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# Disciplinary Regulations DR

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**On the basis of Article 56 of the *UEFA Statutes*, the UEFA Executive Committee issues the following disciplinary regulations:**

## **INTRODUCTION**

### **Article 1      *Subject and objectives***

- <sup>1</sup> The present regulations serve to ensure that the objectives of UEFA are attained as per Article 2 of the *UEFA Statutes*.
- <sup>2</sup> These regulations contain the substantive and formal provisions for the sanctioning of disciplinary offences falling within their scope of application. They describe the infringements, regulate the application of penalties and govern the organisation and action of the disciplinary bodies and the procedure to be followed before these bodies.

### **Article 2      *Scope of material application***

- <sup>1</sup> The present regulations apply to any breach of UEFA's Statutes, regulations, directives or decisions, with the exception of any breach of the *UEFA Club Licensing and Financial Fair Play Regulations* which may be penalised by the Club Financial Control Body in accordance with the *Procedural rules governing the UEFA Club Financial Control Body*.
- <sup>2</sup> When a case seems to come under the jurisdiction of both the Control and Disciplinary Body and the Club Financial Control Body, the chairmen of the two bodies decide in their own discretion which body shall deal with the case. If they cannot reach an agreement, the chairman of the Appeals Body decides in his own discretion. Such decisions on jurisdiction may only be appealed against with the final decision of the body to which the case was assigned.
- <sup>3</sup> The present regulations govern all matters to which the text explicitly or implicitly relates.

### **Article 3      *Scope of personal application***

- <sup>1</sup> The following submit to the present regulations:
  - a) the member associations and their officials;
  - b) the clubs and their officials;
  - c) the match officials;
  - d) the players;
  - e) all persons charged by a member association or club to exercise a function on the occasion of a match.
- <sup>2</sup> The above-mentioned people and bodies are subjected to UEFA's disciplinary power. They are bound by and recognise the statutes, regulations, directives

and decisions of UEFA, as well as the Laws of the Game as issued by the International Football Association Board (IFAB).

**Article 4      *Subsidiary law***

In the absence of specific provisions in these and other regulations, the competent disciplinary body shall take a decision on the basis of recognised legal principles and in accordance with justice and fairness. The disciplinary body shall base its decision on customary UEFA rules or, where this is not possible, on the rules it would establish were it to legislate.

**PART ONE: DISCIPLINARY LAW**

**A. General Provisions**

**Article 5      *Principles of conduct***

<sup>1</sup> Member associations and clubs, as well as their players, officials and members, shall conduct themselves according to the principles of loyalty, integrity and sportsmanship.

<sup>2</sup> For example, a breach of these principles is committed by anyone:

- a) who engages in or attempts to engage in active or passive bribery and/or corruption;
- b) whose conduct is insulting or otherwise violates the basic rules of decent conduct;
- c) who uses sporting events for manifestations of a non-sporting nature;
- d) whose conduct brings the sport of football, and UEFA in particular, into disrepute;
- e) who does not abide by decisions and directives of the Organs for the Administration of Justice;
- f) who does not comply with instructions given by the match officials;
- g) who culpably reports for a match late or not at all;
- h) who culpably causes a match to be interrupted or abandoned or who is responsible for its interruption or abandonment;
- i) who inscribes on the match sheet a player who is not eligible to play;
- j) who commits an act of assault;
- k) who behaves in an unsporting manner to gain an advantage.

### **Article 5bis**      ***Integrity of matches and competitions***

- <sup>1</sup> All persons bound by UEFA's rules and regulations must refrain from any behaviour that damages or could damage the integrity of matches and competitions organised by UEFA and they must cooperate fully with UEFA at all times in its efforts to combat such behaviour.
- <sup>2</sup> A breach of these principles is committed, for example, by anyone:
  - a) who acts in a way that is likely to exert an influence on the course and/or the result of a match or competition by means of behaviour in breach of the statutory objectives of UEFA with a view to gaining an advantage for himself or a third party;
  - b) who participates directly or indirectly in betting or similar activities relating to UEFA competition matches or who has a direct or indirect financial interest in such activities;
  - c) who uses or provides others with information which is not publicly available, is obtained through his position in football and damages or could damage the integrity of a UEFA match or competition;
  - d) who does not immediately and voluntarily inform UEFA if approached in connection with activities aimed at influencing the course and/or result of a match or competition;
  - e) who does not immediately and voluntarily report to UEFA any behaviour he is aware of that falls within the scope of this article.
- <sup>3</sup> If filed after the relevant competition stage has finished, complaints regarding match-fixing can have no impact on the sporting result of the competition or match in question. Therefore the match cannot be replayed.

### **Article 6**      ***Responsibility***

- <sup>1</sup> Member associations and clubs are responsible for the conduct of their players, officials, members, supporters and any other persons exercising a function at a match on behalf of the member association or club.
- <sup>2</sup> The host associations or clubs are responsible for order and security both inside and around the stadium before, during and after the match. They are liable for incidents of any kind, and may be rendered subject to disciplinary measures and directives.

### **Article 7**      ***Statute of limitations***

- <sup>1</sup> There is a statute of limitations on prosecution, which is barred at the end of:
  - a) 1 year for offences committed on the field of play or in its immediate vicinity;
  - b) 8 years for doping offences;
  - c) 20 years for bribery and/or corruption;
  - d) 5 years for all other offences.

<sup>2</sup> The statutes of limitations as set forth above are interrupted by any procedural act.

<sup>3</sup> The statute of limitations starts afresh at each interruption. Prosecution is, however, no longer possible when the ordinary period of the statute of limitations as per paragraph 1 above has been exceeded by half.

## **B. Offences**

### **Article 8 Principles**

<sup>1</sup> Unsportsmanlike conduct, breaches of the Laws of the Game and infringements of the statutes, regulations, decisions and directives of UEFA are punished by means of disciplinary measures.

<sup>2</sup> Disciplinary measures provided for in these regulations may be taken against member associations, clubs and any individuals listed under Article 3 for offences committed before, during or after the match.

### **Article 9 Expulsion and accumulated cautions**

<sup>1</sup> Unless the competent disciplinary body decides otherwise, a player sent off the field of play or an official expelled from the technical area is automatically suspended for the next match of the competition in which the expulsion occurred.

<sup>2</sup> A player who receives cautions in different matches of the same competition is suspended for the next match of that competition, in accordance with the conditions laid down in the regulations of the competition concerned and any directives published in a circular letter.

<sup>3</sup> If a match is replayed in full, any cautions issued in the match to be replayed shall be cancelled.

<sup>4</sup> Cautions issued in a match that is subsequently declared forfeit shall not be cancelled.

### **Article 10 Misconduct of players**

<sup>1</sup> The following suspensions apply for competition matches:

a) suspension for one competition match or for a specified period for:

- 1) a second caution in the same match,
- 2) rough play,
- 3) repeated protests against or failure to comply with the referee's orders,
- 4) insulting players or others present at the match,
- 5) unsporting conduct,
- 6) provoking spectators,
- 7) participating in a match when suspended;



- b) suspension for two competition matches or for a specified period for pestering or insulting any match official;
  - c) suspension for two competition matches or for a specified period for acting with the obvious intent to cause any match official to make an incorrect decision or supporting his error of judgement and thereby causing him to make an incorrect decision;
  - d) suspension for two competition matches or for a specified period for clearly receiving a yellow or red card on purpose;
  - e) suspension for three competition matches or for a specified period for assaulting another player or other person present at the match;
  - f) suspension for five competition matches or for a specified period for serious assault;
  - g) suspension for ten competition matches or for a specified period for assaulting any match official.
- <sup>2</sup> If the match is abandoned or subsequently declared forfeit, the offences listed above shall still be punishable.
- <sup>3</sup> Disciplinary action may be taken against gross unsportsmanlike conduct even if the referee did not see it and was therefore unable to take any factual decision.
- <sup>4</sup> In the event of serious offences, a suspension may be extended to include all competition categories.
- <sup>5</sup> Suspensions may be combined with fines.

**Article 11      *Other offences***

- <sup>1</sup> Disciplinary measures provided for in Articles 14 and 15 of the present regulations may be taken against member associations or clubs if:
- a) a team, player, official or member is in breach of Article 5 of the present regulations;
  - b) a team conducts itself improperly, for example if individual disciplinary sanctions have been imposed by the referee on at least five players during the same match. For futsal competitions, an offence occurs when at least three players have received disciplinary sanctions during the same match.
- <sup>2</sup> The same disciplinary measures may be taken against member associations or clubs in case of inappropriate behaviour on the part of their supporters, including:
- a) the invasion or attempted invasion of the field of play;
  - b) the throwing of objects;
  - c) the lighting of fireworks or any other objects;
  - d) the use of laser pointers or similar electronic devices;

- e) the use of gestures, words, objects or any other means to transmit any message that is not fit for a sports event, in particular if it is of a political, offensive or provocative nature;
- f) acts of damage;
- g) any other lack of order or discipline observed inside or around the stadium.

#### **Article 11bis      *Discrimination and similar conduct***

- <sup>1</sup> Anyone who insults the human dignity of a person or group of persons by whatever means, including on grounds of colour, race, religion or ethnic origin, shall incur a suspension for five matches or for a specified period. If a member association or club or any of their officials is found guilty of such conduct, depending on the circumstances this suspension could be replaced by a fine.
- <sup>2</sup> If one or more of a member association or club's supporters engage in the behaviour described in paragraph 1, the member association or club responsible shall be fined €20,000.
- <sup>3</sup> If particular circumstances so require, the competent disciplinary body may impose additional sanctions on the member association or club responsible, such as the playing of one or more matches behind closed doors, a stadium closure, a match forfeit, the deduction of points or disqualification from the competition.
- <sup>4</sup> All forms of ideological propaganda are forbidden. If this provision is breached, paragraphs 1 to 3 above apply.

#### **Article 12          *Doping***

- <sup>1</sup> Doping means the presence of a prohibited substance or its metabolites or markers in a player's bodily sample. Doping also means the use or attempted use of prohibited methods that are capable of artificially increasing a player's physical or mental performance. Finally, doping also means any other occurrence of one or more anti-doping rule violations as defined by the *UEFA Anti-Doping Regulations*. Prohibited substances and methods comprise everything defined as such on the *Prohibited List* published by WADA on a regular basis.
- <sup>2</sup> UEFA shall have the burden of establishing that doping has occurred. Evidence of doping may be provided by any reliable means, including personal admissions.
- <sup>3</sup> Detection of a prohibited substance (or its metabolites or markers) in the bodily tissues or fluids of a player or evidence of the use of a prohibited method is considered a prima facie case of doping, unless the player can furnish proof to the contrary.
- <sup>4</sup> Analyses of samples by laboratories accredited by the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) shall be presumed to have been performed in accordance with the *WADA International Standard for Laboratory Analysis*.

- <sup>5</sup> Doping is punished in accordance with the *UEFA Anti-Doping Regulations* and these regulations.

### **C. Disciplinary Measures and Directives**

#### **Article 13      *Definitions***

- <sup>1</sup> The disciplinary bodies impose disciplinary measures and issue directives.
- <sup>2</sup> Disciplinary measures are sanctions on the conduct to be disciplined. They may be combined.
- <sup>3</sup> Directives demand certain behaviour on the part of those concerned.
- <sup>4</sup> The disciplinary bodies may also decide freely on the conditions of compensation for damage if a member association or a club is liable for the damage on the basis of Article 6.

#### **Article 14      *Disciplinary measures against member associations and clubs***

- <sup>1</sup> The following disciplinary measures may be imposed on member associations and clubs in accordance with Article 53 of the *UEFA Statutes*:
- a) warning,
  - b) reprimand,
  - c) fine,
  - d) annulment of the result of a match,
  - e) order that a match be replayed,
  - f) deduction of points,
  - g) declaration of a match forfeit,
  - h) playing of a match behind closed doors,
  - i) full or partial stadium closure,
  - j) playing of a match in a third country,
  - k) withholding of revenues from a UEFA competition,
  - l) prohibition on registering new players in UEFA competitions,
  - m) restriction on the number of players that a club may register for participation in UEFA competitions,
  - n) disqualification from competitions in progress and/or exclusion from future competitions,
  - o) withdrawal of a title or award,
  - p) withdrawal of a licence.
- <sup>2</sup> A fine shall be no less than €100 and no more than €1,000,000.

### **Article 14bis Forfeit**

- <sup>1</sup> A match is declared forfeit if a player who has been suspended following a disciplinary decision participates in the match.
- <sup>2</sup> A match is also declared forfeit in application of Article 19(1) of these regulations.
- <sup>3</sup> A match may be declared forfeit if a player who is ineligible under the regulations of the competition concerned participates in the match, as long as the opposing club files a protest.

### **Article 14ter Consequences of forfeits**

The consequences of a match being declared forfeit are as follows:

- a) Any team sanctioned with a forfeit shall be deemed to have lost the match 3-0 (5-0 in futsal competitions), unless the actual result is less favourable to the member association or club at fault, in which case it will stand.
- b) Forfeits may be combined with other disciplinary measures provided for in Articles 14 and 15.
- c) If necessary, the UEFA administration adapts the member association's or club's ranking in the relevant competition accordingly.

### **Article 15 Disciplinary measures against individuals**

- <sup>1</sup> The following disciplinary measures may be imposed on individuals in accordance with Article 54 of the *UEFA Statutes*:
  - a) warning,
  - b) reprimand,
  - c) fine,
  - d) suspension for a specified number of matches or for a specified or unspecified period,
  - e) suspension from carrying out a function for a specified number of matches or for a specified or unspecified period,
  - f) ban on exercising any football-related activity,
  - g) withdrawal of a title or award.
- <sup>2</sup> The competent disciplinary body may impose community football service in addition to the penalties listed in paragraph 1.
- <sup>3</sup> A fine shall be no less than €100 and no more than €100,000.

### **Article 15bis Suspended sanction**

- <sup>1</sup> All disciplinary sanctions may be suspended except for:
  - a) warnings,
  - b) reprimands,
  - c) bans on all football-related activities.

- 2 The probationary period shall be a minimum of one year and a maximum of five. This period may be extended in exceptional circumstances or suspended if the person penalised temporarily leaves UEFA's area of jurisdiction.
- 3 If a further offence is committed during the probationary period, the competent disciplinary body, as a rule, orders the original sanction to be executed. This may be added to the disciplinary sanction imposed for the second offence.

#### **Article 16      *Seizure and confiscation***

- 1 In cases of a suspected offence falling within the scope of application of these regulations, the disciplinary inspector or competent disciplinary body may order the seizure of objects or substances for the purposes of the investigation.
- 2 The competent disciplinary body may order the confiscation of pecuniary benefits earned from an offence falling within the scope of application of these regulations. It may also order the confiscation or destruction of objects that have been used in connection with such an offence.

### **D. Determination of Sanctions**

#### **Article 17      *General principles***

- 1 The competent disciplinary body shall determine the type and extent of the disciplinary measures to be imposed according to the objective and subjective elements of the offence, taking account of both aggravating and mitigating circumstances. Subject to Article 6(1) of the present regulations, no disciplinary measures may be imposed in cases where the party charged bears no fault or negligence.
- 2 The disciplinary measures enumerated in Articles 10 and 11bis of the present regulations are standard sanctions. In particular circumstances, they can be either scaled down or increased.
- 3 If the competent disciplinary body is of the opinion that information provided by the party charged has been decisive in uncovering or establishing a breach of UEFA's rules and regulations, it may exercise its discretionary powers to scale down or even dispense with the sanction.
- 4 If the party charged has committed multiple disciplinary offences, the disciplinary body assesses the sanction according to the most serious offence and increases it accordingly.

#### **Article 18      *Recidivism***

- 1 Recidivism occurs if disciplinary measures have to be imposed within five years of a previous offence of a similar nature.
- 2 Recidivism counts as an aggravating circumstance.

## **E. Matches abandoned and Scope of Decisions taken by the Referee**

### **Article 19**      ***Matches abandoned or not played***

- <sup>1</sup> If a match cannot take place or cannot be played in full, the member association or club responsible is sanctioned with a forfeit.
- <sup>2</sup> The member association or club responsible may incur additional sanctions pursuant to Article 14 of the present regulations.

### **Article 20**      ***Disciplinary scope of decisions taken by the referee***

- <sup>1</sup> Decisions taken by the referee on the field of play are final and may not be reviewed by the UEFA disciplinary bodies.
- <sup>2</sup> Only the disciplinary consequences of a decision taken by the referee may be reviewed by the disciplinary bodies in cases where such a decision has involved an obvious error, such as mistaking the identity of the person penalised. In cases of mistaken identity, disciplinary proceedings may be opened in accordance with these regulations only against the person who was actually at fault.
- <sup>3</sup> The provisions of the present regulations remain applicable to protests against match results affected by a referee's decision that was in breach of the regulations.

## PART TWO: DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURE

### A. Organisation and Competence

#### **Article 21**      *Disciplinary bodies and inspectors*

- 1 The disciplinary bodies are:
  - 1) the Control and Disciplinary Body
  - 2) the Appeals Body
- 2 The disciplinary inspectors represent UEFA in proceedings before the disciplinary bodies.

#### **Article 22**      *Election*

- 1 The members of the disciplinary bodies and the disciplinary inspectors are elected by the UEFA Executive Committee (from candidates proposed by the UEFA member associations) for a term of four years.
- 2 They may belong to neither the Executive Committee nor any other UEFA organ or committee stipulated in the *UEFA Statutes*.

#### **Article 23**      *Composition*

- 1 The Control and Disciplinary Body is composed of a chairman, two vice-chairmen and seven other members.
- 2 The Control and Disciplinary Body is authorised to take a decision if at least three of its members are present.
- 3 The Appeals Body is composed of a chairman, two vice-chairmen and nine other members.
- 4 As a rule, the Appeals Body takes decisions in the presence of three of its members. In cases that are particularly difficult or could set an important precedent, the chairman may expand the quorum to five judges.

#### **Article 24**      *Judge sitting alone*

- 1 The chairman of the Control and Disciplinary Body, one of its vice-chairmen or one of its members acting as ad hoc chairman may take a decision as a judge sitting alone if the sanction is limited to a warning, a reprimand, a fine of up to €8,000, a player suspension or suspension from carrying out a function for up to two matches, as well as in urgent cases. In particularly urgent cases (especially regarding admission to, or exclusion from, UEFA competitions), he can refer the case directly to the Appeals Body for decision.
- 2 The chairman of the Appeals Body, one of its vice-chairmen or one of its members acting as ad hoc chairman may take a decision as a judge sitting alone

under clear factual and legal circumstances, in urgent cases, if the requests of the parties are identical or in the case of clearly inadmissible appeals.

#### **Article 25      *Independence***

The members of the disciplinary bodies and the disciplinary inspectors are independent. They are bound exclusively by UEFA's rules and regulations and their consciences.

#### **Article 26      *Recusal***

- <sup>1</sup> Any member of a disciplinary body and any disciplinary inspector shall remove himself from a case if he himself, his association or a club belonging to that association is directly concerned.
- <sup>2</sup> In case of doubt or dispute, the chairman of the disciplinary body concerned or his nominee shall make a decision on the participation of the member concerned.

#### **Article 27      *Competence***

- <sup>1</sup> The Control and Disciplinary Body handles offences falling within the scope of application of these regulations. It further decides on cases relating to player and club eligibility for UEFA competitions to the extent provided for by the regulations of the competitions concerned.
- <sup>2</sup> The Appeals Body is competent to hear appeals against decisions of the Control and Disciplinary Body in accordance with Article 49 of the present regulations. It further decides on urgent cases directly referred to it by the Control and Disciplinary Body.

### **B. Parties**

#### **Article 28      *Parties***

- <sup>1</sup> The parties comprise:
  - a) UEFA,
  - b) the accused or the individual, member association or club directly affected;
  - c) the individual/body entitled to protest and the opponent to the protest.
- <sup>2</sup> Member associations, clubs and other individuals/bodies that are not directly affected may be invited by the relevant disciplinary body or its chairman to participate in the proceedings as interveners.

#### **Article 29      *Languages***

Disciplinary proceedings, both written and oral, are conducted in one of UEFA's official languages (English, French or German).



### **Article 30**      **Disciplinary inspector**

- 1 The UEFA Executive Committee appoints the necessary number of disciplinary inspectors and designates one of them as chief inspector.
- 2 Disciplinary inspectors represent UEFA in proceedings before the disciplinary bodies. They may open disciplinary investigations and lodge appeals and cross-appeals.
- 3 The UEFA Executive Committee, the UEFA President, the UEFA General Secretary or the disciplinary bodies may commission disciplinary inspectors to conduct investigations alone or in cooperation with non-UEFA bodies.

### **C. General Provisions**

### **Article 31**      **Convocation, hearing, consultation of the case file and confidentiality**

- 1 The disciplinary bodies are convened by their respective chairmen.
- 2 Any party wishing to use a non-official UEFA language at a hearing must request, in good time, the services of an interpreter chosen or approved by UEFA. UEFA shall bear the cost thereof.
- 3 For the preservation of evidence, hearings shall be recorded and archived. Recordings shall be destroyed after five years.
- 4 Unless specified otherwise in these regulations, the parties are entitled to submit written statements, examine the case file and order copies of the case file at their own expense before any decision is reached.
- 5 Parties are not given access to the recordings of hearings. However, if a party claims procedural rules in its favour have been breached during a hearing, the chairman of the competent disciplinary body or his nominee may allow it to listen to the recording at UEFA headquarters.
- 6 All non-public papers and documents produced during disciplinary proceedings must be kept confidential.

### **Article 32**      **Disorderly conduct penalties**

- 1 Any participant whose conduct disrupts the orderly course of the proceedings may be reprimanded, fined up to €3,000 or excluded from the hearing by the chairman.
- 2 Disorderly conduct penalties (contempt of court) apply exclusively to individuals and are incontestable. Except in the case of reprimands, such penalties must be recorded, with statement of the reasons, in the decision.

### **Article 32bis**      **Provisional measures**

- 1 The chairman of the competent disciplinary body or his nominee is entitled to issue provisional measures if deemed necessary to ensure the proper

administration of justice, to maintain sporting discipline, or for reasons of safety and security. He is not obliged to hear the parties.

<sup>2</sup> A provisional measure may apply for up to 30 days. The duration of any measure shall be deducted from the final disciplinary sanction. The chairman of the competent disciplinary body or his nominee may exceptionally extend the validity of a provisional measure by up to 15 days.

<sup>3</sup> Provisional measures pronounced by the chairman of the Control and Disciplinary Body or his nominee may be appealed against in accordance with the relevant provisions of these regulations, with the exception that the appeal must reach UEFA in writing and with grounds within three days of the notification of the contested decision and there is no appeal fee. The chairman of the Appeals Body or his nominee shall decide on such appeals as a judge sitting alone. Such decisions are final.

### **Article 33      *Disciplinary office***

<sup>1</sup> The UEFA administration places an office and the necessary staff at the disposal of the disciplinary bodies and inspectors at UEFA's headquarters.

<sup>2</sup> The office is responsible for administrative tasks and for taking the minutes of meetings.

<sup>3</sup> If it considers it necessary, the competent disciplinary body may request the assistance of an ad hoc clerk.

### **Article 33bis    *Anonymous witnesses***

<sup>1</sup> When a person's testimony in disciplinary proceedings opened in accordance with these regulations could endanger his life or put him or his family or close friends in physical danger, the chairman of the competent disciplinary body or his nominee may order that:

- a) the witness not be identified in the presence of the parties;
- b) the witness not appear at the hearing;
- c) all or some of the information that could be used to identify the witness be included only in a separate, confidential case file.

<sup>2</sup> In view of all the circumstances and in particular if no other evidence is available to corroborate that of the anonymous witness and if it is technically possible, the chairman of the competent disciplinary body or his nominee may exceptionally order, on his own initiative or at the request of one of the parties, that:

- a) the witness's voice be distorted;
- b) the witness's face be masked;
- c) the witness be questioned outside the court room;
- d) the witness be questioned in writing through the chairman of the competent disciplinary body or his nominee.

- 3 Disciplinary measures shall be imposed on anyone who reveals the identity of an anonymous witness or any information that could be used to identify him.

**Article 33ter Identification of anonymous witnesses**

1 To ensure their safety, anonymous witnesses are identified behind closed doors in the absence of the parties. This witness identification is conducted by the chairman of the competent disciplinary body alone, his nominee or all the members of the competent disciplinary body together and is recorded in minutes containing the witness's personal details.

2 These minutes are not communicated to the parties.

3 The parties receive a brief notice which:

- a) confirms that the anonymous witness has been formally identified; and
- b) contains no details that could be used to identify the anonymous witness.

**Article 34 Representation**

1 Member associations, clubs, players and officials may be represented.

2 UEFA is represented by a disciplinary inspector.

3 Representatives must prove their authority by means of a signed power of attorney.

4 The competent disciplinary body shall decide on issues of representation.

**Article 35 Time limits**

1 A time limit begins on the date after which it is announced in writing. It is considered observed if acted upon by 24.00CET (Central European Time) on the deadline date. When a deadline expires on a Saturday, Sunday or public holiday in the Swiss canton of Vaud, where UEFA's headquarters are located, it is carried forward to the next working day. The relevant public holidays are published on UEFA.com (disciplinary section).

2 If a time limit is not observed, the defaulter loses the procedural right in question.

3 On receipt of a reasoned, written request, the chairman of the competent disciplinary body may extend a time limit.

4 The present regulations define time limits which may not be extended.

5 Time limits are interrupted from 20 December to 5 January inclusive.

**Article 35bis Decisions on preliminary issues**

Decisions on preliminary issues may be appealed against separately only if they could cause irreparable harm to a party.

**Article 36**      **Majority decision-making**

- <sup>1</sup> The disciplinary bodies decide by a simple majority, with no abstentions. In the event of a tie in any vote, the chairman of the competent disciplinary body shall have the casting vote.
- <sup>2</sup> Members are bound to secrecy.

**Article 37**      **Publication of decisions**

The UEFA administration may publish a decision.

**Article 37bis**    **Liability**

Members of the disciplinary bodies, disciplinary inspectors and members of the disciplinary office are not liable for any action or failure to act in connection with disciplinary proceedings, cases of serious negligence excepted.

**D. Investigations**

**Article 38**      **Investigative scope and procedure**

- <sup>1</sup> The disciplinary inspector investigates offences falling within the scope of application of these regulations.
- <sup>2</sup> Such investigations are conducted by means of written inquiries and, if necessary, the questioning of individuals. Other investigatory procedures may also be resorted to, such as expert opinions, on-site inspections and document requests.
- <sup>3</sup> The disciplinary inspector may appoint a member of the UEFA administration to act as secretary to the investigation.
- <sup>4</sup> If the disciplinary inspector considers that one or more offences falling within the scope of application of these regulations have been committed, he addresses his conclusions in the form of a report to the Control and Disciplinary Body for decision.
- <sup>5</sup> If a breach of Article 5bis of these regulations is suspected, individuals and bodies bound by UEFA's rules and regulations must provide the disciplinary inspector or his nominee, for a limited time, with any data recording and/or storage device (text, image, sound. etc.) that could contain data which would confirm these suspicions.

**Article 39**      **Closing of investigations**

- <sup>1</sup> If the disciplinary inspector is of the view that no offence falling within the scope of application of these regulations has taken place, he requests that the relevant investigation be closed.
- <sup>2</sup> He issues a report to that effect to the Control and Disciplinary Body for decision.

#### **Article 40**      **Minutes**

If a person is questioned, their interview is recorded in minutes which are then read and signed by the person questioned.

#### **Article 41**      **Reopening of investigations**

An investigation may be reopened if new evidence or facts emerge which imply that an offence falling within the scope of application of these regulations has been committed.

### **E. Control and Disciplinary Body Proceedings**

#### **Article 42**      **Opening of proceedings**

- <sup>1</sup> Proceedings are opened when the parties are notified in writing. They are opened in particular:
  - a) on the basis of official reports,
  - b) if a protest has been lodged,
  - c) for reported offences falling within the scope of application of these regulations,
  - d) at the request of the UEFA President or the UEFA General Secretary,
  - e) on the basis of documents from a public authority,
  - f) if a complaint is filed,
- <sup>2</sup> All communication with individuals, including notification of proceedings against them, is addressed to the member association or club concerned, which must inform the individual personally. Communications are sent by fax or email.
- <sup>3</sup> Control and Disciplinary Body proceedings are conducted in writing. Only the Control and Disciplinary Body itself may, depending on the circumstances, decide to hold a hearing.

#### **Article 43**      **Declaration of protest**

- <sup>1</sup> Member associations and their clubs are entitled to protest. The party protested against and the disciplinary inspector also have party status.
- <sup>2</sup> Protests must reach the Control and Disciplinary Body in writing, stating the reasons, within 24 hours of the match in question.
- <sup>3</sup> The protest fee is €1,000. It must be paid at the same time as the protest is filed and is reimbursed only if the protest is admitted.
- <sup>4</sup> This 24-hour time limit may not be extended. For the sake of the smooth running of a competition, however, the corresponding competition regulations may shorten the protest deadline appropriately.

#### **Article 44**      **Admissibility of protests**

- <sup>1</sup> A protest is admissible only if it is based on:
  - a) an ineligible player's participation in a match;
  - b) an unfit field of play, as long as the referee was informed as soon as the problem was reported or observed;
  - c) an obvious error by the referee as defined by Article 20(2) of these regulations, in which case the protest may be directed only at the disciplinary consequences of the referee's obvious error;
  - d) the obvious violation of a rule by the referee that had a decisive influence of the final match result;
  - e) any other significant incident that had a decisive influence on the final match result.
- <sup>2</sup> Protests may not be lodged against factual decisions taken by the referee.

#### **Article 45**      **Clarification of facts and deliberations**

- <sup>1</sup> As a rule, the Control and Disciplinary Body clarifies the facts of the case in a summary manner, on the basis of the official reports, the contents of which are presumed to be accurate. The body considers any other pertinent documents in its possession. It can summon further evidence, provided that doing so will not delay the proceedings unduly.
- <sup>2</sup> If it considers it necessary in view of the circumstances, the Control and Disciplinary Body may exceptionally hear the parties.
- <sup>3</sup> The Control and Disciplinary Body may deliberate and decide via teleconference, videoconference or any other similar method.

#### **Article 46**      **Decision**

- <sup>1</sup> The Control and Disciplinary Body decides on:
  - a) the halting of proceedings,
  - b) acquittals,
  - c) convictions,
  - d) the dismissal or admission of protests or complaints.
- <sup>2</sup> The parties and any interveners are notified of decisions by fax or email sent by the UEFA administration.
- <sup>3</sup> Decisions against individuals need only be communicated to the member association or club concerned.
- <sup>4</sup> In the event of an automatic suspension following multiple yellow cards or a single red card and where there is no case for extending the suspension, notification is not required.

### **Article 46bis**     **Decisions without grounds**

- 1 In principle, the Control and Disciplinary Body issues decisions with grounds unless it believes that the clarity of the case in fact and in law is such that a decision without grounds would suffice, in which case only the operative part of the decision is notified to the parties, who are informed that they have three days from this notification to request in writing a decision with grounds.
- 2 If a decision with grounds is requested within the time limit stipulated in paragraph 1 above, the time limit for lodging an appeal begins only on receipt of the decision with grounds.
- 3 Any appeal lodged during the time limit for requesting a decision with grounds is exclusively considered a request for a decision with grounds.

### **Article 47**     **Costs**

- 1 The costs of proceedings of the Control and Disciplinary Body are borne by UEFA, except in cases of protest, when they are borne by the defeated party.
- 2 Costs caused abusively are charged to the party responsible.

## **F. Appeals Body Proceedings**

### **Article 48**     **Appeals**

The Appeals Body deals with appeals lodged against decisions of the Control and Disciplinary Body and decides on urgent cases directly referred to it by the Control and Disciplinary Body.

### **Article 49**     **Admissibility**

- 1 Appeals against decisions taken by the Control and Disciplinary Body are admissible, unless the disciplinary sanction imposed in the first instance was limited to:
  - a) a warning,
  - b) a reprimand,
  - c) an automatic one-match suspension following a dismissal,
  - d) a disorderly conduct penalty under Article 32 of these regulations.
- 2 A decision cannot be appealed against if its grounds have not been requested by the deadline provided for by these regulations.
- 3 If the Control and Disciplinary Body combines measures, an appeal is admissible if one of the measures exceeds the above exceptions. In this case, the Appeals Body examines the overall measures imposed.

### **Article 50**      **Power to appeal**

- <sup>1</sup> The parties directly affected by a decision and UEFA have the power to appeal.
- <sup>2</sup> If the party charged is a player, official or member of a member association or club, his association or club alone may not lodge an appeal. They may only do so with his written consent, which must be produced at the latest with the appeal pleadings.

### **Article 51**      **Stay of execution**

- <sup>1</sup> An appeal has no staying effect.
- <sup>2</sup> The chairman may, upon reasoned request, award a stay of execution.
- <sup>3</sup> The request should be submitted as soon as the grounds are known.

### **Article 52**      **Deadlines and fees**

- <sup>1</sup> Appeals must be lodged with the UEFA administration in writing, for the attention of the Appeals Body, within three days of notification of the decision with grounds. Competition regulations may, however, shorten this deadline for the sake of the smooth running of the competition in question. Grounds for appeal must be submitted in writing, as part of the appeal pleadings, within six days of the UEFA administration's acknowledgement of the party's intention to appeal.
- <sup>2</sup> The appeal fee is €1,000, payable on submission of the appeal pleadings at the latest. UEFA is exempt from this fee.
- <sup>3</sup> If these deadlines are not observed, the chairman shall declare the appeal inadmissible. The deadlines stipulated in paragraph 1 above may not be extended.
- <sup>4</sup> In urgent cases, the chairman can shorten the deadline for the submission of the appeal pleadings.

### **Article 53**      **Content of the appeal pleadings**

The appeal pleadings contain:

- a) the legal request,
- b) an account of the facts,
- c) the evidence,
- d) the appellant's conclusions.

### **Article 54**      **Reply to the appeal and cross-appeal**

- <sup>1</sup> The chairman notifies the opposing party of the appeal. Replies to the appeal must be filed within the deadline set by the chairman.
- <sup>2</sup> The reply to the appeal may include the declaration of a cross-appeal. The procedural rules governing appeals apply equally to cross-appeals.



- 3 The chairman sets a deadline by which time the appellant must reply to the cross-appeal.
- 4 The cross-appeal is considered dropped if the appeal is retracted or declared inadmissible.

**Article 55      *Identical requests***

If the requests of the parties are identical the Appeals Body complies with the request, provided that it is not obviously inappropriate.

**Article 56      *Participation of the parties***

- 1 The chairman sets a date for the hearing and summons the parties without delay.
- 2 The parties attend the hearing until the verdict is discussed. The chairman may, upon reasoned request, exempt a party from participation.
- 3 In the absence of one or all of the parties, the Appeals Body can still hold the hearing and take a decision.

**Article 57      *Evidence***

- 1 The chairman takes evidence on relevant facts.
- 2 Evidence comprises, in particular:
  - a) official reports,
  - b) Control and Disciplinary Body records,
  - c) examination of witnesses,
  - d) examination of the parties,
  - e) on-site inspections,
  - f) expert opinions,
  - g) television and video recordings,
  - h) personal confessions,
  - i) other records and documents.
- 3 The Appeals Body can request further evidence.
- 4 The chairman decides in the preliminary proceedings on the examination of witnesses.
- 5 Anyone called to testify before the disciplinary bodies is bound to tell the whole truth and nothing but the truth and answer in all good conscience any questions they are asked.

**Article 58      *Witnesses***

- 1 All persons subject to UEFA jurisdiction are obligated to comply with a summons to appear as a witness.

<sup>2</sup> Anyone failing to comply with a summons may be held in contempt of court.

#### **Article 59 Consultation of case files**

The parties are entitled to examine the case file or to order copies at their own expense.

#### **Article 60 Hearings**

<sup>1</sup> Appeals are dealt with in the form of hearings.

<sup>2</sup> Each party is entitled to two oral pleadings. The chairman decides on the sequence of the pleadings.

<sup>3</sup> If the first party to plead waives its right to plead for a second time, the pleading process is terminated.

<sup>4</sup> If appeal proceedings are adjudicated upon by a judge sitting alone, he may dispense with a hearing.

#### **Article 61 Deliberations**

The Appeals Body deliberates behind closed doors.

#### **Article 62 Decision**

<sup>1</sup> Within the framework of the appeal, the Appeals Body re-examines the case both factually and legally.

<sup>2</sup> The appeal decision confirms, amends or lifts the contested decision.

<sup>3</sup> If the accused is the only party to have lodged an appeal or if the disciplinary inspector appeals in favour of the accused, the punishment cannot be increased.

<sup>4</sup> If new disciplinary offences come to light while appeal proceedings are pending, they may be judged in the course of the same proceedings.

#### **Article 63 Costs**

<sup>1</sup> The costs of the proceedings include all expenses of the Appeals Body. In accordance with the outcome of the proceedings, they are shared among the parties at fair discretion.

<sup>2</sup> The appeal fee is either deducted from the costs of the proceedings or reimbursed.

<sup>3</sup> Costs caused abusively are charged to the party responsible, irrespective of the outcome of the proceedings.

#### **Article 64 Notification of the decision**

<sup>1</sup> The chairman notifies the parties of the decision orally, providing a summary of the grounds for the decision, and issues the operative part of the decision in writing.

<sup>2</sup> The full written decision is provided at a later date.

**Article 65 Referral back to the Control and Disciplinary Body**

In the case of a fundamental mistrial, the Appeals Body can lift the contested decision and refer the case back to the Control and Disciplinary Body for reassessment.

**Article 66 Legal force**

Subject to the provisions regarding the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) contained in the *UEFA Statutes*, decisions of the Appeals Body are final and become effective when announced in writing.

**G. Reopening of Proceedings**

**Article 66bis Review**

- <sup>1</sup> Upon request, the competent disciplinary body shall reopen proceedings if a party claims to have new and substantial facts or evidence that it was unable to bring forward before the decision became effective.
- <sup>2</sup> An application to reopen proceedings must be addressed to the disciplinary body that took the contested decision within 14 days of the grounds for review coming to light and no more than four years after the decision in question became effective.

## PART THREE: ENFORCEMENT

### A. General Provisions

#### **Article 67**      **Competence**

- <sup>1</sup> The UEFA administration has the competence to enforce the decisions of the disciplinary bodies.
- <sup>2</sup> It may order the member association concerned to enforce a decision.

#### **Article 67bis**    **Obvious errors**

The competent disciplinary body may rectify any mistakes in calculation or any other obvious errors at any time.

#### **Article 68**      **Competition categories**

- <sup>1</sup> Match suspensions relate to a specific competition category, unless extended to all categories.
- <sup>2</sup> The following competitions make up the national/representative team competitions category:
  - UEFA European Football Championship
  - UEFA European Under-21 Championship
  - UEFA European Under-19 Championship
  - UEFA European Under-17 Championship
  - UEFA European Women's Championship
  - UEFA European Women's Under-19 Championship
  - UEFA European Women's Under-17 Championship
  - UEFA European Futsal Championship
  - UEFA Region's Cup.
- <sup>3</sup> The following competitions make up the club competitions category:
  - UEFA Champions League
  - UEFA Europa League
  - UEFA Super Cup
  - UEFA Futsal Cup
  - UEFA Women's Champions League.

#### **Article 68bis**    **Carrying forward of match suspensions**

- <sup>1</sup> Unless the competent disciplinary body decides otherwise and subject to the provisions below, match suspensions and suspensions from carrying out a function must be served during the next match(es) in the competition in which the offence in question was committed.
- <sup>2</sup> Any match suspension or suspension from carrying out a function which has not been completed when the relevant UEFA competition ends shall be carried forward in accordance with the terms of the relevant competition regulations. In

the absence of such terms, the suspension shall be automatically carried forward to the next official competition of the same category for which the player or official in question would otherwise be eligible. In addition, the following rules apply:

- a) A suspension that cannot be served during an Under-17 competition shall be carried forward to the following Under-19 competition automatically, unless it can be served during the FIFA U-17 World Cup.
  - b) A suspension that cannot be served during an Under-19 competition shall be carried forward to the following Under-21 competition for men and to the European Women's Championship for women automatically, unless it can be served during the relevant FIFA U-20 World Cup.
  - c) A suspension that cannot be served during an Under-21 competition shall be carried forward to the following European Championship automatically, unless it can be served during the Olympic Football Tournament or the FIFA World Cup.
  - d) A suspension that cannot be served during a European Championship shall be carried forward to the following FIFA World Cup automatically.
- <sup>3</sup> A suspension from a specific match in the national/representative team competitions category applies to all competition matches in this category, listed in Article 68(2), that take place the day before, the day of or the day after the match in question.

#### **Article 69      *Enforceability***

Disciplinary measures and directives are enforceable by official, written notice of them, with the exception of:

- a) disciplinary measures of a financial nature, which are enforceable within a time limit stipulated by the competent disciplinary body;
- b) automatic suspensions following yellow or red cards, which are enforceable immediately, even if the corresponding confirmation letter from the competent disciplinary body has not been received.

#### **Article 70      *Ordinary enforcement of suspensions***

- <sup>1</sup> A team manager/coach who is suspended from carrying out his function may follow the match for which he is suspended from the stands only. He may not enter the dressing room, tunnel or technical area before or during the match, nor may he communicate with his team.
- <sup>2</sup> Suspensions imposed on a player-coach apply to his capacity both as a player and as a coach.
- <sup>3</sup> If a player who has been suspended for a minimum of three matches takes on the role of an official or manager/coach, any remaining part of the suspension

shall be served in this new capacity, subject to the provisions of Article 72 of the present regulations.

**Article 71      *Extraordinary enforcement of suspensions***

A match suspension is regarded as no longer pending if a UEFA competition match is:

- a) retroactively declared forfeit;
- b) abandoned before completion and not replayed.

**Article 72      *Statute of limitations***

<sup>1</sup> Enforcement of decisions is barred:

- a) for exclusions from UEFA competitions:
  - 1) after five years for one-season exclusions,
  - 2) after eight years for two-season exclusions,
  - 3) after ten years for exclusions in excess of two seasons;
- b) for stadium closures and matches to be played behind closed doors:
  - 1) after five years for measures applying to one or two matches,
  - 2) after eight years for measures applying to three or four matches,
  - 3) after ten years for measures applying to more than four matches;
- c) for the suspension of individuals:
  - 1) after three years for one-match suspensions,
  - 2) after six years for suspensions for two to six matches,
  - 3) after eight years for suspensions in excess of six matches;
- d) after five years for all other disciplinary measures.

<sup>2</sup> The time limit on enforcement begins on 1 August after the season in which the disciplinary measure was imposed. The time limit comprises a specified number of years calculated according to the UEFA season, i.e. from 1 August of one year to 31 July of the next.

**Article 73      *Guarantee of enforcement***

Member associations are jointly and severally liable for fines, confiscation of pecuniary benefits and procedural costs imposed on their clubs, players, officials or members; clubs bear the same liability in relation to their players, officials and members.

## **B. Special Provisions**

### **Article 74      *Recognition of the sanctions of other authorities***

- <sup>1</sup> The Control and Disciplinary Body may extend sanctions imposed by FIFA or a UEFA member association to UEFA competitions at the request of FIFA or the UEFA member association in question, especially in the event of serious offences committed in their respective jurisdictions.
- <sup>2</sup> The request must be made in writing to UEFA and be accompanied by all documentation relating to the case.
- <sup>3</sup> An extension shall be granted if the decision on which the request is based complies with the general principles of law and with UEFA's regulations.
- <sup>4</sup> In so far as they are compatible with UEFA's rules, measures taken by a government body or another sporting body in relation to doping shall be recognised by UEFA.
- <sup>5</sup> The decision to extend a sanction cannot alter the sanction itself.
- <sup>6</sup> The outcome of any appeal against a sanction applies equally to any decision to extend it.
- <sup>7</sup> An appeal lodged against a decision to extend a sanction may only be directed against the conditions of such an extension and not against the validity of the sanction itself.

### **Article 74bis    *Extension of sanctions worldwide***

For a UEFA disciplinary body's decision to take effect in the jurisdiction of another confederation or an association that is not a member of UEFA, the competent UEFA disciplinary body must submit a request to this effect to FIFA.

## **COMPLEMENTARY AND FINAL PROVISIONS**

### **Article 75      *Equal treatment of men and women***

The use of the masculine form in these regulations refers also to the feminine.

### **Article 76      *Effective date***

These regulations come into force on 1 June 2012.

### **Article 77      *Transitional provisions***

- <sup>1</sup> The present regulations apply to disciplinary offences committed after their entry into force.
- <sup>2</sup> They also apply to disciplinary offences committed before their entry into force if they are more favourable towards the accused than the regulations in force at the time of the offence.

**Article 78      *Authoritative text***

If there is any discrepancy in the interpretation of the English, French or German versions of these regulations, the English text shall prevail.

For the UEFA Executive Committee:

Michel Platini  
President

Gianni Infantino  
General Secretary

Nyon, 18 May 2012



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