance	SAR 100,000  and  Deadline for compliance

114.4	Failure to make an affiliated individual available, on request of the SPL, an SPL Partner, or a Broadcast Partner, for a filmed interview.	Warning  and SAR 50,000  and Subject to stay of execution until end of the Season  Deadline for compliance	SAR 100,000  and Stay of execution for sanction lifted  and Deadline for compliance	SAR 250,000  and Deadline for compliance	SAR 500,000  and Deadline for compliance
114.5	Failure of the Head Coach to provide three (3) sit-down interviews with the SPL and/or Broadcast Partners.	SAR 20,000	SAR 40,000	SAR 60,000	SAR 100,000 for every subsequent offence
114.6.2	Failure to provide at least one (1) Player for an interview with the SPL and/or Broadcast Partners after an official training session.	Warning	SAR 5,000  Subject to stay of execution until end of the Season	SAR 10,000  and Stay of execution for sanction lifted	SAR 20,000 for every subsequent offence
114.7	Failure to notify the SPL of the dates, times, and location of its official trainings on a monthly basis.	Warning	SAR 5,000  Subject to stay of execution until end of the Season	SAR 10,000  and Stay of execution for sanction lifted	SAR 20,000 for every subsequent offence
115.2	Failure to facilitate SPL-created content in accordance with the requirements.	SAR 20,000	SAR 40,000	SAR 60,000	SAR 100,000 for every subsequent offence
117.2	Failure to provide to the SPL footage of Matches created by the Club within four (4) hours of the end of the Match.	Warning	SAR 5,000  Subject to stay of execution until end of the Season	SAR 10,000  and Stay of execution for sanction lifted	SAR 20,000 for every subsequent offence

FINAL PROVISIONS					
Article	Violation	First Offence	Second Offence	Third Offence	Repeat Offence
128.2	Failure to attend the annual awards ceremony.	SAR 100,000			

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## APPENDIX 2 – RANKING BASED ON YELLOW AND RED CARDS

1. Each Club shall obtain points for receiving cautions (yellow cards) and expulsions (red cards) during Matches as indicated below:
  - 1.1. per caution (yellow card): one (1) point;
  - 1.2. per indirect expulsion (red card because of receiving two (2) yellow cards in the same Match): three (3) points;
  - 1.3. per direct expulsion (straight red card): three (3) points;
  - 1.4. per caution (yellow card) followed by a direct expulsion (straight red card): four (4) points.

For the avoidance of doubt, only one of the above calculations shall be applied to a Player per Match.
2. The Clubs shall be ranked in descending order, with the Club which receives the least number of points ranked highest.

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## APPENDIX 3 – OFFICIAL COUNTDOWN

Countdown	Activity
-04:00 hours	Pitch watering
-04:00	Arrival of Match Director
-04:00	(If directed by the relevant government authorities) Stadium gates open
-03:45	Match Director inspection with Host Club of pitch markings, goals and goal nets, Dressing Rooms, referee room, and all Zone 2 areas
-03:00	Start of pre-Match ceremony rehearsal
-03:00	Match Director meeting with SPL Commercial Officer, SPL Media Coordinator, and Broadcast Venue Manager to approve LED billboards branding, and validate timings
-03:00	(If directed by the relevant government authorities) Stadium gates open
-03:00	Arrival of Team A equipment van and selected staff
-03:00	All stewards and security at designated positions
-02:50	Match Director meeting with Host Club Operations Coordinator
-02:50	Arrival of Team B equipment van and selected staff
-02:30	Dressing Rooms filming and photography
-02:00	Arrival of Match Referees (including VAR team)
-02:00	Arrival of ball crew
-02:00	Floodlights fully on (in case visibility is not clear upon request of Broadcast Partners)
-02:00	Controlled Access Areas activation
-02:00	Dressing Rooms food, beverages, and ice delivered
-01:45	Match Referees communication and VAR checks
-01:40	Team A arrival to the Stadium
-01:35	Team A Head Coach pre-match interview (timing -60m to -45m)
-01:30	Portable goals moved onto pitch for both warm-up (corner flag) areas
-01:30	Team B arrival to the Stadium
-01:30	Team A colours, equipment, and jewellery to be checked by the fourth official according to the instruction from the Match Director
-01:30	Team B colours, equipment, and jewellery to be checked by the fourth official according to the instruction from the Match Director
-01:25	Team B Head Coach pre-match interview (timing -60m to -45m)
-01:15	Team A and Team B finalise the Match Start List
-01:15	Match Director verifies the Match Start List
-01:15	Match Start List produced and distributed to Clubs, Media, Broadcast Partners, and infotainment
-01:00	Pre-warm-up pitch watering (light spray) – second watering
-00:55 to -00:20 minutes	Ball crew without Match balls in position for team warm-up
-00:55	Medical staff in position for team warm-up
-00:50	Start of team warm-up
-00:30	Announcement of starting lineups (Team A followed by Team B)
-00:23	Three (3) minute warning for end of team warm-up

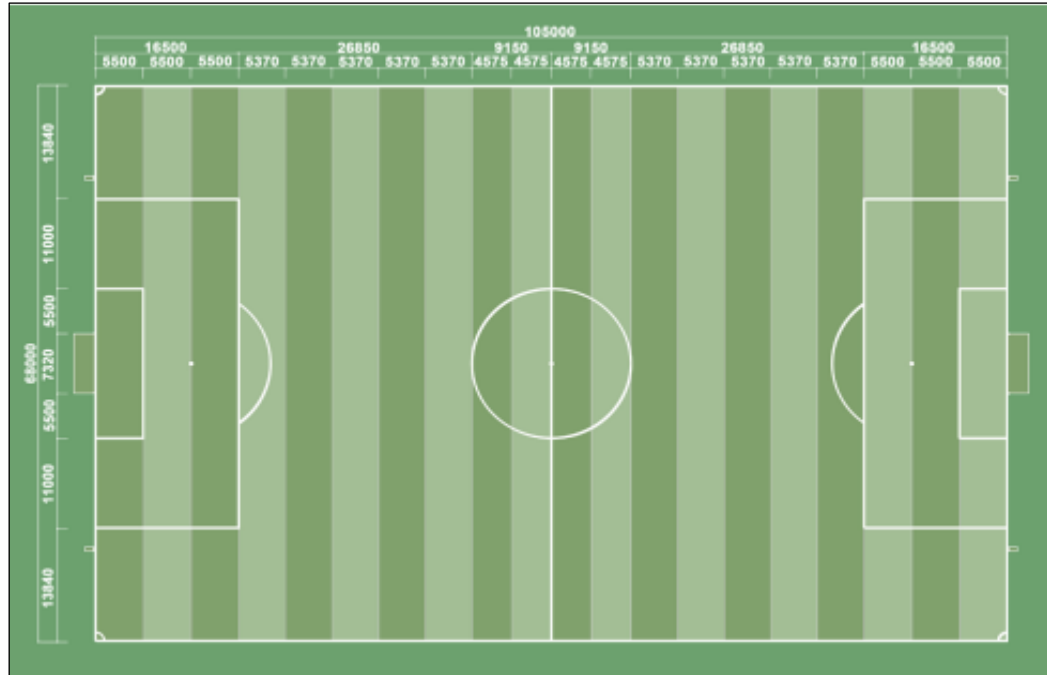
-00:20	End of team warm-up
-00:20	Final check of pitch markings and both goals by fourth official
-00:20	(In Summer only) Field of Play watering (light spray) as soon as Players and Officials leave
-00:20	Photographer rope operations
-00:15	Ball crew in position supervised by SPL Commercial Officer
-00:15	Match ball placed on ball podium and Match balls position on multiball system cones
-00:15	Two (2) minute warning for substitutes and Club Officials to leave the Dressing Rooms and move to the Team Benches
-00:13	Three (3) minute warning for Players to leave the Dressing Rooms
-00:10	Substitutes and Club Officials to be on Team Benches
-00:08	All starting Players and Match Referees to be in the tunnel. Players checked by fourth official.
-00:07:30	SPL theme song to welcome teams
-00:05:55	Clubs reach final position, music fades out
-00:04	National anthem
-00:03	(IMPORTANT) Compulsory three (3) minutes required from end of national anthem until kick-off (never kick-off before official approved start time)
-00:03	Team B moves into position for team photo
-00:03	Team A moves into position for team photo
-00:02:15	Coin toss
-00:01:45	Teams move towards field position (assemble for team huddle) Assistant referees conduct final check of goals and goal nets
-00:00:20	Match Director raises arm and signals fifteen (15) seconds to kick-off
-00:00:10	Infotainment plays countdown (10 to 1) on giant screen
Half Time	Referee confirms with both teams if any substitutions Pitch watering (light spray)  Fifteen (15) minutes from whistle to whistle (teams return to Field of Play together) ball crew in position  Volunteers to clean Team Benches and Field of Play
Second Half +00:30	Announcement in doping control room of the Players selected for doping control
Post Match	Doping control

Note: The above countdown is a standard template. The official countdown for each Match shall be produced by the Match Director

## APPENDIX 4 – PITCH PREPARATION GUIDELINES

### 1. Grass Cutting Pattern

- 1.1. To enable the activity of assistant referees, the grass cutting pattern shall be as below (in millimetres).



### 2. Grass Height and Watering Procedure

- 2.1. Grass height shall be, in principle, between twenty (20) and thirty (30) millimetres depending on the type of grass and climate. The entire playing surface must be cut to the same height. The height should be the same for official training sessions and the Match.
- 2.2. The Field of Play shall be watered evenly and not only in certain areas for Players' safety. The decision of pitch watering shall be made by the Match Director.

### 3. Line Marking

- 3.1. Line marking can be done by spray markers or manual brush. Please make sure proper procedure and caution are made before marking the lines:
- 3.1.1. Check for leaks before starting (do not let paint leaks or spills on the pitch).
- 3.1.2. Set out the lines with string; the string must be left in place until the line is dry, otherwise it will transfer paint.



3.1.3. Lines must be painted at a slow walking speed, consistently and layer by layer; it will take at least two (2) to three (3) applications to have the line correct.

3.1.4. The lines must be allowed to dry for at least three (3) hours before training, warm-ups or other maintenance is carried out.

3.1.5. A bucket of water and a soft brush/sponge should be used to remove transfer of paint when marking out.

3.1.6. The paint colour recommended is matte bright white.

3.1.7. The width of the lines must be same as the width of the goalpost.

3.1.8. The penalty spot must be twenty (20) centimetres diameter solid spot. The centre circle spot should be 24cm diameter solid spot.

3.1.9. Lines to be marked latest by two (2) days prior to the Match.

#### **4. Turf Colorant**

4.1. In the situation where the colour of the Field of Play is significantly inconsistent due to poor condition, colorant may be used to improve the visuals.

4.2. The decision to apply paint or turf colorant will be recommended and approved by the Match Director. Turf colorants may not be applied without approval.

#### **5. Pitch Dimensions**

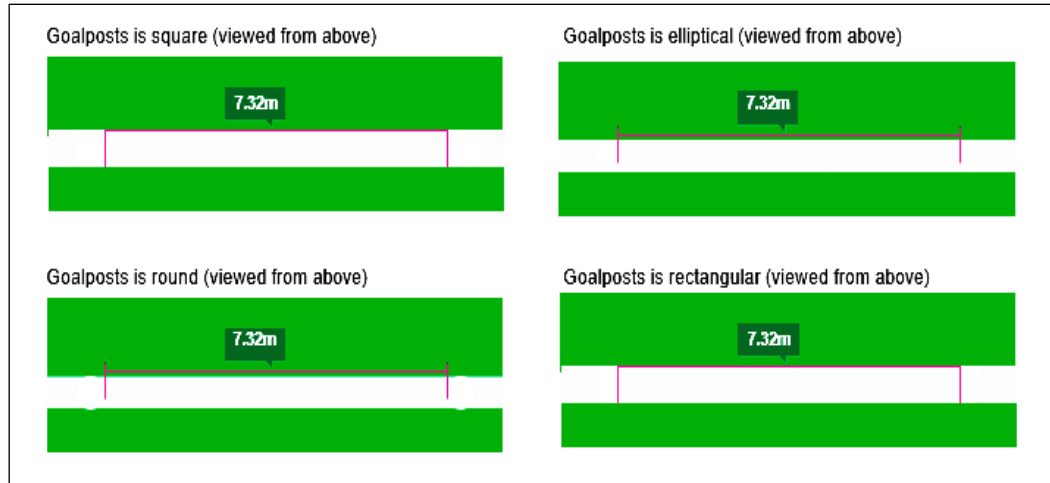
5.1. Measurement of pitch size shall be taken between the distance from outside both goal lines and from outside both touchlines.

#### **6. Pitch Markings**

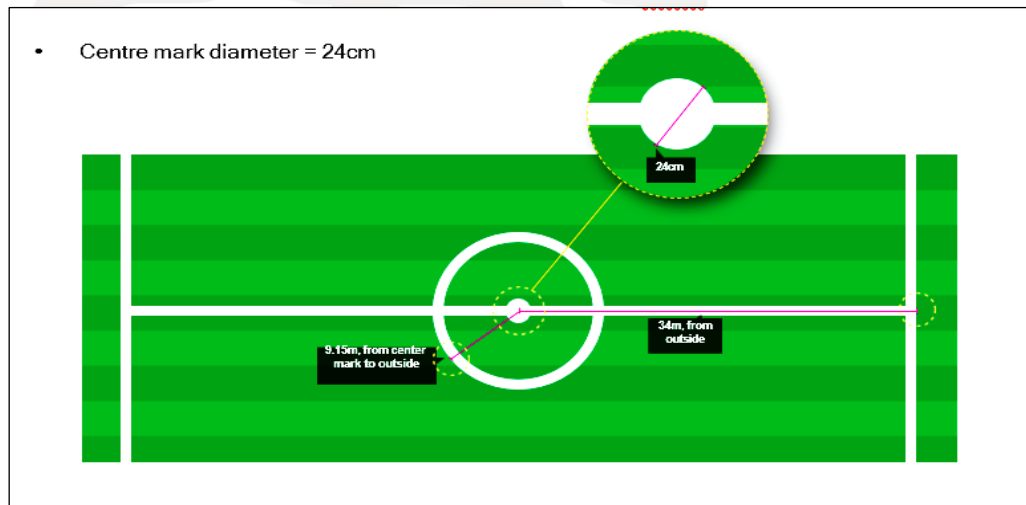
6.1. The lines belong to the areas of which they are boundaries.

6.2. All lines must be the same width as the goalpost, which do not exceed twelve (12) centimetres.

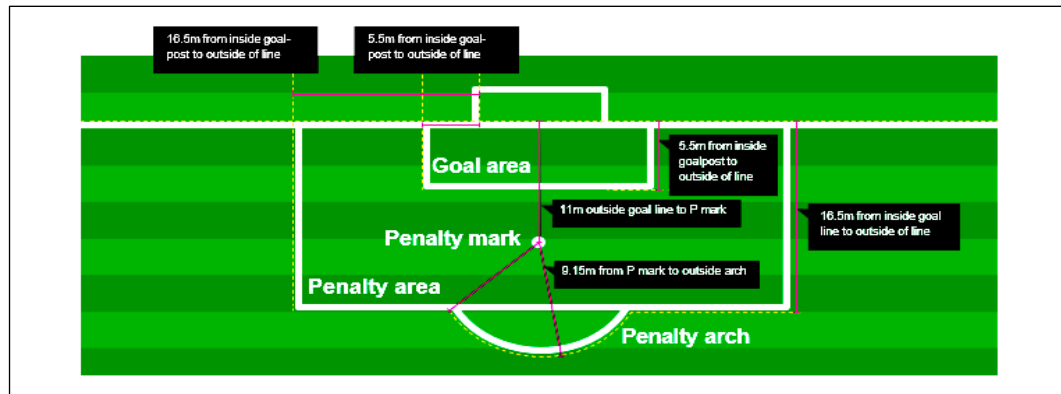
6.3. All lines shall be of bright white colour.



- 6.4. Centre mark = 34m, from outside the touchline to the centre mark.
- 6.5. Centre circle radius = 9.15m, from the outside line to the centre mark.
- 6.6. Centre mark diameter = 24cm.

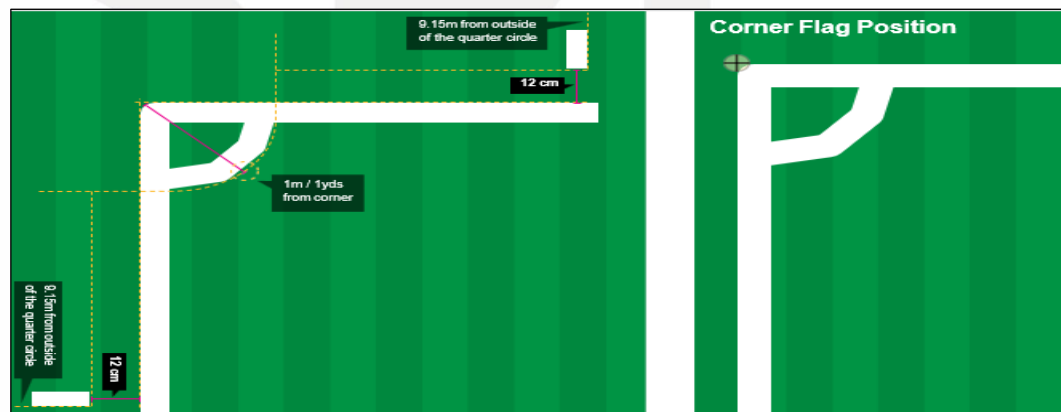


- 6.7. Goal area = 5.5m, from inside of each goal post to outside each line and 5.5m from outside the goal line to outside the goal area line.
- 6.8. Penalty area = 16.5m, from inside of each goalpost to outside each line and 16.5m from outside the goal line to outside the penalty area line.
- 6.9. Penalty mark = 11m from the goal line to the centre of the mark and twenty (20) centimetres in diameter.
- 6.10. Penalty arch = 9.15m radius from the centre of the penalty mark to the outside line.



## 7. Corner Arc / Flag Post

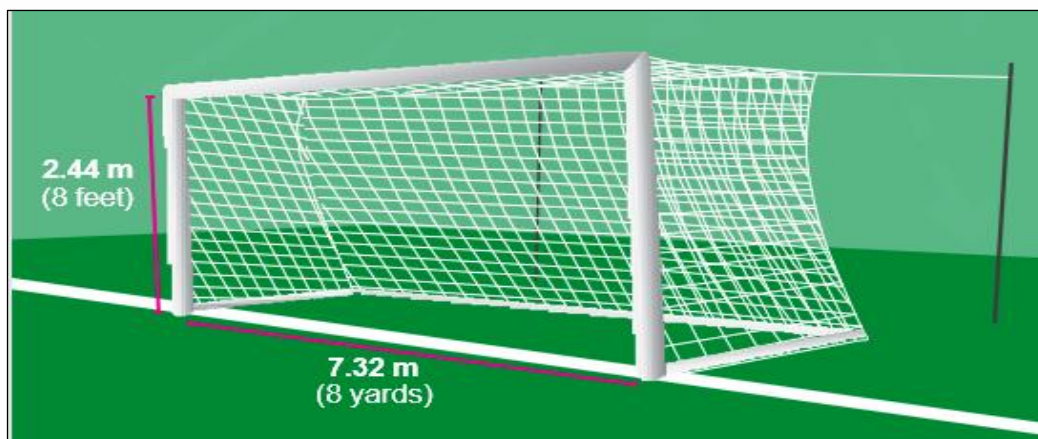
- 7.1. Eight (8) marks (two [2] at each corner) may be made off the field (optional) = 9.15m from outside of the quarter-circle. The marks shall be twenty-four (24) centimetres long and separated (twelve (12) centimetres) from the goal line/touchline.
- 7.2. A quarter circle with a radius of one (1) metre from each corner flag post is drawn inside the Field of Play.
- 7.3. A flag post, not less than one and a half (1.5) metres, with a non-pointed top and a flag must be placed at each corner.



## 8. Goals

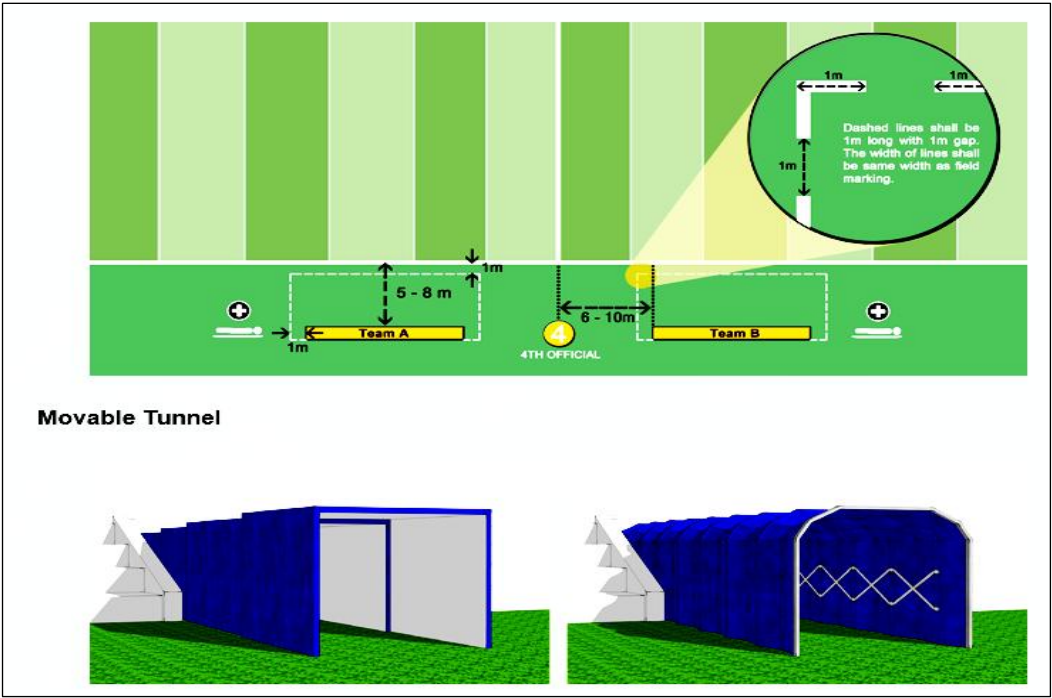
- 8.1. A goal must be placed on the centre of each goal line.
- 8.2. The goalposts and crossbar must be made of approved material and must not be dangerous. The goalposts and the crossbar of both goals must be the same shape, which must be square, rectangular, round, elliptical or a hybrid of these options.
- 8.3. Goals height = 2.44m and width = 7.32m.

- 8.4. Goal must be white and sub posts shall be a darker colour, e.g., black or dark grey.
- 8.5. A net repair kit should be available to repair any holes which develop in the net during the warm- up or during the Match.
- 8.6. The integrity of the net should be checked daily by the stadium manager.



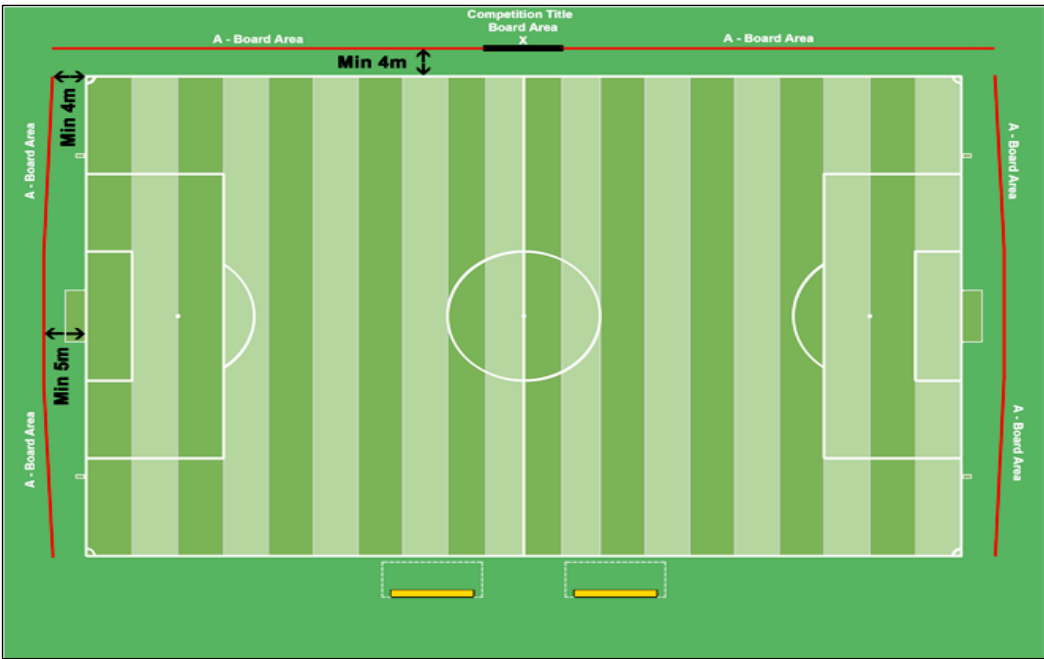
## 9. Team Bench and Technical Area

- 9.1. Distance from the Team Bench to halfway line = 6-10m.
- 9.2. Distance from the Team Bench to touchline = 5-8 m (or depending on the space available).
- 9.3. Team Benches shall not block the view of spectators.
- 9.4. At least twenty (20) seats shall be on the Team Bench.
- 9.5. A movable tunnel is recommended for the following:
  - 9.5.1. when normal Ticket holders are sitting just above the tunnel area; or
  - 9.5.2. it is a very short existing tunnel.
- 9.6. A movable tunnel is to be used during the following times:
  - 9.6.1. pre-match ceremonies;
  - 9.6.2. half-time;
  - 9.6.3. after the final whistle.



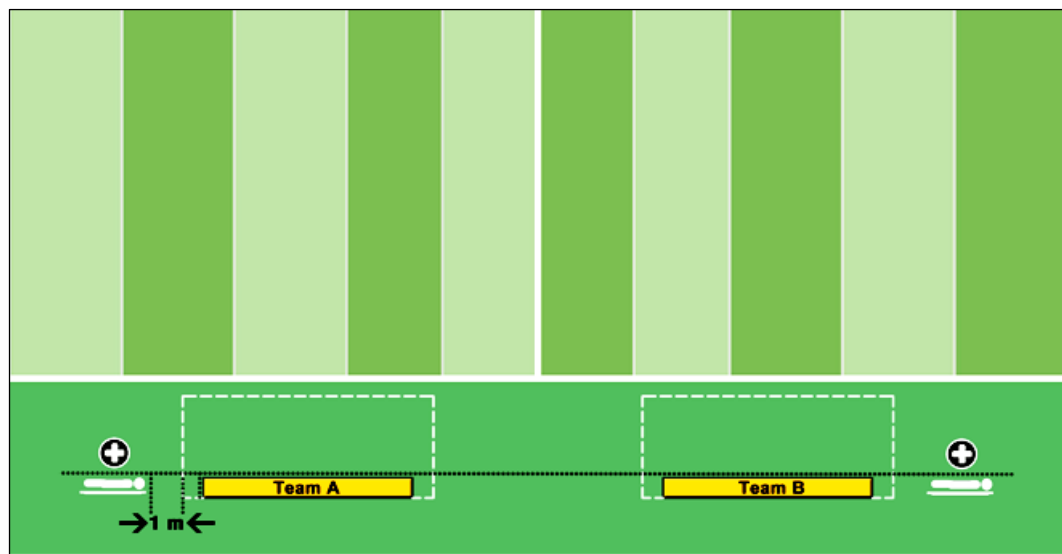
**10. Billboards**

- 10.1. Billboards along the touchline shall be placed preferably within the range of three (3) metres to five (5) metres from the touchline for the safety of Players. The advertising boards behind the goal lines shall be placed preferably at least four (4) metres behind the goal line at all four (4) corners and five (5) metres behind the goals.
- 10.2. The billboards shall have good base support and shall not pose any danger (e.g. with sharp edges).



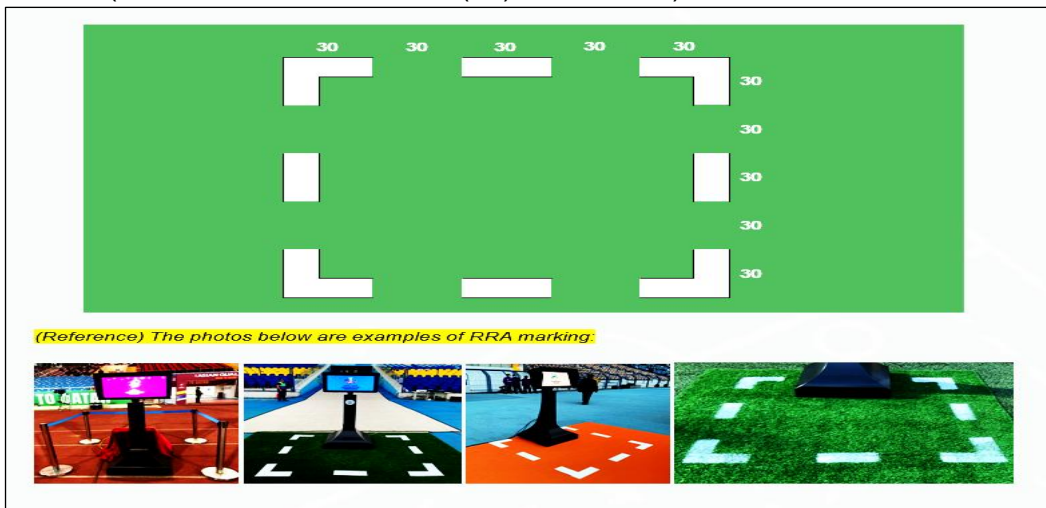
## 11. Stretchers' Position

- 11.1. The Host Club shall prepare at least two (2) sets of four (4) stretcher bearers (or golf carts) for the Match.
- 11.2. Stretcher bearers must be above eighteen (18) years old, in good physical condition and trained in carrying and transferring injured Players.
- 11.3. Both sets of stretcher bearers shall be located one (1) metre away from both the technical areas (as shown below).
- 11.4. They shall be on the same line as the Team Benches and fourth official bench.



## 12. Referee Review Area

- 12.1. In matches using VAR technology, the referee review area is to be safeguarded with the area being boxed with dotted lines of thirty (30) centimetres and two (2) x thirty (30) centimetres empty spaces on each side to form the box with L painted corners (width of lines to be twelve (12) centimetres).





13. Irrigation Heads / Running Track Metal Installation

13.1. All irrigation systems, such as water sprinklers, pumps, drainage and covers, in and surrounding the pitch shall be safe for Players and properly covered with suitable material. Covers inside the Field of Play shall be either natural grass/earth or artificial turf (of the same colour as the grass).





## APPENDIX 5 – APPROVAL OF ELECTRONIC PERFORMANCE TRACKING SYSTEM (EPTS) DEVICES

1. If a Club intends to use any EPTS device, it shall inform the SPL of the type of device that it will be using. All devices shall be inspected by the SPL, which shall make the final decision regarding their use. If there are any concerns, the devices may be presented to the Match Director for further inspection.
2. Independent testing institutes verify the functionality of the products, playing surfaces and technologies in accordance with the respective standard. The institutes conducting these tests are subject to the approval of FIFA. The following quality marks identify those products, playing surfaces and technologies tested and certified to the prevailing requirements:
  - 2.1. FIFA Quality Pro;
  - 2.2. FIFA Quality;
  - 2.3. FIFA Basic (previously known as International Match Standard [IMS])
3. Regarding the data collected through such devices, please note the following points:
  - 3.1. The data (including physical, technical and tactical data) collected, or any interpretation of it, may only be used by the respective team and/or the Player for performance monitoring purposes and by no means for any commercial purpose and/or in association with any third- party.
  - 3.2. The data may not be disclosed to the public for any reason.
  - 3.3. To protect the integrity of, and SPL's rights, it may impose further restrictions on the use of the data collected by an approved electronic performance or tracking system device.
  - 3.4. Clubs shall ensure that all members of their Club Delegation fully comply with the above requirements. The responsibility for failing to do so will be borne by the respective Club.
  - 3.5. Any device worn is at the risk and responsibility of the Player and/or Club concerned.

## APPENDIX 6 - EXPULSIONS AND SUSPENSIONS

Location	Player		Official	
	Expulsion	Suspension	Expulsion	Suspension
<b>Field of Play</b>	ordered to leave the Field of Play and its surrounding	banned from the Field of Play and its surroundings	ordered to leave the Field of Play and its surroundings	banned from the Field of Play and its surroundings
<b>Team Bench</b>	ordered to leave the Team Bench	banned from Team Bench	ordered to leave the Team Bench	banned from the Team Bench.
<b>Technical Area</b>	cannot sit in the technical area	banned from the technical area	cannot sit in the technical area	banned from the technical area
<b>Team Dressing Room</b>	shall stay in either the Dressing Room or doping control room accompanied by a chaperon until the names of the Players selected for the doping test are communicated	banned from the Dressing Room at any time before and during the Match in question (can join after the final whistle)	banned from entering the Dressing Rooms at half time if sent off during the first half of the Match	banned from the Dressing Room at any time before and during the Match in question (can join after the final whistle)
<b>Stands</b>	allowed to sit in the stands, provided his integrity and security are safeguarded, he is not picked for doping control and is no longer wearing his football equipment	allowed to sit in the stands, but not in the immediate vicinity of the Field of Play, provided his integrity and security are safeguarded	allowed to sit in the stands, but not in the immediate vicinity of the Field of Play, provided his integrity and security are safeguarded	allowed to sit in the stands, but not in the immediate vicinity of the Field of Play, provided his integrity and security are safeguarded
<b>Team Bus</b>	allowed to take the team bus	allowed to take the team bus but not allowed to talk to the Media upon arrival or departure	allowed to take the team bus	allowed to take the team bus but not allowed to talk to the Media upon arrival or departure

<b>Prize Presentation Ceremony</b>	allowed to take part in the prize presentation ceremony	allowed to take part in the prize presentation ceremony	allowed to take part in the prize presentation ceremony	allowed to take part in the prize presentation ceremony
<b>Mixed Zone</b>	not allowed in the mixed zone.	banned from the mixed zone	not allowed in the mixed zone	banned from the mixed zone
<b>Press Conferences</b>	not allowed to attend or participate in any Match-related press conference	banned from all Match-related press conferences	not allowed to attend or participate in any Match-related press conference	banned from all Match-related press conferences with the exception of any pre-match press conference on Match day-1
<b>Media Activities</b>	not allowed to undertake any media activities in the Stadium	not allowed to undertake any media activities in the Stadium	not allowed to undertake any media activities in the Stadium	not allowed to undertake any media activities in the Stadium on Match day
<b>Doping Control Room</b>	eligible for doping control and shall stay accompanied by a chaperone until the names of the Players selected for the doping test are communicated	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Contact and Communication</b>	can sit in an area designated by the SPL	can sit in an area designated by the SPL	shall not communicate with or contact anyone involved in the Match by any means whatsoever	shall not be permitted to communicate with or contact any person involved in the Match by any means whatsoever for the duration of a Match

## APPENDIX 7 – ACCREDITATION POLICY

1. Only individuals in possession of a valid permit shall be granted entry to the Stadium. Valid permits shall include:
  - 1.1. Tickets;
  - 1.2. Accreditation Cards and, when necessary (i.e. access to Control Access Areas – SPL Red Zones), supplementary accreditation devices (SADs); and
  - 1.3. other permits as determined by the SPL or Host Club.
2. If an individual cannot produce a valid permit, they shall be refused entry and may be escorted from the respective Controlled Access Area.
3. It is the responsibility of the Host Club and their stewards, Stadium safety and security management staff and public authorities to ensure that only those persons with authority to be inside the Stadium, including members of the public, officials and staff, are permitted into the Stadium.
4. Where restricted access zones within Controlled Access Areas – SPL Red Zones - have been established (e.g. official areas, the Field of Play, the Media Centre), stewards or other appropriate security staff shall be stationed at the designated area to enforce and control access in accordance with the established accreditation and Stadium zoning plan.
5. SPL may engage private security personnel to protect the Controlled Access Areas – SPL Red Zones.
6. Accreditation for Controlled Access Areas – SPL Red Zones shall be issued by the SPL to individuals with specific functions at a Match or Official Function.
7. Accreditation for other Controlled Access Areas shall be issued by SPL in alignment with the Host Club. These accreditation cards will only give access to zones 3, 5 and 9.
8. Accreditation shall, as far as possible, be forgery-proof and provide protection against multiple use.
9. Accreditation is non-transferable.
10. Permits shall restrict access to specific, clearly marked areas and specified Controlled Access Areas.
11. The number of “access all areas” passes shall be kept to an absolute minimum and access rights must be based on working requirements.
12. Accreditation does not permit the holder to attend a Match as a spectator or to occupy any seat in the Stadium that would normally be assigned to a Ticket.

13. A background/criminal check may be performed by SPL and/or the Host Club as part of the accreditation process where necessary.
14. Provision must be made for the withdrawal (on a temporary or permanent basis) of accreditation if the holder is acting in a manner that may prejudice the safety and security of others, a criminal act has been committed or suspected by the holder, the holder's actions are prejudicing the smooth running of the event or the holder has breached the spectator code of conduct.
15. Subject to the agreed security concept and approved accreditation plans, identity cards held by members of the police and other official agencies (including fire and ambulance services) that allow them to carry out operational tasks at the Stadium shall also be regarded as valid permits, provided said members are in uniform and clearly identifiable.
16. Police officers and members of other security agencies wearing plainclothes shall be issued with appropriate accreditation for the tasks they are performing.

### Accreditation zones

<b>Zone 1 Field Area</b>	Field of Play, Team Benches, fourth official bench, tunnel and access to Field of Play, photographers' and camera positions.
<b>Zone 2 Competitions Area</b>	Dressing Rooms, medical and doping control rooms, SPL and Host Club offices, corridors (with access to Dressing Rooms)
<b>Zone 3 Public Areas</b>	general public entrance, public sanitary facilities, public points of sale, concession areas, first aid, commercial display and spectator seats
<b>Zone 4 Operations Areas</b>	all rooms not in zone 2 (IT room, PA announcer booth, police/fire brigade rooms, electrical generator, medical facilities) and storage areas
<b>Zone 5 VIP Areas</b>	VIP reception and lounge, VIP seats and VVIP area
<b>Zone 6 Media Area</b>	Media seats, Mixed Zone, press conference room, radio and TV commentary positions and observer seats
<b>Zone 7 Media Centre</b>	Media working area, Media catering area, Media briefing area, photographers' area and Media services
<b>Zone 8 Broadcast Area</b>	Broadcast/ Compound, radio and television studios, camera platforms
<b>Zone 9 Hospitality</b>	hospitality areas

17. The above is a standard zoning template. The zoning that will be applied for each Match shall be determined by the SPL.
18. SPL Red Zones are composed of Zones 1, 2, 4, 6, 7, and 8.

### Accreditation device and zoning activation times

Day	Enforcement	Zoning Activation	Supplementary Accreditation Device (SADs)
<b>Match day</b>	Accreditation Card is required to access the Stadium at any time	<p><u>Start:</u> three (3) to four (4) hours before kick-off (roaming security in all access control points and rooms to be locked, accessible by relevant persons via access keys)</p> <p><u>Finish:</u> two (2) hours after final whistle (or until the end of activities in the relevant operational area such as the Mixed Zone and doping control room, whichever comes later)</p>	<p><u>Start:</u> two (2) hours before kick-off</p> <p><u>Finish:</u> two (2) hours after final whistle (or until the end of activities in the relevant operational area such as the Mixed Zone and doping control room, whichever comes later)</p>

### Access Boards

19. Access boards shall be set up within the Stadium to display relevant information required for accreditation and access control. They shall be positioned at accreditation sensitive points throughout the Controlled Access Area. The Host Club shall be responsible to set up the access boards, which shall be checked by the Match Director.
20. The access board displays information on which zones (and SADs, where applicable) are needed to enter an area, and the time when control of supplementary accreditation devices is activated. In addition, on every Match-day the respective Match number shall be displayed on the board.

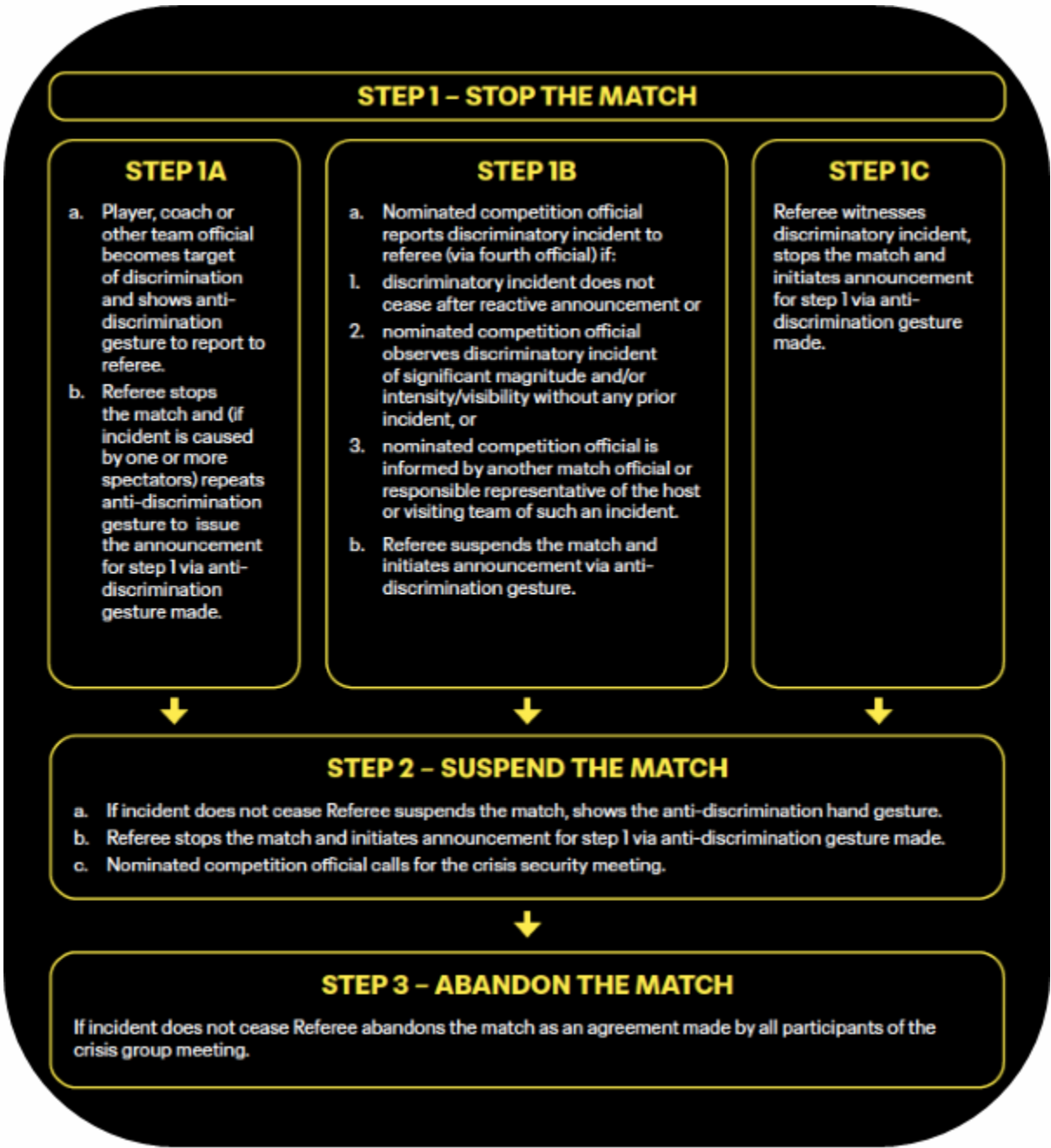
**APPENDIX 8 - PROTOCOL FOR PRE-MATCH GROUP PHOTO AND LINEUP**

1. Once the Players exit the tunnel leading to the Field of Play, the starting Players of each Club must stand behind the line-up board. They must maintain their positions until the broadcasting camera moves from one end of the line-up to the other, which should not exceed thirty (30) seconds.
2. Before the start of the Match and after shaking hands with the Match Referees, the Players must gather in a spot opposite their Team Bench area to take the team photo. The Players must hold their positions to allow all photographers to capture the photo.

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APPENDIX 9 – PROTOCOL FOR DISCRIMINATORY INCIDENTS



## APPENDIX 10 – AMENDMENT OF GOAL SCORER IDENTITY

1. An error in the identity of a goal scorer occurs when the referee report incorrectly attributes a goal to a Player. This occurs when the wrong Player is recorded due to misidentification (e.g. due to confusion over which Player last touched the ball or deflected the ball into the goal, or failure to correctly distinguish between Players from the same Club) or where a goal is mistakenly awarded to a Player from the attacking Club when it was an own-goal by a Player from the defending Club.
  - 1.1. An own-goal is defined as the situation where a Player from the defending Club is the last individual to touch the ball before it enters their Club's goal net, and their touch materially altered the trajectory of the ball leading to the own-goal to be scored.
2. A request to review the identity of a goal scorer must be received by the Chair of the SAFF Referees Committee within forty-eight (48) hours of the final whistle of a Match. The request may be lodged by any Club, the SAFF, or the SPL. Alternatively, an investigation may be opened on an *ex officio* basis within the same time limit by the Chair of the SAFF Referees Committee.
3. The SAFF Referees Committee shall review the broadcast footage within twenty-four (24) hours of receiving the request or opening the investigation. If it determines that the referee report should be amended, the Chair of the SAFF Referees Committee must notify the SPL in writing with supporting evidence (including, where possible, a supplementary report from the referee of the Match) no later than thirty-six (36) hours after the final whistle of the Match.
4. Upon receipt of the report, the SPL Competition Compliance Committee shall issue a decision within twenty-four (24) hours (i.e. no later than ninety-six (96) hours after the final whistle of the Match) to approve or reject the request.
  - 4.1. The SPL Competition Compliance Committee may request further evidence and/or request a meeting with the SAFF Referees Committee before issuing its decision.
  - 4.2. Any report based upon a request or the opening of an investigation which occurred more than forty-eight (48) hours after the final whistle will be automatically rejected.
  - 4.3. The SPL Competition Compliance Committee may issue a decision up to ninety-six (96) hours after the final whistle of the Match.
5. The SPL retains the final authority over the modification of any referee report. It has sole authority to adjust the referee report within the electronic competition management system, on the SPL Website, and on any SPL Channel.
6. If a referee report is modified, the SPL shall notify the relevant Clubs, with the accompanying reports and evidence. No other body is authorised to communicate with the relevant Clubs.

## APPENDIX 11 - OWNERSHIP AND ASSIGNMENT OF COMMERCIAL RIGHTS

- The following table sets out the ownership and assignment of Commercial Rights in the Competition. This table is designed to be complimentary to the relevant section within the Handbook. Any asset not listed in the table remains the property of the SPL.

Asset	SPL	Host Club
<b>Advertising Rights</b>		
<b>3D advertising carpets</b>	Four (4) carpets total: two (2) next to each goal	Six (6) carpets total: three (3) next to each goal
<b>Billboard – LED</b>	<p><u>First Operating Model and Second Operating Model (option 1)</u></p> <p>(i) 25% of billboards (ii) middle board (iii) 100% of billboards from 90<sup>th</sup> minute</p> <p><u>Second Operating Model (option 2)</u></p> <p>(i) 25% of billboards (ii) middle board (iii) 100% of billboards from the 90<sup>th</sup> minute</p>	<p><u>First Operating Model and Second Operating Model (option 1)</u></p> <p>(i) 75% of billboards</p> <p><u>Second Operating Model (option 2)</u></p> <p>(i) 50% of billboards</p>
<b>Billboard - Static</b>	-	100% of billboards
<b>Corner Flags</b>	Retained by SPL	
<b>Flash interview backdrop</b>	-	Backdrop shall be on design approved by the SPL.
<b>Footballs</b>	Retained by SPL	-
<b>Giant screen</b>	<p>May advertise or activate for fan engagement at any time.</p> <p>For social campaigns:</p> <p>(i) before the start of the Match</p> <p>(ii) at half time</p>	<p>For advertising:</p> <p>(i) between ninety (90) minutes to ten (10) minutes prior to the scheduled start of the Match</p> <p>(ii) from five (5) minutes to two (2) hours after the final whistle of the Match</p> <p>For social campaigns:</p> <p>(i) before the start of the Match</p>

		(ii) at half time
<b>Medical Carts</b>	Retained by SPL	-
<b>Mixed Zone</b>	Retained by SPL	-
<b>Officials Bench</b>	Retained by SPL	-
<b>Portired</b>	Retained by SPL	-
<b>Press Conference backdrop</b>	Retained by SPL	-
<b>Spectator Seats</b>	All spectator seats behind the goal area and connected to the VIP Tribune.	All other spectator seats.
<b>Substitution Boards</b>	Retained by SPL	-
<b>Team Bench</b>	-	Advertising must not obstruct spectator view.
<b>Team Picture Boards</b>	Retained by SPL	-
<b>Tunnel (inside and outside, including all corridors in Competition area)</b>	Retained by SPL	-
<b>Track around Field of Play</b>	Two (2) sites: one (1) behind each goal	Four (4) sites: one (1) in each corner of the track
<b>Uniforms for ball crew and player escorts</b>	Retained by SPL	-
<b>Virtual advertising</b>	(Subject to request) 0% or 50% or 100% of slots.	(Subject to request) 0% or 50% or 100% of slots.
<b>Concession Rights</b>		
Spectator-facing area inside the Stadium	-	Host Club  To display and sell Club-related products and services, and products and services of Club Partners.
Outside the Stadium	Retained by SPL	-
<b>Image Rights</b>		
Regarding the Competition	Retained by SPL	-
<b>Media Rights</b>		
Before a Match or during half-time	Retained by SPL	Clubs  Pursuant to Circular issued by SPL.
After a Match	Retained by SPL	Clubs



		Pursuant to Circular issued by SPL.
Merchandise Rights		
All assets	Retained by SPL	-
Promotional Rights		
All assets	Retained by SPL	-
Sponsorship Rights		
All assets	Retained by SPL	-
Travel and Tour Rights		
All assets	Retained by SPL	-
Competition Data		
All assets	Retained by SPL	-

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## APPENDIX 12 – MINIMUM TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS FOR STADIA

1. This appendix sets out the minimum technical requirements for Stadia to be utilised in the Competition. The Handbook may implement additional technical requirements in specific sections.
2. Where there is a discrepancy between any requirements set out in the Handbook and those set out in this appendix, the requirements in this appendix shall apply.
3. Reference to “A”, “B”, and “C” is to the grade assigned to a Stadium by the MOS.

Item	Requirement	“C” Stadium	“B” Stadium	“A” Stadium
Field of Play	Length	105 metres		
	Width	68 metres		
	Minimum distance between goal line and fence	7.5 metres		
	Minimum distance between touch line and fence	5 metres		
	Watering system	Equipped with appropriate watering system		
	Drainage system	Equipped with drainage system to prevent flooding		
	Pitch lines	Appearing from all the camera angles (main camera should view all 4 sides)		
	Surface type	Natural grass		
Warmup area	Size (m <sup>2</sup> ) each side	3 to 6 metres wide and 18 to 24 metres long		
	Location	Along touchline on the side closest to Team Bench		
	Surface type	Same surface as field of play		
Goals (white)	Width	7.32 metres		
	Height	2.44 metres		
	Spare goals	2 backup goals		
	Subposts	Dark colour (black or dark grey)		
Giant screen (scoreboard)	Giant screen	Video-enabled (graphics and animation). Able to show score, clock, logo(s) and in-Match replays.  Giant screens should be able to receive Host Broadcaster signal (16:9 HD SDI) so that the signal does not include any replays if its purpose is to broadcast to the giant screen.		
Match clock	Clock (showing Match time)			
Flagpoles	Number	5 flagpoles		
Team Bench	Covered	Yes		
	Seats	20		
SPL Match Officials' seating and fourth official bench	Covered	Yes (branded)		
	Location	Secured and central.		
	Seats	3		
	Internet	Wireless		
Dressing Room (home and away)	Size (m <sup>2</sup> )	70m <sup>2</sup>	150m <sup>2</sup>	200m <sup>2</sup>
	Areas (approximate sizes)	2: seating area and toilet	3: seating area (80m <sup>2</sup> ), toilets (40m <sup>2</sup> ), and massage area (30m <sup>2</sup> )	3: seating area (80m <sup>2</sup> ), toilets (50m <sup>2</sup> ), massage area (30 m <sup>2</sup> ),

				coach room (50m <sup>2</sup> )
	Access path	Secured, direct, and private		
	Showers / Toilets	4 / 4	4 / 4	4 / 4
	Seating	30	30	30
	Additional seating area	5	5	5
	Massage table	1	2	2
	Whiteboard	1	1	1
	Refrigerator	1	1	1
	Power source	3	3	5
	Air-conditioning	Yes		
	Lighting	Full light - 600 lux (day light / soft)		
	Branding	Fill empty spaces that appear live		
Match Referees' dressing room	Size (m <sup>2</sup> )	30m <sup>2</sup>		
	Showers / Toilets	1 / 1	2 / 1	2 / 2
	Seating	5 + 1 table	5 + 1 table	5 + 1 table
	Refrigerator	1	1	1
	Access path	Secured, direct, and private		
	Air-conditioning	Yes		
Medical room (Players and Club Officials)	Size (m <sup>2</sup> )	50 m <sup>2</sup>		
	Location	Same side of Stadium as Dressing Rooms		
	Treatment table	1	1	2
	Toilet / Wash basin	1 / 1	1 / 1	1 / 1
	Oxygen with appropriate masks / oral airway	Yes		
	Splints (spinal)			
	Stretchers			
	Suction machine			
	I/V drip sets with emergency injection and medication			
	Minor surgery equipment			
	Automated External Defibrillators	2		
	Air-conditioning	Yes		
Doping control room	Size (m <sup>2</sup> )	35m <sup>2</sup>		
	Areas	3: waiting room, test area, toilet (within or adjacent to test area)		
	Location	Secure, same side of Stadium as Dressing Rooms		
	Air-conditioning	Yes		
Doping control room (waiting room)	Access	Partitioned from test area		
	Size (m <sup>2</sup> )	20m <sup>2</sup>		
	Seating	8		
	Refrigerator	Yes		
Doping control room (test area)	Access	Partitioned from waiting room		
	Size (m <sup>2</sup> )	Approx 15m <sup>2</sup>		
	Seating	4 + 1 table		
	Lockable cabinet	1		
	Showers / Toilets / Wash basin	1 / 1 / 1		
Match Director office	Size (m <sup>2</sup> )	20m <sup>2</sup>		
	Location	Secured, same side of Stadium as Dressing Rooms, close to the Player tunnel		



	Seating	5 + 1 table		
	IT equipment	1 notebook or desktop, wireless internet, 1 printer, 1 photocopier, consumables (e.g. paper, toner, ink cartridges)		
	Television	1 (32-inch) with Match live feed		
	Toilet	1 - can be located near (if not within)		
	Air-conditioning	Yes		
Ball Crew room	Size (m <sup>2</sup> )	40m <sup>2</sup>		
	Location	Any area of Stadium within reasonable distance of Field of Play		
	Toilet	1 - can be located near (if not within)		
	Seating	14 + 1 table		
	Air-conditioning	Yes		
Storage rooms	Number	1	2	2
	Size (m <sup>2</sup> )	At least 10 m <sup>2</sup>		
	Air-conditioning	No	No	Yes
	Location	Any area of Stadium with easy access to Field of Play and competition area		
Tunnel	Branding	Fill empty spaces that appear live		
	Lighting	Full light - 600 lux (day light / soft)		
Minimum capacity and seating	Minimum capacity	3,000	10,000	20,000
	VVIP seats	10 and numbered	10 and numbered	50 and numbered
	VIP seats	10 and numbered	30 and numbered	50 and numbered
	Category 1 seats	Seating area, individual seats with backrest		
	Category 2 seats	Seating area, individual seats with backrest		
	Disability seats	Pursuant to KSA legal requirements		
	Mobility seats	Pursuant to KSA legal requirements		
	Area for Away Club spectators	Yes, segregated and dedicated area in Stadium		
	Seats covered by roof	VVIP, VIP, Media	VVIP, VIP, Media	VVIP, VIP, Media, Category 1
	Numbered seats	All seats		
Spectator bathrooms	General	Seated toilets for both genders equipped with sinks and amenities (toilet paper and soap)		
	Toilets (disabled spectators)	1 near to every allocated disabled seating area		
	Location	Distributed in each area / sector of Stadium		
First aid (spectators)	Size (m <sup>2</sup> )	Minimum 15m <sup>2</sup>	Minimum 30m <sup>2</sup>	Minimum 30m <sup>2</sup>
	Location	Near spectator seating, with easy access for majority. Accessible to emergency vehicles.		
	Toilet / Wash basin	Not required	1 / 1	1 / 1
	Treatment table	1		
	Signpost	Clear sign posting		
	Other Equipment	Stretchers, blankets, pillows, airway equipment, breathing equipment, automated external defibrillator, splints (spinal), spinal immobilisation equipment, I/V drip sets with emergency injection and medication, minor surgery equipment, stocked glass medicine cabinet with various drugs, syringes, gauzes, needles, antiseptic, hazard containers (etc.)		
	Quantity	1 point of sale for every 500 seats		

Food and beverage (Stadium free to choose permanent, temporary, or mobile concession)	Permanent concessions	60m <sup>2</sup> (length approx. 10 metres), 6-8 points of sale, electricity, water (hot and cold), storage area, grease trap, telephone (data lines), lighting		
	Temporary concessions	18m <sup>2</sup> (length approx. 4 metres), electricity, water, lighting		
	Mobile concessions	4m <sup>2</sup> (length approx. 2 metres)		
	Location	Near each seating sector / area, within parking area, within outer perimeter		
Signage and wayfinding	Directional signage	Pictograms to show overall view and direction in Stadium (location of each sector, how to access)		
	Bathroom and medical signage	Clearly showing bathroom and medical facilities		
	External signage	Road signs showing how to reach Stadium		
	Broadcast Partner / Media areas	Appropriate signage		
Media Tribune (covered)	Seat with desk	30	60	100
	Seat without desk	30	60	100
	Work area	Seats with desk large enough to fit a laptop		
	Power	Yes, 1 per every 3 seats		
	Internet	Wireless		
	Location	Secured, central in Stadium, exclusive to Media		
Press conference room	Size (m <sup>2</sup> )	50m <sup>2</sup>	100m <sup>2</sup>	100m <sup>2</sup>
	Location	Same side of Stadium as competition area and other Media facilities. Separate from Media Centre.		
	Seating	30	60	100
	Podium	Yes, for minimum 5 individuals with head table		
	Lighting	800 lux (warm light / soft)		
	Camera platform	Stable camera platform at the rear with depth of 6 metres, width of 2.5 metres, height same as the conference platform		
	Sound system	Audio distribution amplifier and split box (with operator) system, with 4 XLR outputs		
	Microphone(s)	5 on podium, 2 wireless		
	Air-conditioning	Yes		
Media Centre	Size (m <sup>2</sup> )	50m <sup>2</sup>	100m <sup>2</sup>	100m <sup>2</sup>
	Location	Same side of Stadium as Media Tribune		
	Seats	30	40	50
	Work area	Desk(s) available		
	Internet	Wireless		
	IT requirements	1 medium-sized photocopier	1 heavy-duty photocopier	1 heavy-duty photocopier
	First aid kit	Yes		
	Food and beverage	Not required	Yes, separate private area	Yes, separate private area
	Television	1 (32 inch) with Match live feed	2 (32 inch) with Match live feed	2 (32 inch) with Match live feed
	Photographer area	Not required	Yes	Yes
	Air-conditioning	Yes		
Mixed Zone	Size (m <sup>2</sup> )	Not applicable	100m <sup>2</sup>	100m <sup>2</sup>
	Areas	3: clear division into television, written press, radio, measured against 10 metre backdrop		
	Location	Between Dressing Rooms and exit to team bus area		
	Access	No mixing between Media and any category of spectators (including VVIP / VIP)		
	Lighting	Directed from behind Media at Club Delegation and backdrop. 800 Lux minimum (soft light)		

	Cables	Direct cable route from the Broadcast Compound		
	Camera positions	Film 4 metres backdrop - fit minimum 4 cameras (each 1x1 metre)	Film 10 metres backdrop - fit 5-10 cameras (minimum 5, each 1x1 metre)	Film 10 metres backdrop - fit 5-10 cameras (minimum 5, each 1x1 metre)
	Covered	Yes, sealed against weather conditions		
Photographer positions	Location	Behind each goal line		
	Chairs (each end)	15	20	40
	Internet	Wireless		
Camera positions (platforms)	Camera platform (construction)	Solid, strong, good base, non-vibrating, able to carry at least 350kg of weight with size: 2.5 metres x 2.5 metres for each camera		
	Main camera platform	Halfway line, height 25-35 degrees, platform size: width 8 metres x depth 2.5 metres (d), minimum 5 cameras	Halfway line, height 25-35 degrees, platform size: width 8 metres x depth 2.5 metres (d), minimum 5 cameras	Halfway line, height 25-35 degrees, platform size: width 10 metres x depth 2.5 metres (d), minimum 5 cameras
	Offside position (top of the 18-yard box)	Elevated position, same height as main camera, platform size: width 2.5 metres x depth 2.5 metres		
	High Reverse position	Opposite main camera platform, same height as main camera, platform size: width 2.5 metres x depth 2.5 metres		
	Beauty position	Platform size: width 2.5 metres x depth 2.5 metres		
	Two platforms 5 metres above Field of Play	Elevated position, same height as main camera, platform size: width 2.5 metres x depth 2.5 metres. Some 'killed' seats may be required		
	High behind goals	Platform size: width 2.5 metres (w) x depth 2.5 metres x height 6 metres		
	Field of Play level	'Jimmy Jib' position behind goal, platform size: width 6 metres x depth 2 metres  'Goal Line' position, platform size: width 2.5 metres x depth 2.5 metres (both sides)  'Behind Goal' position, camera area size: width 2.5 metres x depth 2.5 metres  'Reverse camera' position, camera area size: width 2.5 metres x depth 2.5 metres  'Orbiter' position, camera area size: width 2.5 metres x depth 2.5 metres		
	SKY Camera / 'Spider Cam'	4 corner locations for winches and operation base. Power available on each corner (400volt / 32-amp sockets; stable power with red '3 Phase' 5 pins)		
Television and radio commentary positions	Location	Unobstructed view of the Field of Play, centred, same side of Stadium as main camera		
	Size	Width 3 metres x depth 3 metres x height 2.5 metres.		

		For non-enclosed positions, at least width 3 metres x depth 2 metres x height 0.7 metres.
	Quantity	2
	Seats (per room)	2
	Air-conditioning	Yes (in enclosed positions)
	Television	1 with Match live feed
	IT requirements	Ethernet 10/100, Rj45, minimum 512 kbps, DHCP, non-blocked, all ports open or WLAN, 2 power jacks, 2 phone jacks (ISDN)
	Acoustics	Soundproofed and equipped with echo prevention techniques to prevent noise entering.
	Signage	Directions for commentators
Glass television studios	Location	Unobstructed view of the Field of Play, same side of Stadium as main camera
	Acoustics	Soundproofed and equipped with echo prevention techniques to prevent noise entering.
	Size	Width 5 metres x depth 5 metres x height 3 metres.
	Quantity	1
	Air-conditioning	Yes
	IT requirements	Patching facilities and 2 power jacks
	Lighting	Beams installed on the ceiling
	Signage	Directions for Media
Broadcast Compound	Size (m <sup>2</sup> )	1000m <sup>2</sup>
	Location	Close to Media Centre, directly next to the Stadium bowl (open space for satellite)
	Lighting	Sufficient light for human movement
	Security	Fenced with dedicated security personnel
	Signage	Indicate Broadcast Compound area and directions for Media
	Power	125AMP 3 Phase x1, 63AMP 3 Phase x 3, 32AMP 3 Phase x1, 32AMP Single Phase x1
	Cabling	Access to the Field of Play and Media areas (press conference room, mixed zone, camera positions)
	Hygiene	Garbage bins to be provided
	Fire Extinguisher	Minimum 2
	Pre-Patching Facilities (will vary by Stadium)	Study to be conducted Stadium by Stadium
Media registration desk	Location	Proximity of Media Centre
	Security	Secure area
Media bathrooms	Location	Inside or proximity of Media Centre / Media Tribune
Broadcast Partner office / rest area	Location	Within Broadcast Compound
	Size (m <sup>2</sup> )	Minimum 4x4m <sup>2</sup>
	Internet	Wireless
	Secured	Secure area
	Air-conditioning	Yes
	Toilets	1 male/ 1 female
Floodlights	Lux	Must meet television broadcast standard "FIFA CLASS 4 / FIFA Category A"
	Lux	Must meet average illuminance of 500 Ev lux

Emergency lighting system	Requirements	Must function for at least 3 hours after first utilisation (in coordination with public address system, CCTV system, other life safety systems)		
Power	LED billboards	2x125A 5 Phase CEE outlets, with connection point maximum 50 metres from corner flag		
	General supply	Uninterrupted via generator enough for 800 lux emergency lighting for 3 hours.		
	Specific supply	Broadcast Partners, LED billboards, floodlights		
Safety Certification	Civil Defence or Municipality	Certificate from relevant authority		
Emergency and Evacuation Plan	Civil Defence	Approval of plan by Civil Defence authority		
Public access and egress	Public passageways and stairways	Clearly identifiable via signage or bright colours		
	Exit doors and gates	Must comply with safety requirements designed to remain unlocked but usage manned while Spectators in the Stadium; doors open outwards in direction of evacuation routes)		
	Earthed lightning rod in case of lightning strikes	Yes		
Control Room	Location	Overall view of Field of Play		
	CCTV facilities	Inside and outside Stadium		
Public address system	Availability	Yes		
	Areas	Spectator seating area		
	Giant screen	Announcements should be coordinated		
	Music	Equipped with appropriate facilities for music		
	Audio Outputs	Minimum 4 XLR outputs for Host Broadcaster		
Stadium entry rules	Ticketing terms and conditions (Arabic and English) at all spectator gates	Yes		
Parking spaces	Away Club	1 bus, 1 sedan, 1 luggage truck		
	Match Referees	1 van		
	SPL	10	15	20
	Doping control	2		
	Location	Secured, in immediate vicinity of Player and Club Official entrance		
	Ambulance	2 with non-obstructed access to Field of Play		
	Broadcast Partners	5	5	8

APPENDIX 13 – EQUIPMENT PERMITTED TO DISPLAY SPONSOR ADVERTISING

- 1. This appendix sets out a summary example of the equipment that is permitted to display sponsor advertising in accordance with Article 71.
- 2. Where there is a discrepancy between any matters set out in the Handbook and those set out in this appendix, the matters in the Handbook shall apply.

Playing Kit: 2025/26 Season





# JERSEY

Sleeves

1 OR 2

**SPONSOR LOGO**  
If 1, max 100cm²  
If 2, max 50cm² each





OPTIONAL

**MANUFACTURER IDENTIFIER**  
Max 25cm²

OPTIONAL

**MANUFACTURER IDENTIFIER BAND**  
Max 8cm wide

2025/26 SEASON

# Player SHORTS

OPTIONAL

**MANUFACTURER IDENTIFIER BAND**  
Can be placed on left or right leg

Max 5cm

OPTIONAL

**QUALITY SEAL/ TECHNOLOGY LABEL**  
Max 10cm²  
Can be placed at the top or bottom of shorts, with the furthest point no more than 5cm from the top/bottom seam

SPONSOR LOGO

Max 100cm²

REGISTERED NUMBER

Latin numerals  
Max 170cm²

CLUB LOGO

Max 50cm²

MANUFACTURER IDENTIFIER

Max 25cm²

OPTIONAL

**MANUFACTURER IDENTIFIER BAND**  
Can be placed on left or right leg



2025/26 SEASON

# Player SOCKS

OPTIONAL

**MANUFACTURER IDENTIFIER**  
Either 1 label (max 20cm²) or 2 labels (max 10cm²) per sock

CLUB LOGO

One on each sock  
Max 50cm²



2025/26 SEASON



Playing Kit: 2026/27 Season

Front of  
**JERSEY**



MANUFACTURER IDENTIFIER  
Max 25cm<sup>2</sup>

SPONSOR LOGO  
Max 70cm<sup>2</sup>

CLUB LOGO  
Max 100cm<sup>2</sup>

SPONSOR LOGO  
Max 300cm<sup>2</sup>

OPTIONAL

TECHNOLOGY LABEL / QUALITY SEAL  
Max 10cm<sup>2</sup>  
Top edge of the label/seal must be no more than 15cm from the bottom seam

2026/27 SEASON

Back of  
**JERSEY**



SPONSOR LOGO<sup>\*</sup>  
Max 100cm<sup>2</sup>

Required gap of min 4cm

REGISTERED NUMBER  
Latin numerals  
Max 480cm<sup>2</sup>

SPONSOR LOGO<sup>\*</sup>  
Max 200cm<sup>2</sup>

OPTIONAL

\*One of the sponsor logos may be swapped to a charity logo

OPTIONAL

MANUFACTURER IDENTIFIER  
Max 25cm<sup>2</sup>

REGISTERED NAME  
Latin version  
Max 210cm<sup>2</sup>

OPTIONAL

Saudi Pro League may advertise inside number

OPTIONAL

TECHNOLOGY LABEL / QUALITY SEAL  
Max 10cm<sup>2</sup>  
Top edge of the label/seal must be no more than 15cm from the bottom seam

2026/27 SEASON

**JERSEY**  
Sleeves



SPONSOR LOGO  
Max 100cm<sup>2</sup>

OPTIONAL

MANUFACTURER IDENTIFIER  
Max 25cm<sup>2</sup>

OPTIONAL

MANUFACTURER IDENTIFIER BAND  
Max 8cm wide

2026/27 SEASON

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Player  
**SHORTS**



2026/27 SEASON

Player  
**SOCKS**



2026/27 SEASON



Other equipment

Player

# WARM UP SHIRT

**SPONSOR LOGO**  
Max 100cm<sup>2</sup>

**PLAYER NUMBER**  
(if not already on shorts)  
Latin numerals

**OPTIONAL**  
**MANUFACTURER IDENTIFIER BAND**  
Can be placed on left or right sleeve

**SPONSOR LOGO**  
Max 300cm<sup>2</sup>



**OPTIONAL**  
**MANUFACTURER IDENTIFIER BAND**  
Can be placed on left or right sleeve

**OPTIONAL**

**CLUB LOGO**  
Any number, any location

**MANUFACTURER IDENTIFIER**  
Up to 5, any location  
Max 20cm<sup>2</sup>

**TECHNOLOGY LABEL**  
Any location  
Max 10cm<sup>2</sup>

**QUALITY SEALS**  
Up to 2, any location  
First, max 10cm<sup>2</sup>  
Second, max 5cm<sup>2</sup>

Player

# ANTHEM JACKET

**SPONSOR LOGO**  
Same main sponsor as jersey  
Max 50cm<sup>2</sup>

**OPTIONAL**  
**MANUFACTURER IDENTIFIER BAND**  
Can be placed on left, or right sleeve



**OPTIONAL**  
**MANUFACTURER IDENTIFIER BAND**  
Can be placed on left or right sleeve

**OPTIONAL**

**CLUB LOGO**  
Any number, any location

**MANUFACTURER IDENTIFIER**  
Up to 5, any location  
Max 20cm<sup>2</sup>

**TECHNOLOGY LABEL**  
Any location  
Max 10cm<sup>2</sup>

**QUALITY SEALS**  
Up to 2, any location  
First, max 10cm<sup>2</sup>  
Second, max 5cm<sup>2</sup>

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# MEDICAL

Staff Shirt

**OPTIONAL**

**MANUFACTURER IDENTIFIER BAND**  
Can be placed on left or right sleeve

**OPTIONAL**

**MANUFACTURER IDENTIFIER BAND**  
Can be placed on left or right sleeve

**SPONSOR LOGO**  
Must be from medical sector or an associated industry  
Max 200cm²

**OPTIONAL**

**MANUFACTURER IDENTIFIER BAND**  
Can be placed on left or right sleeve

**SPONSOR**

**OPTIONAL**

**CLUB LOGO**  
Any number, any location

**MANUFACTURER IDENTIFIER**  
Up to 5, any location  
Max 20cm²

**TECHNOLOGY LABEL**  
Any location  
Max 10cm²

**QUALITY SEALS**  
Up to 2, any location  
First, max 10cm²  
Second, max 5cm²

# MEDICAL

Bag

**SPONSOR LOGO**  
Same sponsor as medical staff shirt  
Max 200cm²

**SPONSOR**

**OPTIONAL**

**CLUB LOGO**  
Any number, any location