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Definitions

The terms given below denote the following:

- BFA:** Barbados Football Association
BOA: Barbados Olympic Association
CFU: Caribbean Football Union
Concacaf: Confederation of North, Central America and Caribbean Association Football.
FIFA: Fédération Internationale de Football Association.
Association: A football association recognised as such by FIFA and by the relevant confederation. It is a member of FIFA, unless a different meaning is evident from the context.
League: an organisation that is subordinate to an association.
Regional association: an organisation that is subordinate to an association.
Confederation: a group of associations recognised by FIFA that belong to the same continent (or assimilable geographic region).
Club: a member of an association (that is a member of FIFA and of the relevant confederation) or a member of a league recognised by an association that enters at least one team in a competition.
Official: any board member (including the members of the Council), committee member, referee and assistant referee, coach, trainer and any other person responsible for technical, medical and administrative matters in FIFA, a confederation, an association, a league or a club as well as any other persons obliged to comply with the FIFA Statutes (except players, match agents and intermediaries).
Player: a football player licensed by BFA.
Congress: the supreme and legislative body of BFA.
Council: the strategic and oversight body of BFA.
Member: a legal person that has been admitted into membership of BFA by the Congress.
Delegate: a natural person validly representing a Member at the Congress.
Association football: the game controlled by FIFA and organised by FIFA, the confederations and/or the associations in accordance with the Laws of the Game.
Laws of the Game: the laws of association football issued by The IFAB in accordance with the relevant provisions of the FIFA Statutes.
The IFAB: The International Football Association Board (IFAB).
Ordinary courts: state courts which hear public and private legal disputes.
Arbitration tribunal: an independent and duly constituted private court of justice acting instead of an ordinary court.
CAS: Court of Arbitration for Sport based in Lausanne (Switzerland).

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

I. General Provisions

Article 1 - Legal form, headquarters and trademarks

- 1 BFA is a national organization of an associative nature, established in compliance with the legislation of Barbados. It is formed for an unlimited period.
- 2 The headquarters of BFA are located at Garfield Sobers Sporting Complex, Wildey, St. Michael, Barbados
- 3 BFA is a member of FIFA, Concacaf, CFU and the BOA.
- 4 The flag of BFA is an abstract of a football surrounded by a band with the words Barbados Football Association inscribed with the broken trident superimposed at the bottom along with a ribbon stating Founded 1910.
- 5 The logo of BFA is a blue circle with a football in the center, surrounded by the name of the Association in yellow type, and a ribbon at the bottom with the year of founding and the broken trident in the center.
- 6 The abbreviation of the Barbados Football Association is BFA.
- 7 The flag, logo and abbreviation are legally registered with the Corporate Affairs and Intellectual Properties Department of Barbados.

Article 2 - Objectives

The objectives of the BFA are:

- a) to improve the game of football constantly and promote, regulate and control it throughout the territory of Barbados in the light of fair play and its unifying, educational, cultural and humanitarian values, particularly through youth and development programmes;
- b) to organise competitions in football, futsal and beach soccer at national level, by defining precisely, as required, the areas of authority conceded to the various leagues of which it is composed;
- c) to draw up regulations and provisions and ensure their enforcement;
- d) to protect the interests of its Members;
- e) to respect and prevent any infringement of the Statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of FIFA, CONCACAF, CFU, BOA and of the BFA as well as the Laws of the Game, and to ensure that these are also respected by its Members;

- f) to promote integrity, ethics and fair play with a view to preventing all methods or practices, such as corruption, doping or match manipulation, which might jeopardise the integrity of matches, competitions, players, officials and Members or give rise to abuse of football, futsal or beach soccer;
- g) to promote and strengthen good governance principles and practices at national level and encourage its Members to adopt their own good governance principles;
- h) to promote the development of women's football and the full participation of women at all levels of football governance;
- i) to control and supervise all friendly football matches of all forms played throughout the territory of Barbados;
- j) to control and supervise association football, futsal and beach soccer at national level and to control and supervise all forms of international football matches played throughout the territory of Barbados, in accordance with the relevant Statutes and regulations of FIFA and of the confederations;
- k) to manage international sporting relations connected with football, futsal and beach soccer and maintain a good and cooperative relationship with other member associations, BFA, CFU, Concacaf and FIFA;
- l) to host competitions at international and other levels;
- m) to use its best efforts to ensure that the game of football is available to and resourced for all who wish to participate throughout the territory of Barbados, regardless of gender and age.

Article 3 - Human rights

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

Article 4 - Non-discrimination and equality

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

Article 5 - Neutrality and institutional independence

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

Article 6 - Promoting friendly relations

- 1 The BFA shall promote friendly relations between its Members, clubs, officials and players and in society for humanitarian objectives.
- 2 The BFA shall provide the necessary institutional means to resolve any internal dispute that may arise between the Members, clubs, officials and players.

Article 7 - Players

- 1 The status of players and the provisions for their registration and transfer shall be governed by specific regulations issued by the Council in accordance with the FIFA Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players. Due consideration shall be given to the protection of contractual stability and the encouragement of player training and education by clubs.

Article 8 - Laws of the Game

- 1 The BFA and each of its Members shall play association football in compliance with the Laws of the Game issued by The IFAB. Only The IFAB may lay down and alter the Laws of the Game.
- 2 The BFA and each of its Members shall play futsal in accordance with the Futsal Laws of the Game issued by FIFA. Only FIFA may lay down and alter the Futsal Laws of the Game.
- 3 The BFA and each of its Members shall play beach soccer in accordance with the Beach Soccer Laws of the Game issued by FIFA. Only FIFA may lay down and alter the Beach Soccer Laws of the Game.

Article 9 - Conduct of bodies, Officials and others

- 1 All bodies and officials of the BFA shall observe the Statutes, regulations, directives, decisions and the Code of Ethics of FIFA, of Concacaf, CFU and of the BFA in their activities.

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

Article 10 - Official languages

- 1 The official language of the BFA shall be English. Official documents and texts, including the Statutes and the Regulations of BFA, shall be written in this language.
- 2 The official language at the Congress shall be English.

II. Membership

Article 11 - Admission, suspension and expulsion

- 1 The Congress shall decide whether to admit, suspend or expel a Member.
- 2 Admission may be granted if the applicant fulfils the requirements of the BFA in accordance with these Statutes.
- 3 Membership is terminated by resignation or expulsion. Loss of membership does not relieve the Member from its financial obligations towards the BFA or other Members of the BFA, but leads to the loss of all rights in relation to the BFA.
- 4 BFA shall ensure that all relevant stakeholders are represented within its Congress. The interests of women's football shall also be adequately represented in the Congress.

Article 12 - Members

The Members of the BFA are:

- a) Member Clubs

Article 13 - Admission

- 1 Any legal entity wishing to become a Member of the BFA shall apply in writing to the general secretariat of the BFA.
- 2 The application must be accompanied by the following mandatory items:
 - a) a copy of its legally valid statutes or constitutional document and, if applicable, regulations;
 - b) a declaration that it will comply at all times with the Statutes, regulations and decisions of the BFA, FIFA, Concacaf and CFU and ensure that these are also respected, if applicable, by its own members, clubs, officials and players;
 - c) a declaration that it will comply with the Laws of the Game in force as laid down by The IFAB, as well as the Beach Soccer Laws of the Game and the Futsal Laws of the Game as laid down by FIFA;

- d) a declaration that it will refer in the last instance (i.e. after exhaustion of all internal channels within the BFA) any dispute of national dimension arising from or related to the Statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of the BFA only to an independent and duly constituted arbitration tribunal, which shall definitely settle the dispute to the exclusion of any ordinary court, unless expressly prohibited by the legislation in force in Barbados;
- e) a declaration that any dispute of international dimension arising from or related to the Statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of FIFA, Concacaf or of the CFU may only be submitted in the last instance to CAS, as specified in the Statutes of FIFA, Concacaf and of the CFU;
- f) a declaration that it recognises the arbitration tribunal that the BFA has recognised, as specified in these Statutes, as well as the jurisdiction of CAS, as specified in the Statutes of FIFA, of Concacaf, of CFU, and its decisions;
- g) a declaration that it is located and registered in the Barbados on the territory of the BFA;
- h) a declaration to the effect that the legal composition of the applicant guarantees that it can make decisions independently of any external entity;
- i) a declaration to the effect that the members of its own bodies were elected or appointed as a result of a procedure that guarantees the complete independence of the election or appointment;
- j) a list of officials, specifying those who are authorised signatories with the right to enter into legally binding agreements with third parties;
- k) a copy of the minutes of its last congress or constitutional meeting;
- l) if applicable, a declaration that it undertakes to organise or participate in friendly matches only with the prior consent of the BFA;
- m) if applicable, a declaration that it will play all official home matches on the territory of the BFA;
- n) Football clubs comply with all the requirements of the Club Licensing Regulations of the BFA

Article 14 - Request and procedure for application

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

Article 15 - Members' rights

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

Article 16 - Members' obligations

- 1 The Members of the BFA have the following obligations:
 - a) to comply fully with the Statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of FIFA, Concacaf, CFU and the BFA at all times and to ensure that these are also respected by its members;
 - b) to ensure the election of its own decision-making bodies at least every 4 years ;
 - c) to take part in competitions (if applicable) and other sporting activities organised by the BFA;
 - d) to pay their membership subscriptions;
 - e) to respect the Laws of the Game as laid down by The IFAB, as well as the Beach Soccer Laws of the Game and the Futsal Laws of the Game as laid down by FIFA, and to ensure that these are also respected by its members through a statutory provision;

- f) to adopt a statutory clause specifying that any dispute of national dimension arising from or related to the Statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of the BFA may only be referred in the last instance (i.e. after exhaustion of all internal channels within the BFA) to the BOA, which shall definitely settle the dispute to the exclusion of any ordinary court, unless expressly prohibited by the legislation in force in Barbados;
 - g) to adopt a statutory clause specifying that any dispute of international dimension arising from or related to the Statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of FIFA, Concacaf or of CFU may only be submitted in the last instance to CAS, as specified in the Statutes of FIFA, Concacaf and of the CFU;
 - h) to manage their affairs independently and ensure that their own affairs are not influenced by any third parties in accordance with art. 20 of these Statutes;
 - i) to ensure that their bodies are either elected or appointed according to a procedure that guarantees the complete independence of the election or appointment;
 - j) to communicate to the BFA any amendment to its statutes and regulations as well as any changes to its internal organisation (e.g. the list of officials who are authorised signatories with the right to enter into legally binding agreements with third parties);
 - k) not to maintain any relations of a sporting nature with entities that are not recognised or with Members that have been suspended or expelled;
 - l) to observe the principles of loyalty, integrity and good sporting behaviour as an expression of fair play through a statutory provision;
 - m) to observe the mandatory items specified under art. 13 par. 2 of these Statutes for the duration of their affiliation;
 - n) to administer a register of members which shall regularly be updated;
 - o) to ratify statutes that are in accordance with the requirements of these Statutes;
 - p) to comply fully with all other duties arising from the Statutes and other regulations of FIFA, Concacaf, CFU and the BFA.
- 2 Violation of the above-mentioned obligations by any Member may lead to sanctions provided for in these Statutes.

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

Article 17 - Suspension

- 1 The Congress is responsible for suspending a Member. The Council may, however, without a vote of the Congress, temporarily suspend with immediate effect a Member that seriously and/or repeatedly violates its obligations as a Member. The suspension approved by the Council shall last until the next Congress, unless the Council has lifted it in the meantime.
- 2 The presence of a majority (more than 50%) of the delegates representing the Members eligible to vote is necessary for a suspension to be valid and the motion for suspension must be adopted by a two-thirds of the valid votes cast. A suspension of a Member by the Congress or the Council shall be confirmed at the next Congress. If it is not confirmed, the suspension shall be automatically lifted.
- 3 A suspended Member may not exercise any of its rights. Other Members may not entertain sporting contact with a suspended Member. The Disciplinary and Ethics Committee may impose further sanctions.
- 4 Members that do not participate in the sporting activities of the BFA for 2 consecutive years shall be suspended from voting at the Congress and their representatives shall not be elected or appointed until they have fulfilled their obligations in this respect.

Article 18 - Expulsion

- 1 The Congress may expel a Member if it seriously and repeatedly violates the Statutes, regulations, directives or decisions of FIFA, Concacaf, CFU and the BFA.
- 2 The presence of a majority (more than 50%) of the delegates representing the Members eligible to vote at the Congress is necessary for an expulsion to be valid, and the motion for expulsion must be adopted by two thirds of the valid votes cast.

Article 19 - Resignation

- 1 A Member may resign with effect from the end of a football season. Notice of resignation must reach the general secretariat no later than 3 months before the end of the football season.
- 2 The resignation is not valid until the Member wishing to resign has fulfilled its financial obligations towards the BFA and its other Members.

Article 20 - Independence of Members and their bodies

- 1 Each Member shall manage its affairs independently and with no undue influence from third parties.
- 2 The Members' bodies shall be either elected or appointed. The Members' statutes shall provide for a democratic procedure that guarantees the complete independence of the election or appointment.
- 3 Any Members' bodies that have not been elected or appointed in compliance with the provisions of par. 2 above, even on an interim basis, shall not be recognised by the BFA.
- 4 Decisions passed by bodies that have not been elected or appointed in compliance with par. 2 above shall not be recognised by the BFA. It might be possible that some bodies of the Members of an association are not elected or appointed through a democratic procedure that guarantees the complete independence of the election or appointment. This could include a club whose owner is also its President, who does not go through any kind of electoral process. Such unique situations shall be analysed by the association on a case-by-case basis.

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

- 1 Clubs, leagues, regional associations or any other groups of clubs affiliated to the BFA shall be subordinate to and recognised by the BFA. There shall only be one top-tier national league on the territory of the BFA.
- 2 These Statutes define the scope of authority and the rights and duties of the entities mentioned in par. 1 above. Their statutes and regulations shall be in line with the requirements and obligations of the Statutes and regulations of the BFA. The BFA shall approve the statutes and regulations of its Members. BFA shall have the primary responsibility to regulate matters relating to refereeing, the fight against doping, the registration of players, club licensing, the imposition of disciplinary measures, including for ethical misconduct, as well as measures required to protect the integrity of competitions.
- 3 The entities mentioned in par. 1 above shall take all decisions on any matters regarding their membership independently of any external body. This obligation applies regardless of their corporate structure.
- 4 In any case, no natural or legal person (including holding companies and subsidiaries) shall exercise control over more than one club or group of clubs whenever the integrity of any match or competition could be jeopardised.

III. Honorary President And Honorary Member

Article 22 - Honorary president, honorary vice-president and honorary member

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

IV. Organization

Article 23 - Bodies

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

Article 24 - Dismissal of a member of a body

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

- 2 The motion for dismissal must be justified and shall be sent to the members of the Council and/or to the Members of the BFA along with the respective agenda.
- 3 The member of the body in question has the right to defend himself in front of the Council and/or the Congress.
- 4 The motion for dismissal shall be decided by means of secret ballot at the Council and/or the Congress. For the motion to be passed, a majority of more than 50% of the valid votes cast is required.
- 5 The member dismissed (provisionally or not) is relieved of his functions with immediate effect.

A. CONGRESS

Article 25 - Definition and composition

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

Article 26 - Delegates and votes

- 1 The number of delegates is allocated as follows:
 - a) for each club: 1 delegate with 1 vote;
- 2 Delegates must belong to the Member that they represent and be appointed or elected by the appropriate body of that Member. They must also be able to produce evidence of this upon request.
- 3 Each delegate has one vote in the Congress. Only the delegates present are entitled to vote. Voting by proxy or by letter is not permitted.
- 4 The members of the Council and the General Secretary shall take part in the Congress without voting rights. During their terms of office, members of the Council may not be appointed as delegates to the Congress.

Article 27 - Areas of authority

The Congress has the following areas of authority:

- a) adopting or amending these Statutes and the Standing Orders of the Congress;
- b) appointing three (3) Members to check the minutes and approving the minutes of the last meeting;

- c) electing the President, the vice-president(s) and members of the Council;
- d) ratifying the chairpersons, the deputy chairpersons and members of the independent committees (i.e. Audit and Compliance Officer, electoral committees and judicial bodies), upon proposal of the Council;
- e) appointing scrutineers to count the votes and to assist the General Secretary in distributing the ballot papers issued for the elections;
- f) approving the annual audited financial statements, including the consolidated financial statements and the annual report;
- g) approving the budget;
- h) approving the activity report (containing the activities of the BFA since the last Congress);
- i) appointing the independent and external auditors upon proposal of the Council;
- j) fixing the membership subscriptions upon proposal of the Council;
- k) bestowing the title of honorary president or honorary member, upon proposal of the Council;
- l) admitting, suspending or expelling a Member;
- m) dismissing a member of a body of the BFA;
- n) dissolving the BFA;
- o) passing decisions at the request of a Member in accordance with these Statutes or passing any decision entrusted to the Congress in accordance with these Statutes.

Article 28 - Quorum

- 1 Decisions passed by the Congress shall only be valid if a majority (more than 50%) of the delegates representing the Members eligible to vote are present.
- 2 If a quorum is not achieved, a second Congress shall take place within 7 days with the same agenda.
- 3 A quorum is not required for the second meeting of the Congress unless an item on the agenda proposes the amendment of these Statutes, the election of the President, vice-presidents or members of the Council, the election of the chairpersons, deputy chairpersons or members of the independent committees, the dismissal of a member of a body, the suspension or expulsion of a Member or the dissolution of the BFA.

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

Article 29 - Decisions

- 1 A decision that requires a vote shall be reached by a show of hands or by means of an electronic count, unless decided otherwise by the Congress. If a show of hands does not result in a clear majority in favour of a motion, the vote shall be taken by calling the roll in alphabetical order.
- 2 Unless otherwise stipulated in these Statutes, a majority (more than 50%) of the valid votes cast is sufficient for a decision to be valid. Blank ballot papers, invalid votes or electronic votes manipulated in any way as well as abstentions shall be disregarded when calculating the majority.

Article 30 - Elections

- 1 Elections shall be conducted by secret ballot.
- 2 Elections shall be conducted in accordance with the Electoral Code of BFA and shall be supervised by the Electoral Committee.
- 3 The election for the positions within the Council shall take place by position. At least one position shall be reserved for a female candidate. Every candidate in the election for the positions within the Council shall be proposed by at least two Members. Each Member shall support one candidate for each given position only. If a Member supports more than one candidate, none of its expressions of support shall be considered valid.
- 4 A majority (more than 50%) of the valid votes cast is necessary for the election of the President and vice-president(s) of BFA. If there are more than two candidates for the office of President or for any of the offices of vice-presidents, whoever obtains the lowest number of votes is eliminated after each ballot until only two candidates are left.
- 5 For the election of the other members of the Council, the candidate(s) who receive(s) the most votes in respect of the free seat(s) shall be elected.
- 6 For the ratification of the chairpersons, deputy chairpersons and members of the independent committees (i.e. Audit and Compliance Committee, electoral committees and judicial bodies), the elections may be conducted en bloc.
- 7 In case of a tied vote in any elections of any body, two new ballots shall be conducted in accordance with the procedure set forth in this article. If the tied vote remains, the relevant position shall remain vacant until a new elective Congress convenes to proceed with new elections according to these Statutes.
- 8 Blank ballot papers, invalid votes or electronic votes manipulated in any way as well as abstentions shall be disregarded when calculating the majority.

- 9 Candidatures for any of the positions of the Council shall be sent to the general secretariat at least 30 days before the relevant elective Congress. The official list of candidates must be passed to the Members of BFA at least 10 days before the Congress at which the Council shall be elected. The provisions of this paragraph shall also apply when elections take place during an Extraordinary Congress.
- 10 Candidatures for any of the positions of the independent committees (i.e. Audit and Compliance Committee, electoral committees and judicial bodies) must be passed to the Members of BFA at least 10 days before the Congress at which the members in question shall be elected.

Article 31 - Ordinary Congress

- 1 The Ordinary Congress shall be held every year.
- 2 The Council shall fix the place and date. The Members shall be notified in writing at least forty five (45) days in advance.
- 3 Any proposal that a Member wishes to submit to the Congress shall be sent to the general secretariat in writing, with a brief explanation, at least thirty (30) days before the date of the Congress.
- 4 The formal convocation shall be made in writing at least ten (10) days before the date of the Congress. This convocation shall contain the agenda, the activity report, the financial statements, the independent and external auditors' report and any other relevant documents.

Article 32 - Ordinary Congress agenda

- 1 The General Secretary shall draw up the agenda based on proposals from the Council and the Members.
- 2 The Congress agenda shall include the following mandatory items (in chronological order):
 - a) a declaration that the Congress has been convened and composed in compliance with these Statutes;
 - b) approval of the agenda;
 - c) an address by the President;
 - d) appointment of Members to check the minutes;
 - e) appointment of scrutineers;
 - f) suspension or expulsion of Members (if applicable);
 - g) approval of the minutes of the preceding Congress;

- h) activity report (containing the activities since the last Congress);
 - i) presentation of the consolidated and revised balance sheet and the profit and loss statement, as well as the independent and external auditors' report;
 - j) approval of the audited financial statements;
 - k) approval of the budget;
 - l) votes on proposals for amendments to these Statutes and the Standing Orders of the Congress (if applicable);
 - m) discussion of proposals submitted by the Members and the Council in accordance with the procedure stipulated under art. 31 par. 3 of these Statutes;
 - n) appointment of the independent and external auditors (if applicable) upon proposal of the Council;
 - o) dismissal of a member of a body of the BFA (if applicable);
 - p) election of the President, vice-presidents and members of the Council (if applicable);
 - q) elections of the members of the independent committees, i.e. the Audit and Compliance Officer, electoral committees and judicial bodies (if applicable);
 - r) admission for membership (if applicable).
- 3 The Congress shall not take a decision on any point not included in the agenda.
- 4 The agenda of an Ordinary Congress may be altered, provided a majority (more than 50%) of the delegates representing the Members present at the Congress and eligible to vote agree to such a motion.

Article 33 - Extraordinary Congress

- 1 The Council may convene an Extraordinary Congress at any time.
- 2 The Council shall convene an Extraordinary Congress if one-third of the delegates representing the Members of the BFA make such a request in writing. The request shall specify the items to be included in the agenda. An Extraordinary Congress shall be held within thirty (30) days of receipt of the request. If an Extraordinary Congress is not convened, the delegates representing the Members who requested it may convene the Congress themselves. In doing so, they shall inform all the Members of the BFA and the Council of the date and location of the Extraordinary Congress, along with the items to be included in the agenda in accordance with par. 3 below.

- 3 The Members shall be notified of the place, date and agenda at least 7 days before the date of an Extraordinary Congress.
- 4 When an Extraordinary Congress is convened on the initiative of the Council, it must draw up the agenda. When it is convened upon the request of the Members, the agenda must contain the points raised by those Members.
- 5 The agenda of an Extraordinary Congress must not be altered.

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

- 1 The Congress is responsible for amending these Statutes and the Standing Orders of the Congress.
- 2 Any proposals for an amendment to these Statutes and the Standing Orders of the Congress must be submitted in writing with a brief explanation to the general secretariat by a Member or by the Council. A proposal submitted by delegates representing a Member is valid, provided it has been supported in writing by at least 25% of delegates representing the Members.
- 3 For a vote on an amendment to the Statutes and to the Standing Orders of the Congress to be valid, a majority (more than 50%) of the delegates representing the Members eligible to vote must be present.
- 4 A proposal for an amendment to these Statutes and to the Standing Orders of the Congress shall be adopted only if two thirds of the delegates representing the Members present and eligible to vote agree to it.
- 5 The BFA shall inform FIFA, Concacaf and the CFU of any amendments to its Statutes

Article 35 - Minutes

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

Article 36 - Effective dates of decisions

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

B. Council

Article 37 - Composition

- 1 The Council shall consist of 9 members as follows:
 - a) 1 President;
 - b) 3 vice-presidents;
 - c) 5 members.
- 2 The President, the vice-president(s) and the other members of the Council shall be elected by the Congress in accordance with art. 30 of these Statutes. They shall undergo an integrity check, to be conducted by the Electoral Committee, prior to their election or re-election.
- 3 The mandate of the President, vice-presidents and members of the Council shall be for four years. Their mandates shall immediately begin after the end of the Congress which has elected them and expire at the end of the Congress at which their successors are elected. No person may serve as President for more than three terms of office (whether consecutive or not). All other members (including any vice-president) of the Council may serve for no more than three terms of office (whether consecutive or not). Any partial term of at least a year in office shall count as one full term.
- 4 All members of the Council shall have already been active in football (i.e. official, player, coach, and referee) for at least 3 years. All the members of the Council shall hold a Barbadian citizenship, over 18 years and shall fulfil the prerequisites stipulated in art. 23 par. 8 of these Statutes.
- 5 At least one woman shall be part of the Council.
- 6 A member of the Council may not at the same time be a member of an independent committee and may not be appointed/elected as a delegate representing a Member at the Congress.
- 7 If a position or up to 50% of the positions of the Council become vacant, the Council shall fill the position(s) in question until the next Congress, when replacement(s) for the position(s) will be elected for the remaining period of office.
- 8 If more than 50% of the positions of the Council become vacant, the General Secretary shall convene an Extraordinary Congress within the prescribed period of time. In the meantime, the Council shall be considered dissolved and the General Secretary shall take care of the daily affairs of the BFA until new elections are held.
- 9 Any position within the Council shall be considered vacant in case of death, resignation or if the member concerned is permanently prevented from performing his official function.

Article 38 - Meetings

- 1 The Council shall meet at least once a month.
- 2 The President shall convene the Council meetings. If a majority (more than 50%) of the Council members request a meeting, the President shall convene it so that the meeting is held within 7 days of the receipt of the request. If the President does not convene the requested meeting by the aforementioned deadline, the other members of the Council shall convene it themselves, but must send the agenda to all members of the Council at least three days before the meeting in line with par. 3 below.
- 3 The President, assisted by the general secretariat, shall compile the agenda. Each member of the Council is entitled to propose items for inclusion in the agenda. The members of the Council must submit the items they wish to be included in the agenda for the meeting to the general secretariat at least seven days before the meeting. The agenda must be sent out to the members of the Council at least three days before the meeting.
- 4 The General Secretary shall take part in the meetings of the Council in a consultative role and without voting rights. If the General Secretary is unable to attend a meeting, he/she may nominate a representative to attend the meeting on their behalf, subject to the approval of the Council.
- 5 The meetings of the Council shall not be held in public. The Council may, however, invite third parties to attend. Those third parties shall not have voting rights, and may only express an opinion with the permission of the Council.
- 6 The President may also convene the Council on an urgent basis to deal with any matter requiring immediate settlement between two meetings of the Council. In such cases, the deadlines mentioned in par. 3 above may be either reduced or disregarded if the urgency so requires.

Article 39 - Powers

The Council shall have the following powers:

- a) passing decisions on all cases that do not come within the sphere of responsibility of the Congress or are not reserved for other bodies by law or under these Statutes.
- b) preparing, with the assistance of the general secretariat, and convening the Ordinary and Extraordinary Congress.
- c) appointing the chairpersons, deputy chairpersons and members of the standing committees.

- d) deciding to set up ad hoc committees if necessary at any time.
- e) approving and issuing the regulations for the organisation of standing committees and ad hoc committees.
- f) appointing the General Secretary upon proposal of the President. The General Secretary may be dismissed by the Council without prior proposal of the President.
- g) proposing the independent and external auditors to the Congress.
- h) appointing replacements for vacancies in the independent committees until the next Congress.
- i) approving and issuing regulations governing the conditions of participation in and the staging of competitions organised by the BFA.
- j) appointing the coaches for the representative teams and other technical staff.
- k) approving and issuing the Internal Organisation Regulations of the BFA.
- l) ensuring that these Statutes are applied and adopting the executive arrangements required for their application.
- m) dismissing a member of a body or suspending a Member of the BFA provisionally until the next Congress;
- n) delegating tasks under its authority to other bodies.
- o) appointing observers who may take part in the Congress without the right to debate or to vote.

Article 40 - Decisions

- 1 The Council shall not engage in valid debate unless five (5) of its members are present.
- 2 The Council shall reach decisions by a majority (more than 50%) of the valid votes cast. Voting by proxy or by letter is not permitted.
- 3 Any member of the Council must withdraw from the debate and from taking a decision if there is any risk or possibility of a conflict of interest.
- 4 The decisions taken shall be recorded in the Minutes.
- 5 The decisions taken by the Council shall come into effect immediately, unless the Council decides otherwise.

C. PRESIDENT

Article 41 - President

- 1 The President is primarily responsible for:
 - a) implementing the decisions passed by the Congress and the Council through the general secretariat;
 - b) ensuring the effective functioning of the bodies in order that they achieve the objectives described in these Statutes;
 - c) supervising the work of the general secretariat;
 - d) the relations between BFA and its Members, FIFA, Concacaf, CFU political bodies and other organisations;
 - e) ensuring that the statutory objectives, mission, strategic direction, policies and values of BFA are sustainably pursued and fostering a positive image of the BFA;
- 2 Only the President may propose to the Council the appointment of the General Secretary. The President may however also propose to the Council the dismissal of the General Secretary.
- 3 The President shall preside over the Congress and the Council meetings and those committees of which he has been appointed chairperson.
- 4 The President shall have an ordinary vote on the Council.
- 5 If the President is absent or unavailable, the 1st vice-president shall deputise, if the 1st vice- president is absent or unavailable, the 2nd vice- president shall deputise and if this last one is not present the 3rd vice- president.
- 6 If the position of the President becomes vacant in the sense of art. 37 par. 9 of these Statutes, the 1st vice-president shall deputise until the next Congress. This Congress shall elect a new President for the remaining period of office.
- 7 Any additional powers of the President shall be contained in the Internal Organisation Regulations of the BFA.

Article 42 - Representation and signature

The President represents the BFA generally. The Council shall adopt special provisions in the Internal Organisation Regulations of the BFA regarding the joint signature of office holders.

D. GENERAL SECRETARIAT

Article 43 - General secretariat

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

Article 44 - General Secretary

- 1 The General Secretary is the chief executive officer of the BFA.
- 2 The General Secretary shall be appointed by the Council upon proposal of the President on the basis of an agreement governed by private law and shall have the necessary professional qualifications and/or experience.
- 3 The General Secretary shall be responsible for:
 - a) implementing decisions passed by the Congress and Council in compliance with the President's directives;
 - b) attending the Congress and meetings of the Council and the standing and ad hoc committees;
 - c) organising the Congress and meetings of the Council and other bodies;
 - d) compiling the minutes for the meetings of the Congress, Council and standing and ad hoc committees;
 - e) managing and keeping the accounts;
 - f) correspondence;
 - g) the relations with the Members, committees, FIFA, Concacaf and CFU, under the direction of the President;
 - h) organising the general secretariat;
 - i) the appointment and dismissal of staff working in the general secretariat;
 - j) providing the electoral committees with logistic and operative support for the elections.
- 4 Any additional responsibilities and duties assigned to the General Secretary shall be stipulated in the Internal Organisation Regulations of the BFA.
- 5 The General Secretary shall not be a Congress delegate or a member of any other body.

E. STANDING COMMITTEES

Article 45 - Standing committees

- 1 The standing committees are:
 - a) Finance Committee;
 - b) Competitions Committee;
 - c) Development Committee;
 - d) Referees Committee;
 - e) Medical Committee
- 2 Chairpersons, deputy chairpersons and members of the standing committees may be members of the Council with the exception of those of the Referees Committee, who may not belong to the Council. The members of each standing committee shall be appointed by the Council upon proposal of the Members of the BFA or the President. The Council shall ensure appropriate female representation on standing committees. The chairpersons, deputy chairpersons and the members of the standing committees shall be designated for a term of office of four years. Standing committees are to be composed in such a way that the members, together, have the knowledge, abilities and specialist experience that is necessary for the due completion of their tasks and duties.
- 3 Each chairperson shall represent his/her standing committee and conduct business in compliance with the relevant provisions of the Internal Organisation Regulations of the BFA approved by the Council. They may be appointed or dismissed by the Council at any time without the approval of the Congress.
- 4 Each chairperson shall fix the dates of meetings in collaboration with the General Secretary, ensure that all tasks are carried out and report back to the Council. Meetings may take place in person or by video conference. If a meeting cannot be convened within an appropriate period of time, decisions may be passed by other methods (e.g. circular resolution).
- 5 The Council and each standing committee, the latter with the approval of the Council, may, if necessary, set up a bureau and/or sub-committee to settle urgent matters. Any discussions and decisions of the bureau and/or sub-committee shall be reported to the relevant standing committee as soon as it is practicable to do so.
- 6 Each standing committee may propose to the Council amendments to the relevant provisions of the Internal Organisation Regulations of the BFA that concern its committee.

Article 46 - Finance Committee

The Finance Committee shall monitor the financial management and advise the Council on financial matters and asset management. It shall analyse the budget and the financial statements prepared by the General Secretariat and submit them to the Council for approval. It shall consist of a chairperson, a deputy chairperson and 3 members.

Article 47 - Competitions Committee

The Organising Committee for the BFA Competitions shall organise the BFA's competitions of association football, futsal and beach soccer at any level and gender within BFA in compliance with the provisions of these Statutes and the regulations applicable to the BFA's competitions. It shall consist of a chairperson, a deputy chairperson and 5 members.

Article 48 - Development Committee

The Development Committee shall primarily analyse the basic aspects of football training and technical development in football for all genders. It shall advise the Council on BFA's development programmes, devising and proposing appropriate strategies, monitoring these strategies and analysing the support, programmes and development matters in general. In addition, shall advise on all matters relating to amateur and grassroots within the BFA and its Members. It shall consist of a chairperson, a deputy chairperson and 5 members.

Article 49 - Referees Committee

The Referees Committee shall advise the Council on implementing the Laws of the Game as well as the Futsal Laws of the Game and the Beach Soccer Laws of the Game. It shall advise on the appointment of the referees and assistant referees for matches in competitions organised by the BFA, refereeing matters within the BFA while collaboration with the administration, and monitoring the education and training of referees. It shall consist of a chairperson, a deputy chairperson and 3 members, all of whom shall be ex-referees.

Article 50 - Medical Committee

The Medical Committee shall deal with all matters relating to health and safety. It shall consist of a chairperson, a deputy chairperson and 1 other member.

Article 51 - Ad hoc committees

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

F. CLUB LICENSING BODIES

Article 52 - Club licensing bodies

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

V. Independent Committees

Article 53 - Institutional independence

- 1 The independent committees as well as their individual members shall conduct their activities and perform their duties entirely independently but always in the interests of the BFA and in accordance with its Statutes and regulations.
- 2 The chairpersons, deputy chairpersons and members of the independent committees shall be ratified by the Congress upon proposal of the Council and may only be relieved of their duties by the Congress. They shall not be members of any other body of the BFA
- 3 The mandate of all members of the independent committees shall last for four years. They may be re-elected.
- 4 The chairperson, vice-chairperson and members of the electoral committees as well as the chairmen and vice-chairmen of the judicial bodies shall comply with the independence criteria as defined in par. 3 below.
- 3 The persons mentioned in par. 2 above as well as any of their immediate family members may not exercise or have exercised during the four years preceding their initial terms any executive function at the BFA, one of the BFA's Members, a league or a club (including any of their affiliated companies/organisations), nor have or have had in the four years preceding their initial term any material business relationship with the BFA, one of the BFA's Members, a league or a club (including any of their affiliated companies/organisations). "Immediate family member" shall mean, with respect to a person, such person's spouse or domestic partner, siblings, parents, grandparents, uncles, aunts, children (including any stepchild or adopted child), grandchildren, son, daughter, father or mother-in-law, and including anyone else, whether by blood or otherwise, with whom the individual has a relationship akin to a family relationship for which such person provides financial support.

Article 54 - Audit and Compliance Committee

- 1 The Audit and Compliance Committee shall comprise of members who shall be knowledgeable and experienced in financial and/or regulatory and legal matters and may not be involved in any decision affecting the operations of the BFA. It shall consist of a chairperson, a deputy chairperson and one other member.
- 2 The Audit and Compliance Committee shall advise, assist and oversee the Council in monitoring the BFA's financial and compliance matters, set up compliance mechanisms and monitor compliance with the relevant regulations

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

- 3 Details on the Audit and Compliance Committee member's responsibilities, its internal cooperation and other procedural matters are stipulated in the Internal Organisation Regulations of the BFA.
- 4 The Audit and Compliance Committee shall be elected by the Congress for a period of 4 years and may only be relieved of their duties by the Congress. The members shall not belong to any other body of the BFA and shall undergo an integrity check, to be conducted by the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee, prior to their election or re-election and shall fulfil the independence requirements contained in par. 5 below.
- 5 If any member of the Audit and Compliance Committee permanently ceases to perform his/her official function during their term of office, the Council shall appoint a replacement to serve until the next Congress.

Article 55 - Electoral committees

- 1 The electoral committees are the bodies in charge of organising and supervising the election process in accordance with the Electoral Code of the BFA. The electoral committees consist of the Electoral Committee (the first instance body) and the Appeal Committee (the second instance body).
- 2 The composition and function of the electoral committees shall be governed by the Electoral Code of the BFA.

Article 56 - Judicial bodies

- 1 The judicial bodies are:
 - a) the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee;
 - b) the Appeal Committee.
- 2 The judicial bodies are to be composed in such a way that the members, together, have the knowledge, abilities and specialist experience that is necessary for the due completion of their tasks and duties. The chairpersons and deputy chairpersons of the judicial bodies shall be qualified to practise law.

- 3 All members of the judicial bodies (including the chairpersons and deputy chairpersons) shall undergo an integrity check prior to their election or re-election which shall be conducted by the Audit and Compliance Committee.
- 7 If the chairperson, the deputy chairperson or a member of a judicial body permanently ceases to perform his/her official function during their term of office, the Council shall appoint a replacement to serve until the next Congress, in which the Congress shall appoint a new member of the respective judicial body for the remaining period.
- 8 The responsibilities and function of the judicial bodies shall be stipulated in the Disciplinary and Ethics Code of the BFA.

Article 57 - Disciplinary and Ethics Committee

- 1 The function of the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee shall be governed by the Disciplinary and Ethics Code of the BFA.
- 2 The Disciplinary and Ethics Committee may pronounce the sanctions described in these Statutes and the Disciplinary and Ethics Code of the BFA on Members, officials, players, clubs, licensed match agents and intermediaries.
- 3 These provisions do not affect the powers of the Congress and the Council with regard to the suspension and expulsion of Members.
- 4 The Council shall issue the Disciplinary and Ethics Code of the BFA, which shall be in accordance with the principles laid down in the FIFA Disciplinary Code and the FIFA Ethics Code.

Article 58 - Appeal Committee

- 1 The function of the Appeal Committee shall be governed by the Disciplinary and Ethics Code as well as the Electoral Code of the BFA.
- 2 The Appeal Committee is responsible for hearing appeals against decisions from the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee and the Electoral Committee that are not declared final by the relevant regulations of the BFA.
- 3 Decisions pronounced by the Appeal Committee may only be referred to an independent and duly constituted arbitration tribunal in accordance with the provisions in these Statutes.

VI. Disciplinary Measures

Article 59 - Disciplinary measures

The disciplinary measures are primarily:

- 1 for natural and legal persons:
 - a) a warning;
 - b) a reprimand;
 - c) a fine;
 - d) the return of awards.
- 2 for natural persons:
 - a) a caution;
 - b) an expulsion;
 - c) a match suspension;
 - d) a ban from the dressing rooms and/or the substitutes' bench;
 - e) a ban from entering a stadium;
 - f) a ban on taking part in any football-related activity;
 - g) social work;
 - h) compliance training.
- 3 for legal persons:
 - a) a transfer ban;
 - b) playing a match without spectators;
 - c) playing a match on neutral territory;
 - d) a ban on playing in a particular stadium;
 - e) annulment of the result of the match;
 - f) expulsion from a competition;
 - g) a forfeit;
 - h) deduction of points;
 - i) relegation to a lower division;
 - j) replaying a match.

VII. Arbitration

Article 60 - Arbitration

- 1 Disputes within the BFA or disputes affecting Members of the BFA, leagues, members of leagues, clubs, members of clubs, players and officials may only be referred in the last instance (i.e. after exhaustion of all internal channels within BFA) to an independent and duly constituted arbitration tribunal, the BOA, which shall settle the dispute definitively to the exclusion of any ordinary court, unless expressly prohibited by the legislation in Barbados.
- 2 Disputes of international dimension arising from or related to the Statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of FIFA or Concacaf may only be submitted in the last instance to CAS as specified in the Statutes of FIFA and of Concacaf.

Article 61 - Jurisdiction

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

VIII. Finance

Article 62 - Financial period

- 1 The financial period of the BFA shall be one year and shall begin on January 1st and end on December 31st.
- 2 The revenue and expenses of the BFA shall be managed so that they balance out over the financial period. The BFA's major duties in the future shall be guaranteed through the creation of reserves.
- 3 The General Secretary is responsible for drawing up the annual consolidated accounts of BFA with its subsidiaries as at December 31st.

Article 63 - Revenue

The revenue of the BFA comprises:

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

Article 64 - Expenses

The BFA shall bear:

- a) the expenses stipulated in the budget;
- b) other expenses approved by the Congress and expenses that the Council is entitled to incur within the scope of its authority;
- c) all other expenses in keeping with the objectives pursued by the BFA.

Article 65 - Independent and external auditors

The independent and external auditors appointed by the Congress shall audit on a yearly basis the accounts approved by the Finance Committee in accordance with the appropriate principles of accounting and present a report to the Congress. The independent and external auditors shall be appointed for a period of two years. Their mandate may be renewed.

Article 66 - Membership subscriptions

- 1 Membership subscriptions are due on 31st January. The annual subscription for new Members for the year in question shall be paid within 30 days of the close of the Congress at which they are admitted.
- 2 The Congress shall fix the amount of the annual subscription every two years on the recommendation of the Council. It shall be the same for every Member and amount to no more than BDS\$200.00.

Article 67 - Settlement

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

Article 68 - Levies

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

Article 69 - Publication of financial data

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

IX. Competitions And Rights In Competitions and Events

Article 70 - Competitions

- 1 The BFA shall organise and coordinate the following official competitions held within its territory:
 - a) BFA Domestic League
 - b) The BFA Knock Out Cup
 - c) The Youth League, Youth Cup
 - d) Women's League and Women's Cup
- 2 The Council may delegate to the BFA's subordinate leagues the authority to organise competitions (e.g. by means of a proper and comprehensive agreement for elite football). The competitions organised by the leagues shall not interfere with those competitions organised by the BFA. Competitions organised by the BFA shall take priority.
- 3 The Council may issue special regulations to this end.

Article 71 - Club licensing

The Council shall issue regulations regarding a club licensing system governing the participation of clubs in the competitions of the BFA and Concacaf, in compliance with the minimum requirements of the club licensing system as set up by CFU, Concacaf and FIFA.

Article 72 - Rights

- 1 The BFA and its Members are the original owners of all of the rights emanating from competitions and other events coming under their respective jurisdiction, without any restrictions as to content, time and place. These rights include, among others, every kind of financial rights, audiovisual and radio recording, reproduction and broadcasting rights, multimedia rights, marketing and promotional rights and incorporeal rights such as emblems and rights arising under copyright law.
- 2 The Council shall decide how and to what extent these rights are utilised and shall draw up special regulations to this end. The BFA shall ensure that the sale of such rights is carried out in a transparent manner and in compliance with the Statutes and regulations of the BFA as well as mandatory national laws.

Article 73 - Authorisation to distribute

- 1 The BFA and its Members are exclusively responsible for authorising the distribution of image and sound and other data carriers of football matches and events coming under their respective jurisdiction, without any restrictions.
- 2 The Council shall issue special regulations to this end.

X. International Matches And Competitions

Article 74 - International matches and competitions

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

Article 75 - Contacts

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

Article 76 - Approval

- 1 Clubs, leagues or any other group of clubs that are affiliated to the BFA may only join another association with the authorisation of the BFA, the other association, the respective confederation(s) and FIFA.
- 2 Clubs, leagues or any other group of clubs that are affiliated to the BFA cannot participate in competitions on the territory of another association without the authorisation of the BFA, the other association, FIFA and the respective confederation(s) according to the FIFA Regulations Governing International Matches.

XI. Final Provisions

Article 77 - Unforeseen contingencies and force majeure

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

Article 78 - Publication of corporate documents

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

- a) Statutes and Standing Orders of the Congress;
- b) Electoral Code;
- c) Disciplinary and Ethics Code;
- d) Internal Organisation Regulations;
- e) most important/key decisions;
- f) its strategy;
- g) agenda for Council and Congress meetings;
- h) circular letters.

Article 79 - Dissolution

- 1 Any decision relating to the dissolution of BFA requires a majority of two thirds [or any other majority as stipulated in the applicable national legislation] of all of the Members of the BFA, which must be obtained at a Congress specially convened for the purpose.
- 2 If the BFA is disbanded, its assets shall be transferred to the BOA. It shall hold these assets as a trustee in accordance with the relevant professional duties until the BFA is re-established. The final Congress may, however, choose another recipient for the assets on the basis of a vote by at least two-thirds majority of the members of the association.

Article 80 - Enforcement

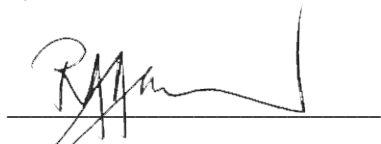
These Statutes were adopted at the Congress in 2022 on March 20 and come into force on March 20, 2022. The former Statutes of the BFA are hereby repealed.

Article 81 - Transitional provisions

- 1 The BFA shall have 6 months as from the adoption of these Statutes to amend the Club Licensing Regulations, and clearly defined the requirements and the criteria for Football Clubs to participate in competitions of the BFA and Concacaf. This shall be done by 1 October 2022,
- 2 An additional period of 15 months, until 1 January 2024, it is granted to the Football Clubs that are Members of the BFA, defined under art. 12 of these Statutes, to comply with the Club Licensing regulations, mandatory requirement stipulated in art. 13 par. 2 n). In addition, the Members as defined in art. 12 of these Statutes shall comply with all the other requirements stipulated in art. 13 par. 2 as well as art.16 par. 1 f), g), j), n) and o) of these Statutes. Within the aforementioned time the BFA shall clearly defined its membership and any Member which does not comply with all of these requirements within the aforementioned timeframe, shall automatically lose its membership.
- 3 The composition of the Council as defined in art. 37 par. 1 of these Statutes shall only be applicable to the Council whose membership shall be elected by the Congress after the adoption of these Statutes.
- 4 The requirement to undergo an integrity check as mentioned in art. 37 par. 2 of these Statutes and the criteria defined in art. 37 par. 4 of these Statutes shall not apply to the members of the Council that are in place at the time of adoption of these Statutes but shall be complied with by any candidate running for any of the position on the Council following the adoption of these Statutes.
- 5 The term limits as defined in art. 37 par. 3 of these Statutes shall only apply as from the elections of the members of the Council which shall take place following the adoption of these Statutes.
- 6 Upon adoption of these Statutes, the Council shall appoint the members of the Standing Committees as defined under art. 45 to 51 of these Statutes.
- 7 Within 12 months upon the adoption of these Statutes, the Congress shall elect the relevant members of the independent committees as defined under art. 53 to 58 of the Statutes that are not already in office. Within this same period, the Congress shall also dismiss the relevant members of the independent committees that do not comply with the independence criteria mentioned under art. 53 par. 3 of these Statutes and elect the relevant number of members to fill the positions.

BRIDGETOWN, BARBADOS, March 2022

For BFA

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R Harris', written over a horizontal line.

RANDOLPH HARRIS
President

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Edwyn Wood', written over a horizontal line.

EDWYN WOOD
General Secretary

ANNEX A - Questionnaire For Integrity Checks

Part 1: General provisions

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

Part 2: Screening process

- 1 At the beginning of the screening process, every candidate or holder shall undergo an identification check ("ID check"). In this context, the candidate or holder shall submit a valid copy of his passport to the body in charge of performing the integrity check. The ID check shall include verification/identification of the following elements:

- a) name(s) and surname(s);
- b) address of residence;
- c) date and place of birth;
- d) nationality/nationalities.

- 2 Every candidate or holder shall complete the questionnaire contained in part 3 below.
- 3 The body in charge of performing the integrity check may conduct independent research and/or investigations in order to obtain further relevant information on a particular candidate or holder, which may include information on intermediaries and related parties, mandates, potential conflicts of interest and significant participations as well as civil and criminal proceedings/investigations.

Part 3: Questionnaire

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

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

☐

No

☐

Yes

If yes, please specify:

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

☐

No

☐

Yes

If yes, please specify: _____

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

☐

No

Yes

☐

If yes, please specify:

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

- 5 I currently hold the following positions in football:

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

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

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

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

- 10 I am fully aware and confirm that I am obliged to collaborate fully to establish the relevant facts with regard to the integrity check to which I am subject. In particular, I will comply with requests for any documents, information or any other material of any nature held by me. In addition, I will comply with the procurement and provision of documents, information or any other material of any nature not held by me but which I am entitled to obtain.

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

- 12 I am fully aware and confirm that the body conducting the integrity check may collect further information on me in accordance with part 2 par. 3 of this annexe.

(Place and date)

(Signature)

**Standing Orders of the
Congress of the BFA**

March 2022 edition

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Definitions

Whenever relevant, the terminology used in these Standing Orders shall refer to the terms defined in the Definitions section of the Statutes of BFA.

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

Article 1 - Representation and participation in the Congress

- 1 Members of the BFA shall be represented at the Congress by the delegates as mentioned under art. 26 par. 1 of the Statutes of the BFA.
- 2 The names of the delegates shall be submitted to the general secretariat before the opening of the Congress.
- 3 The BFA shall bear the costs of travel and accommodation for the delegates of the Members taking part in the Congress. The Council shall issue appropriate directives in this connection.

Article 2 - Chairperson

- 1 The President of the BFA shall chair the Congress. If the President is unable to attend, the vice president shall deputise and in his absence, another member of the Council.
- 2 The chairperson shall ensure that the Congress is conducted in strict compliance with these Standing Orders, open and close the Congress and debates, and, unless the Congress decides otherwise, grant delegates permission to speak and conduct all discussions.
- 3 The chairperson shall be responsible for maintaining order during debates. He may take the following action against any delegate who disturbs the debates:
 - a) a call to order;
 - b) a reprimand;
 - c) the exclusion from the Congress.
- 4 If an appeal is made against such action, the Congress shall decide immediately without debate.

Article 3 - Scrutineers

At the beginning of the meeting, the Congress shall appoint an adequate number of scrutineers to count the votes and to assist the General Secretary in distributing and counting voting papers issued for the elections.

Article 4 - Debates

- 1 Debates on each item on the agenda shall be preceded by a short report or introduction:
 - a) by the chairperson or a member of the Council designated for this purpose;
 - b) by a representative of the committee designated by the Council to give such a report or introduction;
 - c) by a delegate of the Member that requested the item to be included in the agenda.
- 2 The chairperson then opens the debate.

Article 5 - Speakers

- 1 Permission to speak is granted in the order in which it is requested. A speaker may not begin speaking until he has obtained permission to do so.
- 2 A speaker may not speak for a second time on the same item until all other delegates who have requested permission to speak have spoken.
- 3 The chairperson may set a time limit for speakers.

Article 6 - Proposals during the Congress

- 1 All proposals submitted during the Congress shall be made in writing. Proposals which are not relevant to the subject under discussion shall not be admitted to the debate.
- 2 Any amendment to such initial proposals shall be drawn up in writing and passed to the chairperson before being put to the debate.

Article 7 - Procedural motions and closing of debates

- 1 If a procedural motion is made, discussion on the main question shall be suspended until a vote has been taken on the motion.
- 2 If a motion is made to close the discussion, it shall immediately be put to the vote without debate. If the motion is approved, permission to speak shall only be granted to those Members who asked to speak before the vote was taken.
- 3 The chairperson shall close the discussion unless the Congress decides otherwise by a majority (more than 50%) of the valid votes cast.

Article 8 - Votes

- 1 A decision that requires a vote shall be reached by a show of hands, unless decided otherwise by the Congress.
- 2 Before each vote, the chairperson, or the person designated by him, shall read the text of the proposal aloud and explain the voting procedure (quorum) to the Congress. If an objection is raised, the Congress shall decide immediately.
- 3 Votes may be taken by roll call if requested by at least 50% +1 delegates representing the Members present and eligible to vote.
- 4 No one shall be compelled to vote.
- 5 Proposals made during the Congress shall be put to the vote in the order in which they are submitted. If there are more than two main proposals, they shall be put to the vote in succession and the delegates may not vote for more than one of the proposals.
- 6 Alterations to amendments shall be put to the vote before the amendments proper, and amendments before the main proposal.
- 7 Proposals without a vote against are regarded as having been accepted by the Congress.
- 8 The chairperson shall check the result of the vote and announce it to the Congress.
- 9 No one is permitted to speak during the vote and until after the result has been announced.

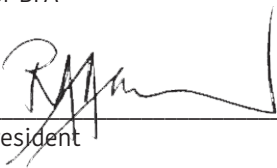
Article 9 Elections

Elections and the electoral process within the BFA shall be conducted according to the relevant provisions of the Statutes and Electoral Code of the BFA.

Article 10 Enforcement

These Standing Orders were adopted at the Congress in 2022 on March 20 and come into force on March 20, 2022, Bridgetown, Barbados

For BFA



President

General Secretary



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