

# **AIFF REGULATIONS FOR THE STATUS AND TRANSFER OF PLAYERS**

The AIFF Executive Committee passed the following regulations in compliance with Art. "33" of the AIFF Constitution and article 5 of the FIFA Statutes. To simplify matters, the use of the male gender in these regulations applies to both males and females.

## **DEFINITIONS**

For the purpose of these Regulations, the terms set out below are defined as follows:

1. Former Association: the Permanent Member Association to which the Former Club is affiliated.
2. Former Club: the club that the player is leaving.
3. New Association: the Permanent Member Association to which the New Club is affiliated.
4. New Club: the club that the player is joining.
5. Official Matches: matches played in the framework of Organized Football, such as Professional National Football Leagues and other Leagues organized by the AIFF, State League, National Championships, all tournaments registered with the AIFF or any of its affiliated bodies and international championships for clubs and National Teams, but not including friendly and trial matches.
6. Organized Football: association football organized under the auspices of FIFA, the confederations, the AIFF, Member Associations or authorized by them.
7. Protected Period: a period of three entire Seasons or three years, whichever comes first, following the entry into force of a contract, if such contract was concluded prior to the 28th birthday of the Professional, or to a period of two entire Seasons or two years, whichever comes first, following the entry into force of a contract, if such contract was concluded after the 28th birthday of the Professional.
8. Registration Period: a period fixed by the relevant Association in accordance with Article 6.

9. Season: The period between 1st of July and the 30th of June of the subsequent year.
10. Training Compensation: the payments made in accordance with Chapter II and IV of the Regulations Governing the application of these Regulations.

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

## **Preamble**

1. These regulations deal with the status and eligibility of players, as well as with the rules applicable whenever players move between clubs belonging to different Permanent and Provisional Members hereinafter referred to as State Associations.
2. The principles outlined under these regulations are binding on all State Associations.
3. Each State Association is obliged to provide a system for transfers effected within its own association and for them to be governed by appropriate regulations which shall be approved by AIFF. Such regulations shall observe the general principles stipulated in the following articles and contain provisions for any dispute that may arise in connection with a local transfer (i.e. a transfer within the same State Association). State Associations are required to amend their present Regulations for the Status and Transfer of Players to be in accordance with these regulations and the FIFA Regulations for the Status and Transfer of Players. The amendment shall be completed and approved, not later than the 31<sup>st</sup> of March, 2008.

## **Chapter 1. Players' categories**

### **Art. 1.**

Players participating in organized football and registered with a State Association or the AIFF are either amateurs or professionals.

### **Art. 2.**

1. Players who have never received any remuneration other than for the actual expenses incurred during the course of their participation in or for any activity connected with Association, football shall be regarded as amateur.
2. Travel and hotel expenses incurred through involvement in a match and the costs of a player's equipment, insurance and training may be reimbursed without jeopardizing a player's amateur status.

3. Any player who has a written contract with a Club and has received remuneration in excess of the amount stated under 2.1 and 2.2 of these articles in respect of participation in or an activity connected with Association football shall be regarded as professional unless he has reacquired amateur status under the terms of Art. 23 below.

**Art. 3.**

1. A player's status shall be determined under Art. 2. Any disputes shall be referred to the AIFF.
2. Any dispute regarding the status of a player involved in an inter-state transfer shall be settled by the AIFF Player's Status Committee.

**Chapter II. Non-amateur Players**

**Art. 4.**

1. Every player designated as professional by his State Association and/or AIFF shall have a written contract with the club employing him.
2. Such contracts shall have a maximum duration of four years. A contract will always end at the end of the respective season. Contract for different periods are only allowed if special permission is obtained from AIFF. All contracts shall be consistent with national laws. The contracts shall respect applicable laws, as well as the principles set out in FIFA rules and any additional rules promulgated in accordance with paragraphs, two and three of the preamble by the AIFF.
3. A copy of these contracts shall be deposited with the State Association and AIFF. A copy of the contract shall be given to the concerned player and club and acknowledgement received from them. Every State Association shall maintain a register of professional players. Copy of this register shall be sent to AIFF at the beginning of the season and updated thereafter at the end of every month.
4. Where the parties agree to terminate before the date provided in the contract, they shall notify the State Association and AIFF accordingly.

**Chapter III. Players' registration**

**Art. 5.**

1. Every player wishing to play as an amateur or professional; in any competition organized or recognized by a State Association and/or the AIFF must be registered with that Association. Only registered players are eligible to participate in Organized Football. By the act of registering, a player agrees

to abide by the statutes and regulations of FIFA, AFC and AIFF. A player may be registered only for one Club at a time.

2. Every player falling in professional category shall have a written contract of employment with the Club employing him. The contract shall be registered within a period of 07 (Seven) days with the respective State Association. Contracts, which are not registered with the State Associations, shall not be valid.
3. Players can only be registered to play with a State Association during one of two registration periods per year, as established by the AIFF for this purpose, with a limit of two transfer of registration per player in the same football season.
4. State Associations can only register players coming from another State Association subsequent to the receipt of
  - (i) a Interstate Registration Transfer Certificate from that other Association; hereunder referred to as the "Inter-state Registration Transfer Certificate"(ISRTC) **and**
  - (ii) in the case of a professional player a Interstate Registration Transfer Certificate(ISRTC) and a notarized copy of the contract between the player and the Club.

**Note: Contracts, which are not registered, with the respective State Association are not valid.**

5. Extracts from this register shall, upon demand, be made available to **AIFF** and/or **FIFA**.
6. The Regulations governing the application of the present Regulations (hereunder referred to as the Implementing Regulation) will set out in further detail the rules governing the registration periods and the information to be contained in the register.
7. Players may only be registered to play with a State Association during one of two registration periods per year, as laid down by AIFF for this purpose, with a limit of one transfer of registration per player in the same football season in a period of 12 months. The first period is from the 1st to the 20th of June and the 2<sup>nd</sup> period is from the 1<sup>st</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> of November. Amateur Players transferring within the same State Association shall be exempt from these restrictions. Special provisions can equally apply to the loan of players.

## **Chapter IV. Interstate registration transfer certificates (ISRTC)**

### **Art. 6.**

1. An amateur or professional player who has become eligible to play for a club affiliated to a State Association of the AIFF may not be registered with a club affiliated to another State Association of the AIFF unless the latter has received an Inter-state registration transfer certificate issued by the State Association of the AIFF which the player wishes to leave.
2. A State Association will only request an Inter-state registration transfer certificate from the State Association which the player wishes to leave if the club which the player wishes to join submits its request for registration in a timely manner, i.e., during a registration period established by the AIFF to request the certificate. (copies of the request shall be faxed to the AIFF within 24 hours of receipt). Request received after this period shall not be accepted.
3. Upon receiving notification of the request, the State Association of the former club will immediately request that club and the player to confirm whether the contract has expired, whether early termination was mutually agreed, or whether a contractual dispute exists.
4. A State Association will issue an Inter-state registration transfer certificate upon demand from another state association within 7 days upon the letter's demand, while simultaneously sending a copy to the AIFF General Secretariat. The Interstate registration Transfer Certificate can be signed only by the General / Honorary Secretary of the respective State Association. In his absence the power to sign the certificate may be delegated to any of the office bearers of the State Association.
5. However, by way of exception to paragraph 4, in case a contractual dispute has arisen in the context of the player changing clubs (i.e. the contract has not expired, and there has been no mutual agreement on early termination), the State Association will not issue an Inter-state registration transfer certificate. The State Association will only issue an Inter-state registration transfer certificate upon being notified of the decision on the sanction imposed in case of unjustified breach. Meanwhile, within 7 days of having received the request for the certificate, the State Association will inform the requesting State Association of the existence of a contractual dispute.
6. If, after a period of 14 days from the date of request by the new State Association the State Association which a player wishes to leave has not issued an Inter-state registration transfer certificate, the new State Association is entitled to contact the AIFF General Secretariat requesting AIFFs intervention.

A player shall not, under any circumstances, be authorized to play in official match for his new club until an Inter-state transfer registration certificate has been issued.

7. If, after a period of 30 days from the date of the request from the prospective Association, the Association, which a player wishes to leave has not issued an Interstate registration transfer certificate or given a valid reason why it refuses to do so, the new Association may inform the AIFF and after considering the merit of the case, the AIFF shall issue a certificate or shall direct the State Association to issue a certificate to the player, enabling him to play for a Club in that State.

The provisional certificate shall become permanent, one year after the date on which the new State Association addressed its request to the former State Association. The Players' Status Committee may withdraw a provisional certificate if in the mean time; the former State Association presents valid reasons why it did not issue the mentioned document.

8. A State Association cannot refuse to issue a Transfer Certificate to an amateur player unless:
  - (i) there is a disciplinary sanction against this player.

#### **Art. 7.**

1. Only the State Association of the club, which the player wishes to join, is entitled to request the necessary inter-state registration transfer certificate. Consequently, a State Association which receives an unsolicited inter-state transfer certificate from another State Association shall not register the player concerned for one of its clubs before it has requested another certificate from the State Association which the player wishes to leave.
2. The inter-state registration transfer certificate shall be issued in triplicate and duly signed by the State Association, which the player intends to leave. Special forms provided by AIFF for this purpose every year shall be used. No other forms will be valid.
3. The original shall be sent to the State Association requesting the transfer; the first copy to the AIFF general secretariat and the second copy shall remain in the possession of the State Association, which the player is leaving.
4. A State Association may grant a player temporary eligibility to play on the basis of an inter-state registration transfer certificate sent by Telefax, for a maximum period of a season. If the official inter-state registration transfer

certificate is not received within this period of one year, the player's eligibility to play shall be considered definitive.

A State Association resorting to this temporary eligibility clause as deliberate ploy to enable one of its registered players to play temporarily in another State or for a club of another State shall be referred to the AIFF Disciplinary Committee.

#### **Art. 8.**

1. The inter-state registration transfer certificate may not be made subject to any conditions.

In particular, the validity of an inter-state registration transfer certificate shall not be restricted to a certain period and any clauses to this effect appended to the certificate shall be considered null and void.

2. State Associations are strictly forbidden from charging expenses or demanding payment of a fee for issuing an inter-state registration transfer certificate.

#### **Art. 9.**

1. A State Association issuing an inter-state registration transfer certificate at the request of another State Association will indicate in an attachment to the certificate whether the player wishing to transfer is under suspension, on disciplinary grounds, when the registration request is made
2. The State Association receiving the inter-state registration transfer certificate will enforce the remainder of the disciplinary measures applying to the player and will confirm in writing to the former State Association with copy to the AIFF, that it has done so.
3. Any dispute as to what does or does not constitute disciplinary grounds under 9.1 above shall be referred to the AIFF Player's Status Committee.

#### **Art. 10.**

1. Under the provisions of these regulations, the loan of a player by one club to another is dealt with administratively like a transfer. An inter-state registration transfer certificate in a form specially made for players on loan shall therefore be issued.
  - Whenever a player leaves a State Association to join another State Association to which the club to which he has been released on loan belongs;

- Whenever, on expiry of the period of loan, a player rejoins the State Association of the club, which released him on loan.
- 2. The conditions governing the loan of a professional player (duration of the loan, obligations to which the loan is subject) shall be regulated by concluding a separate written contract between the two clubs and the player concerned. Any clause in this respect appended to the certificate itself shall be invalid and disregarded.
- 3. A club which has accepted a player on a loan basis is not entitled to transfer him to a third club without the written authorization of the club which lent him out and of the player concerned.
- 4. The loan period shall not expire before the end of the respective season. Players cannot be given on loan after the 28<sup>th</sup> of February of the respective year.
- 5. For transfers within a State, a player cannot be transferred on loan from a Club in a higher division to a Club in a lower division.
- 6. A Club can take a maximum of four players on loan during a season. Two of these players shall be from within the State and two from any other State Association. However a Club playing in the 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> Division Professional National Football League can take six players on loan. Three from within the State and three from outside the state

## **Chapter V. Player's eligibility**

### **Art. 11.**

1. Only a player who is currently registered with State Association to play for one of its clubs shall be admitted to competitions organized by that State Association.
2. Eligibility to play shall only be granted by a State Association to a player who fulfils one of the following conditions:
  - (a) if the player in question has never previously been registered with a club belonging to a State Association.
  - (b) if the player in question has transferred from one club to another within the State Association concerned in accordance with the Association's regulations.

( c) if the player in question:

- (i) has transferred from a club in one State Association to another in a different State Association
  - (ii) holds an international registration transfer certificate issued by the National Association of the player's former club, and a No Objection Certificate from the AIFF for his registration with the State Association.
  - (iii) has not been found to have breached his contract without just cause, or sporting just cause.
  - (iv) is not subject to any sportive sanctions imposed by the AIFF or to disciplinary sanctions by the AIFF.
  - (v) is not subject to disciplinary measures regarding the period he played for the club he now wishes to leave.
  - (vi) State Associations who do not issue IRSTC because of disciplinary sanctions may do so only if the sanctions have been confirmed by the AIFF.
3. The foregoing provisions are without prejudice to cases in which the FIFA Players' Status Committee or the AIFF Players' Status Committee specifically authorizes temporary eligibility.

## **Chapter VI. Protection of Minors**

### **Art. 12.**

1. Inter-state transfer of players under the age of (18) 17 years shall be permitted subject to the conditions that the family of the player moves for reasons, which are not linked to the registration of the player with the new training club.
2. Inter-state transfer of players under the age of (18) 17 years shall also be permitted if he joins a recognized academy or sports hostel for the purposes of training.

## **Chapter VII. Training Compensation for young players**

### **Art. 13.**

Training compensation shall be paid to the Club and to the respective State Association whenever an amateur player joins another club and signs a contract of employment.

### **Art. 14.**

When a player signs his first contract as a non-amateur a sum of compensation shall be paid to the club(s) and/or State Association involved in the training and education of the player.

### **Art. 15.**

The amount of compensation to be paid for training and education shall be calculated in accordance with parameters set out in the Implementing Regulation, which shall also set out how the compensation amount shall be allocated between the club and the state association involved in the training and education of the player.

### **Art. 16.**

When a player signs his first contract as a professional, or when a player moves as a professional at the end of his contract but before reaching the age of 23, the amount of compensation shall be limited to compensation for training and education, calculated in accordance with the parameters set out in the Implementing Regulation.

### **Art. 17.**

If a link between the player and his former club cannot be established, training compensation is paid to the State Football Association of the State where the player was trained. This compensation shall be earmarked for youth-football development programmes in the State in question.

### **Art. 18.**

No training compensation shall be payable when a player aged 23 years or more changes club.

## **Chapter VIII. Maintenance of Contractual Stability in Football**

### **Art. 19.**

1. In the case of all contracts signed up to the 28<sup>th</sup> birthday of the player, if there is unilateral breach without just cause or sporting just cause during the period of contract, sports sanctions will be applied and compensation shall be payable.

In the case of contracts signed after the 28<sup>th</sup> birthday, the same principles shall apply but only during the first 2 years of the existing contract.

With regard to contract as defined in the preceding two paragraphs, unilateral breach without just cause is prohibited during a season.

2. Unilateral breach without just cause or sporting just cause after the first 2 years will not result in the application of sanctions, with the exception of possible sports sanctions against a club and /or a players' agent inducing a breach of contract. Compensation shall be payable.

A breach of contract as defined in the preceding paragraph is prohibited during a season.

Disciplinary measures may be applied by the AIFF Players' Status Committee if notice is not given in the 15 days following the last official match of the football season in the State to which the club with which the player is registered is affiliated.

### **Art. 20.**

1. Unless provided for in the contract and without prejudice to the rules on training compensation established in Art. 13 and following, compensation for breach of contract (whether by the player or the club), shall be calculated with due respect to applicable National law, the specificity of sport, and all objective criteria which may be relevant to the case, as such:
  - (a) Remuneration and other benefits under the existing contract and/or the new contract.
  - (b) Length of time remaining on the existing contract (up to a maximum of 4 years).
  - (c) Amount of any fee or expense paid by or incurred by the old club, amortized over the length of the contract.
  - (d) Whether the breach occurs during the "protected period", as defined in Art. 20.1. a., or in the period described in Art. 20.1.b.

## **Art. 21.**

Other than in exceptional circumstances, sports sanctions for unilateral breach of contract without just cause or sporting just cause shall:

### **1. In the case of player:**

If the breach occurs at the end of the first or the second year of contract:

By a restriction on his eligibility to participate in any official football matches, except for the club to which he was contracted, for an effective period of 4 (four) months as from the beginning of the National Football League or the State championship of the new club whichever is later.

There will be no sportive sanctions for unilateral breach at the end of the fourth year of contract (or at the end of the second year of contract as the case may be, for contracts signed after the age of 28), except if no notice is given in due time after the last match of the season. In such case the sanction must be proportionate.

In the case of aggravating circumstances, such as failure to give notice or recurrent breach, sports sanctions may go up to, but not exceed, and effective period of 6 months.

### **2. In the case of the club breaching a contract or inducing such breach:**

By a prohibition on registering any new player, until the expiry of the second transfer window following the date on which the breach became effective. In all cases no restriction for unilateral breach of contract shall exceed a period of 12 months following the breach or inducement of the breach.

A club seeking to register a player who has unilaterally breached a contract during the "protected period" as defined in Art. 19. will be presumed to have induced a breach of contract.

A club signing a contract with a player or paying him a sum of money as an advance during the period of contract of that player with another club, will also be presumed to have induced a breach of contract.

Without prejudice to the foregoing general rules, other sanctions of a sporting nature may be imposed by AIFF's Disciplinary Committee on clubs where appropriate and may include, but shall not be limited to, the following:

- fines,
- deduction of points,
- exclusion from competition

### **3. In the case of players' agent involved in such a breach:**

Sanctions can also be imposed by AIFF's Player Status Committee on players' agents being involved in a breach of contract, as envisaged in FIFA's players' agents regulations

#### **Art. 22.**

In addition to termination for just cause, it will also be possible for a player to terminate his contract for a valid sporting reason ("sporting just cause")

Sporting just cause will be established on a case by case basis. Each case will be evaluated on its individual merits taking account of all relevant circumstances (injury, suspension, field position of player, age of player, etc.). Furthermore, it is understood that the existence of sporting just cause shall be examined at the end of the football season and before the expiry of the relevant registration period in the country of the former club. When sporting just cause is established, it shall be determined whether compensation is payable and the amount of any such compensation.

### **Chapter IX Reacquisition of amateur status**

#### **Art. 23.**

1. Any player who has been registered as professional with a state Association may not be reclassified as amateur until a period of 90 days has elapsed.
2. This period shall start as from the day the player competed in his last match with the club with which he was registered as non-amateur.

#### **Art. 24.**

1. A club which a professional player has left shall not be entitled to any compensation pursuant to the present Regulation from the new club with which the player has regained amateur status.
2. If there is any doubt as to whether a player who has regained amateur status actually plays as an amateur in his new club, the club with which he was registered before regaining amateur status may ask the AIFF Player Status Committee to investigate the matter and, if necessary, to take appropriate action.
3. If, within 3 years of the day on which he regained amateur status, a player reverts to professional status, the club with which he was registered before regaining amateur status may ask the AIFF Players Status Committee to

investigate whether any compensation is due pursuant to the present Regulations.

## **Chapter X Termination of activity**

### **Art. 25.**

1. A professional player whose contract has not expired but who stops playing competitive football shall remain registered with the AIFF and the State Association as a player with the club with which he was last employed for a period of 24 months.
2. The period shall begin as from the end of the season in which the player stops playing football.
3. The club of a professional player who stops playing football upon expiry of his contract shall not be entitled to claim compensation of any kind from him.

### **Art. 26.**

1. If within the period mentioned in Art. 25. 1, a professional player who has stopped playing football wishes to start playing again with the same status, he shall remain registered with the club with which he was last employed, which shall be entitled to training compensation for his development pursuant to Chapter VII above if the player transfers to a new club and the player is aged 23 years or less
2. If the period mentioned in Art. 25.1 has elapsed, the club with which the player was last registered shall no longer be entitled to any compensation.

## **Chapter XI Special Provisions**

### **Art. 27.**

1. The validity of a transfer contract or of an employment contract between a player and a club shall not be made subject to the positive results of a medical examination or to the acquisition of work permit.
2. The prospective new club of the player shall be required to make any necessary investigations, studies, tests and/or medical examination or to take any appropriate action before concluding the contract, otherwise it will be liable to pay the full amount of compensation for training and development agreed upon (and/or the amount of the salary due).
- 3.

**Art. 28.**

If the service of a licensed players' agent have been used to conclude a contract for the transfer of a player between two clubs and/or an employment contract between a player and a club, reference shall be made to this fact in the relevant contract (s). These contracts shall, moreover, clearly mention the name of any agent who has been given such a mandate.

**Art. 29.**

Only state associations, clubs and the players are entitled to compensation as defined under these regulations.

**Art. 30.**

An inter-state registration transfer certificate is not required for a player under the age of 15 years.

**Art. 31.**

A player who has not reached his eighteenth birthday cannot sign a contract as non-amateur player.

**Art 32.**

An Academy or a Club, may sign an agreement with a player before he reaches his eighteenth birthday if he is enrolled and provided training and other facilities by the Academy or Club. The agreement may stipulate the duration of the training programme, which compulsorily end at the end of the season in which the concerned player has completed 19 years. In any case the period of training shall not exceed three years.

**Art. 33.**

**Release of Players for National Team Selection**

- 1.. Any Club which has a amateur or professional player registered during a particular football season, is obliged to release the player to play for a foreign national association of which the player is a national, if he is selected for one of its representative teams, irrespective of age. The provisions governing the FIFA regulations for the status and transfer of players shall apply in this case.
2. Any Club which has a amateur or professional player registered during a particular football season, is obliged to release the player to play for India, if he is selected for one of its representative teams, irrespective of his age. The periods of release will be intimated to all State Associations and Clubs before the start of the season. Players below 21 years will be called for training for the representative India Age Group teams as and when required.

3. Any player who has complied with the summons of his national association pursuant to this article shall resume duty with his club not later than 48 hours after the match/tournament to which he has summoned. This period may be prolonged to 72 hours if the match took place on a different Country from that of the club with which the player is registered. The club shall be notified in writing of the player's expected outward and return journey ten days before the match. The national association shall ensure that the player returns to his club on time after the match.
4. Release of players for the state of origin to play in the National Football Championship for the Santosh Trophy are governed by the Appendix A attached to these regulations.

#### **Art. 34**

1. Any club which releases a player pursuant to Art. 35 above shall not be entitled to financial compensation except that compensation agreed upon in the case of an extended period of release.
2. The club with which the summoned player is registered shall be responsible for his insurance cover against sickness and accident during the entire period of his release including insurance for injury sustained in the international match (or matches) for which he is released.

#### **Art. 35**

1. As a general rule, any player registered with a club is obliged to respond affirmatively when called upon by the national association of which he is a permanent resident to play for one of its representative teams.
2. A national association wishing to summon one of its players playing for one of its affiliated clubs shall notify the concerned state association in writing at least 15 days before the date of the match for which the player is required. At the same time the player's club shall also be informed in writing. The club shall confirm the release of the player within the following six days.

#### **Art. 36**

A player who is unable to comply with a summons from the National Association of which he is permanent resident owing to injury or illness shall, if the association so requires, agree to undergo a medical examination by a doctor of that association's choice.

#### **Art. 37**

A player who has been summoned by his national association for one of its representative teams shall, under no circumstances, be entitled to play for the club with which he is registered during the period for which he has been released or should have been released. This restriction on playing for the club shall, moreover, be prolonged by five days in the event that the player, for whatsoever reason, did not wish to or was unable to comply with the summons.

#### **Art. 38**

1. If a club refuses to release a player or neglects to do so despite the provisions of above articles, the Players Status Committee shall apply following sanctions.
  - (a) a fine
  - (b) a caution, censure or suspension of the club involved.
  - (c) Deduction of points.
2. Any violation by a club of the restriction on playing mentioned under Art. 37 shall be subject to the following sanctions by the Players Status Committee.
  - (a) All or part of the sanctions mentioned in 37.1 above.
  - (b) The AIFF or the state association to which the club belongs shall declare the match (or matches) in which the player took part lost by the concerned. Any points thus won by the club in question shall be forfeited. Any match contested according to the cup system shall be regarded as having been won by the opposing team, irrespective of the score.
3. In the event a player reports late for duty more than once then, in addition to the consequences spelled out above, Players Status Committee may, ex officio or upon request of the player's club, impose additional sanctions on the player and/or his state association.

### **Chapter XIII. Dispute Resolution, Disciplinary and Arbitration System**

#### **Art.39**

Without prejudice to the right of any player or club to seek redress before a civil court in disputes between clubs and players, a dispute shall be referred to the Players Status Committee for resolution.

#### **Art.40**

The arbitration system will take account of all relevant arrangement, laws and/or collective bargaining arrangements, which exist at national level as well as the specificity of sport.

#### **Art. 41**

The Players Status Committee shall not address any dispute under these regulations if more than two years have been elapsed since the facts leading to the dispute arose.

### **Chapter XIV. Final provisions**

#### **Art.42**

Any matter not provided for under these regulations shall be settled by the Players Status Committee, subject to review by the AIFF Executive Committee.

#### **Art 43**

These regulations were initially adopted in September 2001 by the AIFF Executive Committee and confirmed at the Special General Body Meeting on 30<sup>th</sup> December 2001.

The amended regulations have been adopted by the Executive Committee at its meeting held on the 24<sup>th</sup> of February 2005 at New Delhi.

The regulations have been further amended and have been adopted by the Executive Committee on 20<sup>th</sup> July , 2007.

For the AIFF Executive Committee

**President**  
**Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi**

**General Secretary**  
**Alberto Colaco**

**Regulations governing the application  
Of the Regulations for the Status and Transfers of Player**

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## **Chapter I - Player registration**

### **Art. 1 - Registration**

1. No player may be registered to play for two different clubs affiliated with the same or with different state associations at any given time.
2. Once registration is effected, the club and the player will receive an extract from this register, which will contain, inter-alia, the details of every club the player has been registered with, or affiliated to, since the age of twelve and the state and date of birth of the player, as well as the date from which the player is eligible to play for his club in competitions organized by the state association to which his club is affiliated.

### **Art. 2 - Registration periods**

1. The AIFF will decide upon the establishment of two registration periods per year, which shall be mandatory on all state associations.
  - (a) The first regulation period will start on the 1<sup>st</sup> and conclude on the 20<sup>th</sup> June of every calendar year.
  - (b) The second registration period will be between the 1<sup>st</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> of December of every calendar year. This period is provided to permit registrations for strictly sport related reasons, such as technical adjustments of teams or replacements of injured players, or exceptional circumstances. A maximum of five players can be registered by a club during this period.

Transitory Proviso: For new Clubs who wish to enter the 2<sup>nd</sup> Division National Professional National Football League may register 11 players during this period. This provision is for the season 2007-2008 only.

## **Chapter II - Training compensations**

### **Art. 3 - Principles**

1. For the purposes of calculating compensation, the training period starts at the beginning of the season of the 13<sup>th</sup> birthday of the player, or at a later age, as the case may be, and finishes at the season of his 21<sup>st</sup> birthday.
2. Compensation for training is due:

- (a) For the first time, when the player acquires professional status or joins a club in the 1<sup>st</sup> Division National Football League according to Article 1 of the AIFF Regulations regarding the Status and Transfer of players.
3. Compensation for training is not due:
- for transfer from amateur status to amateur status or for transfers from professional status to amateur status (reacquisition of amateur status), unless the player(re) acquires professional status within a period of 3 years.
  - If a club unilaterally terminates a player's contract without just cause, without prejudice to the compensation due to the previous training club.
4. Payment of the compensation for training:
- (a) As a general rule the amount to be paid shall be as follows:
- (i) Rs. 5,000/- for every year since the first registration of the player with the respective State Association from the time the player has completed 13 years of age onwards.
- (b) The amount shall be divided as follows:
- (i) 70% for the Club for which the player was registered during that year.
  - (ii) 30% for the concerned State Association from the time the player was first registered with it.
- (c) In the event the player was not registered with any Club, compensation shall be paid to the State Association as follows:
- (i) for players who have represented the State in the sub junior Nationals: Rs. 10,000.00 lump sum.
  - (ii) for players who have represented the State in the Junior Nationals: Rs. 15,000.00 lump sum.
  - (iii) for players who have represented the State in both Junior and Sub-Junior Nationals: Rs. 20,000.00 lump sum.
5. The compensation is to be paid only when an amateur player:
- (a) signs a contract with his new Club thereby becoming a non amateur player

- (b) a player moves to a Club playing in the Professional 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> Division National Football League.

#### **Art. 4. Distribution of the Compensation payment**

The amount paid by the new club as compensation for the training and education of the player concerned shall be distributed according to the principles, mentioned in Article 3.

#### **Art. 5 - Payment of the compensation**

1. The amount to be paid as compensation for training and education pursuant to the above rules shall be paid by the new club to the training clubs at the latest within 30 days of the signature of the first contract or registration of players within the meaning of Article 4 of the AIFF Regulations regarding the Status and Transfers of players or, for any subsequent transfer, within 30 days from the new registration of the player.
2. It is of the responsibility of the new club to calculate the amount of the compensation for training and education and the way in which it should be distributed in accordance with the career history of the player. The player shall, if necessary, assist the new club in discharging this obligation.
3. The AIFF Players Status Committee may impose disciplinary measures on clubs or players who do not observe the obligations stipulated in the previous paragraphs.

### **Chapter III - Stability of Contracts.**

#### **Art. 6**

A player shall have sporting just cause to break his contract with his club where he can show, at the end of a season, that he has been fielded in less than 10% of the official matches played by his club. Such sporting just cause shall be established on a case-by-case basis and shall depend on the particular circumstances of the player, (including but not limited to injury, suspension, field position of the player, position in the team (e.g. reserve goal keeper), age of the player, reasonable expectations on the basis of past career, etc.).

#### **Art. 7**

1. A club wishing to engage the services of a player who is at present under contract with another club, shall be obliged to inform the club and the player before commencing negotiations with either of them.

2. For any violations of the foregoing obligations, the offending club will be subject to a fine of at least Rs. 100,000.00 (Rupees one hundred thousand) besides other sanctions as decided by the Players Status and/or the Disciplinary Committee of AIFF

## **Chapter IV - Enforcement of compensation awards**

### **Art. 8**

1. The party responsible for a breach of contract shall be obliged to pay the sum of compensation pursuant to the AIFF regulation on the Status and Transfer of Players within one month of notification of the relevant decision of the Players Status Committee.
2. If the party responsible for the breach has not paid the sum of compensation within one month disciplinary measures may be imposed by AIFF's Players Status Committee.
3. A player is registered for a new club and has not paid the sum of compensation within the one month time limit referred to above to the club shall be deemed jointly responsible for payment of the sum of compensation.
4. If the new club has not paid the sum of compensation within one month of having become jointly responsible with the player pursuant to the previous paragraph disciplinary measures may be imposed by AIFF's Players Status Committee.

## **Chapter V – Statistical register**

### **Art. 9**

State associations shall keep a register of the statistics of the number of registrations of players coming from other state associations they have effected, as well as of the number of inter-state transfer certificates they have issued for a player transferring his registration to another state association. The register will mention the age and nationality of the player, the State which he leaves or which he joins, as well as any information the state association will obtain on the reason for the player transferring his registration (unilateral breach by the player or the club, within the protected period or not, amicable termination or transfer at the end of the contract)

## **Chapter VI - Final provisions, entry into force**

### **Art. 10**

Any matter not provided for under these regulations shall be settled by the Players Status Committee, subject to review by the AIFF Executive Committee.

### **Art. 11**

These regulations shall come into force in their present form together with the AIFF regulations regarding the Status and Transfer of Players adopted on the same day i.e. 20<sup>th</sup> July 2007.

For the AIFF Executive Committee

**President**  
**Priya Ranjan Das Munshi**

**General Secretary**  
**Alberto Colaco**