

AIFF DISCIPLINARY CODE

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PRELIMINARY TITLE

AIFF Disciplinary Code

ARTICLE 1: OBJECT

This Code describes infringements of the rules and regulations of AIFF, determines the sanctions incurred and regulates the organisation and function of certain bodies responsible for taking decisions and the procedures to be followed by these bodies.

ARTICLE 2: SCOPE OF APPLICATION: SUBSTANTIVE LAW

This Code applies to every match and competition organised by AIFF. It also applies if a match official is harmed and, more generally, if the statutory objectives of AIFF are breached, especially with regard to forgery, corruption and doping. It also applies to any breach of AIFF regulations that does not fall under the jurisdiction of any other body.

ARTICLE 3: SCOPE OF APPLICATION: NATURAL AND LEGAL PERSONS

The following natural and legal persons are subject to this Code:

- a) AIFF Member Associations;
- b) Members of Member Associations, and their affiliates;
- c) clubs;
- d) officials;

- e) players and their parents/ guardians/ representatives
- f) match officials;
- g) licensed match and players' agents;
- h) anyone with an authorisation from AIFF or Member Associations, with regard to a match, competition or other event.;
- i) spectators and supporters

ARTICLE 4: SCOPE OF APPLICATION: TIME

This Code applies to facts that have arisen after it has come into force. It also applies to previous facts if it is equally favourable or more favourable for the perpetrator of the facts and if the judicial bodies of AIFF are deciding on these facts after the Code has come into force. By contrast, rules governing procedure apply immediately upon coming into force of this Code.

ARTICLE 5: DEFINITIONS

1. AIFF: All India Football Federation
2. FIFA: Federation Internationale de Football Association
3. AFC: Asian Football Confederation
4. Member Associations: Permanent Members, Associate Members or Provisional Members of AIFF

5. Post-match: the time between the final whistle from the referee and the teams' departure from the confines of the stadium.
6. Pre-match: the time between the teams' arrival in the confines of the stadium and the whistle for kickoff from the referee.
7. Interstate match: a match between two teams belonging to different Member associations (two clubs, one club and one Member Association team or two Member Association teams).
8. Friendly match: a match organised by a member associations or registered club/s between teams chosen for the occasion and possibly belonging to different spheres of operation.
9. Official match: a match organised under the auspices of AIFF, Member Association and clubs or otherwise played under AIFF's direction or control in its sphere of operation.
10. Official: every Board Member, Committee(s) or Sub Committee(s) member, Referee, Assistant Referee, Manager, Coach, Trainer and other persons responsible for the technical, medical and administrative matters of AIFF or of a Member or of a unit affiliated to the Member or of any competition of AIFF.
11. Match official: the referee, assistant referees, fourth official, match commissioner, referee assessor, referee educator, the person in charge of safety, and any other persons appointed by AIFF/Member Association to assume responsibility in connection with a match.

12. AIFF Regulations: the Constitution, regulations, directives and circulars of AIFF.
13. FIFA/AFC regulations: statutes, regulations, directive and circulars of FIFA/AFC as well as Laws of the Game issued by the International Football Association Board.
14. Emergent Circumstance: Emergent Circumstance shall mean and include any reported misconduct of a player or any team official during the course of any match where there are subsequent scheduled matches involving the concerned player or official's team(s) within a span of 7 (seven) days or less.

ARTICLE 6: GENDER AND NUMBER

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

ARTICLE 7: MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS' DISCIPLINARY REGULATIONS

Member Associations are directed to adapt their provisions to this Code so as to standardise the disciplinary regulations, else this code shall prevail, with required modifications. In case of conflict, the provisions of this Code will apply.

FIRST TITLE. SUBSTANTIVE LAW

Chapter I. General Part

SECTION 1. CONDITIONS FOR SANCTIONS

ARTICLE 8: CULPABILITY

1. Unless otherwise specified, infringements are punishable regardless of whether they have been committed deliberately, recklessly or negligently.
2. Exceptionally, a match may have to be played without spectators or on neutral territory, or a certain stadium may be banned purely for safety reasons, without an infringement having been committed.

ARTICLE 9: ACTS AMOUNTING TO ATTEMPT

1. Acts amounting to attempt are also punishable.
2. In the case of acts amounting to attempt, the body may reduce the sanction envisaged for the actual infringement accordingly. It will determine the extent of the mitigation as it sees fit. Should a fine be imposed it shall not go below the general lower limit (cf. art. 16 par. 2 & 3).

ARTICLE 10: INVOLVEMENT

1. Anyone who intentionally takes part in committing an infringement, either as instigator or accomplice, is also punishable.
2. The body will take account of the degree of guilt of the party involved and may reduce the sanction accordingly. Should a

fine be imposed it shall not go below the general lower limit of the fine (art. 16 par. 2).

SECTION 2. VARIOUS SANCTIONS

ARTICLE 11: SANCTIONS COMMON TO NATURAL AND LEGAL PERSONS

Both natural and legal persons are punishable by the following sanctions:

- a) warning;
- b) reprimand;
- c) fine;
- d) return of awards;
- e) confiscation (cf. Article 62 par. 4).
- f) ban on taking part in any football-related activity
- g) match suspension

ARTICLE 12: SANCTIONS APPLICABLE TO NATURAL PERSONS

The following sanctions are applicable only to natural persons:

- a) caution;
- b) expulsion;
- c) ban from dressing rooms and/or substitutes' bench;
- d) ban from entering a stadium;

ARTICLE 13: SANCTIONS APPLICABLE TO LEGAL PERSONS

The following sanctions are applicable only to legal persons:

- a) transfer ban;
- b) playing a match without spectators;
- c) playing a match on neutral territory;
- d) ban on playing in a particular stadium;
- e) annulment of the result of a match;
- f) exclusion from a competition;
- g) defeat by forfeit;
- h) deduction of points;
- i) demotion to a lower division;
- j) license review
- k) license withdrawal

ARTICLE 14: WARNING

A warning is a reminder of the substance of a disciplinary rule allied with the threat of a sanction in the event of a further infringement.

ARTICLE 15; REPRIMAND

A reprimand is an official written pronouncement of disapproval sent to the perpetrator of an infringement.

ARTICLE 16: FINE

1. A fine is issued in INR. It shall be paid in the same currency.
2. The fine shall not be less than Rs. 20000/, and not more than Rs. 6 Crores.
3. The body that imposes the fine decides the terms and time limits for payment.
4. The Members Associations of AIFF are jointly liable for fines imposed on representative team, players and officials. The same applies to clubs in respect of their players and officials. The fact that the person subject to the fine has left a club or the Member Association of AIFF does not cancel out joint liability.

ARTICLE 17: RETURN OF AWARDS

The person required to return an award shall return the benefits received, in particular sums of money and symbolic objects (medal, trophy etc.).

ARTICLE 18: CAUTION

1. A caution (yellow card) is a warning from the referee to a player during a match to sanction unsporting behaviour of a less serious nature (cf. Law 12 of the Laws of the Game).
2. Two cautions received during the same match incur an expulsion (indirect red card) and, consequently, automatic

suspension from the next match (cf. art. 18 par. 4). The two cautions that incurred the red card are rescinded.

3. Issues pertaining to match suspension resulting from accumulation of multiple cautions received in different matches of the same competition will be guided by the relevant tournament regulations as may be applicable. If not specified in the relevant tournament regulation, it is hereby stated that if a player receives a caution in two (2) separate matches of the same AIFF competition, the player is automatically suspended from the next match in that competition.

If an abandoned match is to be replayed, any caution issued during that match shall be annulled. If the match is not to be replayed, the cautions received by the team responsible for causing the match to be abandoned are upheld; if both teams are responsible, all of the cautions are upheld.

4. If a player is guilty of serious unsporting behaviour as defined in Law 12 of the Laws of the Game and is sent off (direct red card), any other caution he has previously received in the same match is upheld.
5. If the next match in the competition is not played due to any reason like one of the teams not turning up for the match, the suspension will continue until the player does not take part in a match that is actually played in the same competition.

ARTICLE 19: EXPULSION

1. An expulsion is the order given by the referee to someone to leave the field of play and its surroundings, including the substitutes' bench, during a match.
2. Expulsion takes the form of a red card for players. The red card is regarded as direct if it sanctions serious unsporting behaviour as defined by Law 12 of the Laws of the Game; it is regarded as indirect if it is the result of an accumulation of two yellow cards.
3. An official who has been sent off prior to or during a match may not give or issue any instructions to the person replacing him on the substitutes' bench or any other team official and/or player. The official shall also not be permitted to enter the team dressing room area and shall not be permitted to attend any official post-match press conference(s) as may be otherwise required in the relevant competition regulations for that tournament. Any violation of this provision, as evidenced by the reports of the Match Officials and/or video footage and/or audio recordings, shall attract an additional minimum one-match suspension, in addition to any other penalties which may be imposed on the person for other charge(s).
4. An expulsion automatically incurs suspension from the subsequent match, even if imposed in a match that is later abandoned and/or annulled. The Disciplinary Committee may extend the duration of the suspension, where the total suspension period to be served shall be considered as a singular

punishment. For e.g. If a player who is expelled is handed an additional 2 match ban, then the player shall be deemed to receive a single ban of 3 matches.

5. In the case of an expulsion in the last match of the competition in which the concerned player's team is involved, the player's suspension will be carried forward to any competitions organised by the AIFF where the player is registered.

ARTICLE 20: MATCH SUSPENSION

1. A suspension from a match is a ban on taking part in a future match or competition and on attending it in the area immediately surrounding the field of play.
- 2A. An individual who is suspended in application of article 20.1 above, is automatically banned from the team dressing room(s) and team bench.
- 2B. An official who is suspended in accordance with Article 20.1 above, shall not be permitted to:
 - a) communicate with his team using electronic or any other means (e.g. hand signals) for the duration of a match; and
 - b) attend any official press conference(s) as may be otherwise required in the relevant competition regulations.
- 2C. Any violation of this provision, as evidenced by the reports of the Match Officials and/or video footage and/or audio recordings, shall attract an additional minimum one-match suspension, in

addition to any other penalties which may be imposed on the person for other charge(s).

3. The suspension is imposed in terms of matches, days or months. Unless otherwise specified in this Code, it may not exceed twenty-four matches or twenty-four months.
4. If the suspension is to be served in terms of matches, only those matches actually played by the team to which the suspended individual belongs count towards execution of the suspension. If a match is abandoned, cancelled or forfeited, suspension is only considered to have been served if the team to which the suspended player or official belongs is not responsible for the facts that led to the abandonment, cancellation or forfeit of the match.
5. If a suspension is combined with a fine, the suspension may be prolonged until the fine has been paid in full.
6. A match suspension is regarded as no longer pending if a match is retroactively forfeited because a player took part in the a match despite being ineligible (art.56). This also applies to the match suspension imposed on the player or official who took part in the match despite being ineligible.

ARTICLE 21: BAN FROM DRESSING ROOMS AND/OR SUBSTITUTES' BENCH

A ban from dressing rooms and/or substitutes' benches deprives someone of the right to enter a team's dressing rooms

and/or the area immediately surrounding the field of play, and in particular to sit on the substitutes' bench.

ARTICLE 22: STADIUM BAN

A stadium ban prohibits someone from entering the confines of one or several stadiums.

ARTICLE 23: BAN ON TAKING PART IN ANY FOOTBALL-RELATED ACTIVITY

A person may be banned from taking part in any kind of football-related activity (administrative, sports or any other). Any person banned from taking part in any football-related activity under this article shall also be prohibited from entering the confines of a stadium when the team such person is associated with, or was associated with at the time of implementation of such ban, is participating in a footballing activity in such stadium.

ARTICLE 24: TRANSFER BAN

A transfer ban prevents a club from registering any player during the period in question.

ARTICLE 25: PLAYING A MATCH WITHOUT SPECTATORS

The obligation to play a match behind closed doors requires Member Associations and clubs to have a certain match played without spectators.

ARTICLE 26: PLAYING A MATCH ON NEUTRAL GROUND

The obligation to play a match on neutral ground require Member Associations and clubs to have certain match/es played in another state or in a different place of the same state.

ARTICLE 27: BAN ON PLAYING IN A PARTICULAR STADIUM

A ban on playing in a certain stadium deprives Member Associations and clubs of the right to have their teams play in a certain stadium.

ARTICLE 28: ANNULMENT OF THE RESULT OF A MATCH

The result of a match is annulled if the result reached on the field of play is disregarded.

ARTICLE 29: EXCLUSION FROM A COMPETITION

Exclusion is the deprivation of the right of Member Associations and clubs from taking part in current and/or future competitions organised or recognised by AIFF.

ARTICLE 30: DEMOTION TO A LOWER DIVISION

A team or club may be demoted to a next lower division.

ARTICLE 31: DEDUCTION OF POINTS

A team or club may have points deducted in the current or a future AIFF competition.

ARTICLE 32: FORFEIT

1. Teams sanctioned with a forfeit are considered to have lost the match 0-3 (by 3 goals), as well as the same result for any subsequent matches or previous matches played by the team, depending on the forfeiture sanction decided by the Disciplinary Committee at its discretion.
2. If the goal difference at the end of the match in question is greater than 0- 3 for the opposing team not sanctioned with the forfeiture, the result on the Page 5 of 33 pitch will be upheld. The principle shall be applicable to other teams playing or which have already played the sanctioned team as per Article 32 (1).

ARTICLE 32bis: REPLAY OF A MATCH AND PLAYING REMAINING PART OF THE MATCH

A match may be replayed or remaining part played, if it could not take place or could not be played in full for reasons other than force majeure, but due to the behaviour of a team or behaviour for which the Member Associations, or a club is liable.

SECTION 3. COMMON RULES

ARTICLE 33: COMBINED SANCTIONS

Unless otherwise specified, the sanctions provided for in Chapter I (General Part) and Chapter II (Special Part) of this Code may be combined.

ARTICLE 34: PARTIAL SUSPENSION OF IMPLEMENTATION OF SANCTIONS

1. The body that imposes a match suspension (cf. art. 20), a ban on access to dressing rooms and/or the substitutes' bench (cf. art. 21), a ban on taking part in any football-related activity (cf. art. 23), the obligation to play a match without spectators (cf. art. 25), the obligation to play a match on neutral ground (cf. art. 26) or a ban on playing in a certain stadium (cf. art. 27) may examine whether it is possible to suspend the implementation of the sanction partially.
2. Partial suspension is permissible only if the duration of the initial sanction does not exceed six matches or six months and if the relevant circumstances allow it, in particular the previous record of the person sanctioned.
3. The body decides which part of the sanction may be suspended. In any case, half of the sanction is definite.
4. By suspending implementation of the sanction, the body subjects the person sanctioned to a probationary period of anything from six months to two years.

5. If the person benefiting from a suspended sanction commits another infringement during the probationary period, the suspension is automatically revoked and the sanction applied; it is added to the sanction pronounced for the new infringement.
6. In the case of anti-doping rule violations, this article is not applicable.

ARTICLE 35: TIME SANCTIONS: CALCULATION OF TIME LIMIT

The duration of a time sanction can be interrupted by rest periods during or between seasons.

ARTICLE 36: CENTRALISATION OF SANCTIONS

1. Records of cautions, expulsions committed during AIFF competitions are stored in the central computer system of AIFF. The AIFF secretariat confirms them in writing to the Member Association or club concerned or in the case of final competitions, to the head of the delegation concerned.
2. This communication serves only as confirmation: sanctions (cautions, expulsions, automatic match suspensions) have an immediate effect on subsequent matches even if the letter of confirmation reaches the Member Association, club or head of delegation concerned later.
3. To ensure that the central registration system functions properly, the Member Associations/local organising committee

shall inform AIFF of sanctions that have been pronounced during their own competitions/AIFF approved competitions , to be carried over to an AIFF competition and future competitions.

4. It is obligation of the Member Association and clubs to keep the record of cautions and expulsions issued to their players and implement them even if they are not communicated by AIFF.

SECTION 4. CARRYING OVER AND CANCELLING CAUTIONS AND MATCH SUSPENSIONS

ARTICLE 37: CARRYING OVER CAUTIONS

1. Cautions received during one competition are not carried over to another competition.
2. They are, however, carried over from one stage to the next in the same competition unless the rules or regulations of the competition provide otherwise. The Disciplinary Committee may exceptionally depart from this rule before the start of a particular competition. This provision is subject to art. 38.

ARTICLE 38: CANCELLATION OF CAUTIONS

1. Upon its own initiative or at the request of a Member Association, the Disciplinary Committee may cancel cautions that have not resulted in an expulsion so as to restore the balance among several teams that have not played the same

number of matches during the first round of a competition, or in other exceptional circumstances.

2. In any case, the committee may do this only once in any competition.
3. The Disciplinary Committee's decision is final.

ARTICLE 39: CARRYING OVER MATCH SUSPENSIONS

1. As a general rule, every match suspension (of players and other persons) is carried over from one stage to the next in the same competition.
2. Unless otherwise decided by a judicial body, match suspensions in relation to an expulsion pronounced on a player outside of a competition (separate match[es]) or not served during the competition for which they were intended (elimination or the last match in the competition) are carried over as follows:
 - a) To the representative teams subsequent official match in any competition organised by AIFF (subject to age group competitions, the suspensions are carried over to the representative team's next official match in the same age group, however if the suspension cannot be served in the same age group, it shall be carried over to the next highest age category);
 - b) Competitions in which teams have been chosen in accordance with certain criteria (cultural, geographical, historical etc.): if the regulations of these competitions refer to the AIFF

regulations for disciplinary sanctions, the suspension is carried over to the representative team's next official match;

3. In no case may match suspensions resulting from several cautions issued to a player in different matches of the same competition be carried over to another competition.
4. Par. 2 likewise applies to suspensions pronounced against persons other than players.

SECTION 5: DETERMINING THE SANCTION

ARTICLE 40: GENERAL RULE

1. The body pronouncing the sanction decides the scope and duration of it.
2. Sanctions may be limited to a geographical area or to one or more specific categories of match or competition.
3. Where the Disciplinary Code does not specifically define the duration or particulars of a sanction for an offence, the concerned AIFF judicial body has the power to specify a suitable penalty as per its discretion.
4. The body shall take account of all relevant factors in the case and the degree of the offender's guilt when imposing the sanction.

ARTICLE 41: REPEATED INFRINGEMENTS

1. Unless otherwise specified, the body may increase the sanction to be imposed as deemed appropriate if an infringement has been repeated by an individual or an entity.
2. These provisions are subject to the special rules governing repeated anti-doping rule violations.

ARTICLE 42: CONCURRENT INFRINGEMENTS

1. If several sanctions are pronounced against someone as a result of one or more infringements, the relevant body may impose the sanction only on the most serious infringement committed and, depending on the circumstances, may increase the sanction by up to fifty per cent of the maximum sanction specified for that infringement.
2. The same applies if a person incurs several time sanctions of a similar type (two (2) or more match suspensions, two (2) or more stadium bans, etc.) as the result of one or several infringements.
3. The body that determines the fine in accordance with par. 1 is not obliged to adhere to the general upper limit of the fine. (cf. art. 16 par. 2).

SECTION 6. LIMITATION PERIOD

ARTICLE 43: LIMITATION PERIOD FOR PROSECUTION

1. Infringements committed during a match cannot be prosecuted after a lapse of two years.

2. Anti-doping rule violations shall be treated as per applicable guidelines issued by the National Anti-Doping Authority.
3. Prosecution for forgery, falsification (cf. art. 62) and corruption (cf. art. 63) is not subject to a limitation period.
4. All other infringements cannot be prosecuted after a lapse of ten years.

ARTICLE 44: COMMENCEMENT OF THE LIMITATION PERIOD

The limitation period runs as follows:

- a) from the day on which the infringement came into the knowledge of the concerned authorities or the party aggrieved by such infringement; b) if the infringement is recurrent, from the day on which the most recent infringement came into the knowledge of the concerned authorities or the party aggrieved by such infringement;
- b) if the infringement is recurrent, from the day on which the most recent infringement was committed;
- c) if the infringement lasted a certain period, from the day on which it ended.

ARTICLE 45: INTERRUPTION

The limitation period is interrupted if the Disciplinary Committee commences proceedings before it has expired.

ARTICLE 46: LIMITATION PERIOD FOR THE ENFORCEMENT OF SANCTIONS

1. The limitation period for the enforcement of sanctions is five years.
2. The limitation period begins on the day on which the decision comes into force.

CHAPTER II. SPECIAL PART

SECTION 1. INFRINGEMENTS OF THE LAWS OF THE GAME

ARTICLE 47: MINOR INFRINGEMENTS

A player is cautioned if he commits any of the following offences (cf. Law 12 of the Laws of the Game and art. 18 of this Code):

47.1 Cautionable offences:

- (a) A player is cautioned if guilty of:
 - (i) delaying the restart of play
 - (ii) dissent by word or action
 - (iii) entering, re-entering or deliberately leaving the field of play without the referee's permission
 - (iv) failing to respect the required distance when play is restarted with a corner kick, free kick or throw-in

- (v) persistent offences (no specific number or pattern of offence constitutes “persistent”) or persistent infringement of the Laws of the Game
 - (vi) unsporting behavior
- (b) A substitute or substituted player is cautioned if guilty of:
- (i) delaying the restart of play
 - (ii) dissent by word or action
 - (iii) entering or re-entering the field of play without the referee’s permission
 - (iv) unsporting behavior
- (c) Where two separate cautionable offences are committed (even in close proximity), they should result in two cautions, for example if a player enters the field of play without the required permission and commits a reckless tackle or stops a promising attack with a foul/handball, etc.

47.2 Cautions for unsporting behavior:

There are different circumstances when a player must be cautioned for unsporting behaviour including if a player:

- (i) attempts to deceive the referee e.g. by feigning injury or pretending to have been fouled (simulation).
- (ii) changes places with the goalkeeper during play or without the referee’s permission

- (iii) commits in a reckless manner a direct free kick offence
- (iv) handles the ball to interfere with or stop a promising attack
- (v) commits a foul which interferes with or stops a promising attack except where the referee awards a penalty kick for an offence which was an attempt to play the ball.
- (vi) denies an opponent an obvious goal-scoring opportunity by an offence which was an attempt to play the ball and the referee awards a penalty kick.
- (vii) handles the ball in an attempt to score a goal (whether or not the attempt is successful) or in an unsuccessful attempt to prevent a goal.
- (viii) makes unauthorised marks on the field of play.
- (ix) plays the ball when leaving the field of play after being given permission to leave
- (x) shows a lack of respect for the game.
- (xi) uses a deliberate trick to pass the ball (including from a free kick) to the goalkeeper with the head, chest, knee etc. to circumvent the Law, whether or not the goalkeeper touches the ball with the hands.
- (xii) verbally distracts an opponent during play or at a restart

47.3 Celebration of a goal

Players can celebrate when a goal is scored, but the celebration must not be excessive; choreographed celebrations are not encouraged and must not cause excessive time-wasting. Leaving the field of play to celebrate a goal is not a cautionable offence but players should return as soon as possible.

A player must be cautioned for:

- (i) climbing onto a perimeter fence and/or approaching the spectators in a manner which causes safety and/or security issues.
- (ii) gesturing or acting in a provocative, derisory or inflammatory way.
- (iii) covering the head or face with a mask or other similar item.
- (iv) removing the shirt or covering the head with the shirt.

47.4 Delaying the restart of play

Referees must caution players who delay the restart of play by:

- (i) appearing to take a throw-in but suddenly leaving it to a teammate to take.
- (ii) delaying leaving the field of play when being substituted
- (iii) excessively delaying a restart.
- (iv) kicking or carrying the ball away, or provoking a confrontation by deliberately touching the ball after the referee has stopped play taking a free kick from the wrong position to force a retake.

ARTICLE 48: SERIOUS INFRINGEMENTS

48.1 A player, substitute or substituted player who commits any of the following offences is sent off (cf. Law 12 of the Laws of the Game and art. 19 of this Code):

- (i) denying the opposing team a goal or an obvious goal-scoring opportunity by deliberately handling the ball (except a goalkeeper within their penalty area)
- (ii) denying a goal or an obvious goal-scoring opportunity to an opponent whose overall movement is towards the offender's goal by an offence punishable by a free kick or a penalty kick (unless as outlined below).
- (iii) serious foul play.
- (iv) biting or spitting at someone
- (v) violent conduct
- (vi) using offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures.
- (vii) receiving a second caution in the same match.

48.2 A player, substitute or substituted player who has been sent off must leave the vicinity of the field of play and the technical area.

48.3 Denying a goal or an obvious goal-scoring opportunity

- (i) Where a player denies the opposing team a goal or an obvious goal-scoring opportunity by a deliberate handball offence the player is sent off wherever the offence occurs.

- (ii) Where a player commits an offence against an opponent within their own penalty area which denies an opponent an obvious goal-scoring opportunity and the referee awards a penalty kick, the offender is cautioned if the offence was an attempt to play the ball; in all other circumstances (e.g. holding, pulling, pushing, no possibility to play the ball etc.) the offending player must be sent off.

48.4 A player, sent off player, substitute or substituted player who enters the field of play without the required referee's permission and interferes with play or an opponent and denies the opposing team a goal or an obvious goal scoring opportunity is guilty of a sending-off offence. The following must be considered:

- (i) distance between the offence and the goal
- (ii) general direction of the play
- (iii) likelihood of keeping or gaining control of the ball
- (iv) location and number of defenders

48.5 Serious foul play

- (i) A tackle or challenge that endangers the safety of an opponent or uses excessive force or brutality must be sanctioned as serious foul play.
- (ii) Any player who lunges at an opponent in challenging for the ball from the front, from the side or from behind using one or

both legs, with excessive force or endangers the safety of an opponent is guilty of serious foul play.

48.6 Violent conduct

- (i) Violent conduct is when a player uses or attempts to use excessive force or brutality against an opponent when not challenging for the ball, or against a team-mate, team official, match official, spectator or any other person, regardless of whether contact is made.
- (ii) In addition, a player who, when not challenging for the ball, deliberately strikes an opponent or any other person on the head or face with the hand or arm, is guilty of violent conduct unless the force used was negligible.

48.7 Offences where an object (or the ball) is thrown

In all cases, the referee takes the appropriate disciplinary action:

- (i) Deemed reckless – caution the offender for unsporting behavior
- (ii) using excessive force – send off the offender for violent conduct.

ARTICLE 48A

Save as of any on-field Infringements by a Player, any unsporting behaviour, dissent by words or action or otherwise as provided in Article 48.1(v), (vi) and (vii) or 48.6, shall be equally applicable to any Team Official or technical personnel of

any Team, and be treated as Serious infringement with appropriate sanctions.

SECTION 2. DISORDERLINESS AT MATCHES AND COMPETITIONS

ARTICLE 49: MISCONDUCT AGAINST OPPONENTS OR PERSONS OTHER THAN MATCH OFFICIALS

1. Including the automatic suspension incurred in accordance with art. 19 par. 4, any recipient of a direct red card shall be suspended as follows:
 - a) one match for denying the opposing team a clear goal-scoring opportunity (particularly by deliberately handling the ball);
 - b) at least one match for serious foul play (particularly in the case of excessive or brute force);
 - c) at least one match for unsporting conduct towards an opponent or a person other than a match official (subject to art. 54, 56 and 58-61);
 - d) at least two matches for any continued dissent by gestures and/or words, or for assaulting (elbowing, punching, kicking etc.) an opponent or a person other than a match official;

- (e) at least six matches for any violent conduct, spitting at an opponent or any other person, other than a match official.
- 2. In the event of any misconduct which has not been penalised by a red card or caution but has been reported in the match report by the Match Officials, the overall suspension imposed on any person (player or substitutes or team staff or representative) shall be for:
 - a) at least one match for unsporting conduct towards an opponent or a person other than a match official (subject to art. 54, 56 and 58-61);
 - b) at least two matches for any continued dissent by gestures and/or words, or for assaulting (elbowing, punching, kicking etc.) an opponent or a person other than a match official;
 - c) at least six matches for violent conduct towards or spitting at an opponent or a person other than a match official
- 3. A fine may also be imposed in all cases.
- 4. Further, a fine and/or match suspension, as may be deemed suitable by the Disciplinary Committee, may be imposed for any person engaging in public criticism or making any adverse comment (such as about the integrity of a person) in media, press conferences etc. anytime against a player, team official, spectator or AIFF representatives.

5. The right is reserved to punish an offence in accordance with art. 78(a).
6. The misconducts as provided in 49.1(d) and 49.1(e) shall be equally applicable to any Team Official or technical personnel of any Team.

ARTICLE 50: MISCONDUCT AGAINST MATCH OFFICIALS

1. Including the automatic suspension incurred in accordance with art. 19 par. 4, the overall suspension imposed on any person (player or substitutes or team staff or representative) receiving a direct red card either before or during the match or after the blowing of final whistle of the match shall be for:
 - a) at least four matches for unsporting conduct towards a match official (subject to art. 54, 55 and 58-61);
 - b) at least two matches for any continued dissent by gestures and/or words;
 - c) at least six months for assaulting (elbowing, punching, kicking etc.) a match official;
 - d) at least 12 months for spitting at a match official.
2. In the event of any misconduct which has not been penalised by a red card or caution but has been reported in the match report by the Match Officials, the overall suspension imposed

on any person (player or substitutes or team staff or representative) shall be for:

- a) at least four matches for unsporting conduct towards a match official (subject to art. 54, 55 and 58-61);
 - b) at least two matches for any continued dissent by gestures and/or words;
 - c) at least six months for assaulting (elbowing, punching, kicking etc.) a match official;
 - d) at least 12 months for spitting at a match official.
3. A fine may also be imposed in all cases, the quantum of which shall be decided at the discretion of the Disciplinary Committee.
 4. Further, a fine and/or match suspension, as may be deemed suitable by the Disciplinary Committee, may be imposed for any person engaging in public criticism or making any adverse comment (such as about the integrity of a person) in media, press conferences etc. anytime against a Match Official.
 5. The right is reserved to punish an infringement in accordance with art. 78(a).
 6. The misconducts as provided in this Article shall be equally applicable if the perpetrator is a Team Official.

ARTICLE 51: BRAWL

1. Involvement in a brawl is sanctioned with a suspension for at least six matches.
2. Anyone who has tried merely to prevent a fight, shield others or separate those involved in a brawl is not subject to punishment.

ARTICLE 52: UNIDENTIFIED AGGRESSORS

If, in the case of violence, it is not possible to identify the perpetrator(s), the body will sanction the club and/or the Member Association to which the aggressors belong.

ARTICLE 53: TEAM MISCONDUCT

53.1 Disciplinary measures may be imposed on Member Associations and clubs where a team fails to conduct itself properly. In particular:

- a) any team of which at least 5 (five) individuals have been sanctioned (caution or expulsion) by the Referee during a match has committed an offence.

Penalty: For a match in the I-League or Indian Super League (ISL) a fine of INR 60,000 (Rupees Sixty Thousand) per expulsion and INR 40,000 (Rupees Forty Thousand) per caution, and for other matches as specified in the respective tournament regulations, with the Disciplinary Committee

having discretionary powers in this regard if not specified in such tournament regulations.

Where the offence is aggravated, any further sanctions as listed in this Code may be imposed by the Disciplinary Committee, where repeated offences from previous infractions will be considered an aggravating circumstance.

- b) a fine of at least Rs 2,00,000 may be imposed where several players or officials from the same team threaten or harass match officials or other persons. Further sanctions may be imposed in the case of serious offences.

53.2 Damage to property:

53.2.1. Causing damage to property before, during, or after a Match is an offence.

53.2.2. Where property is damaged inside a team dressing room, it is presumed that such damage was undertaken by an individual affiliated to the relevant team assigned to that team dressing room. The party may produce evidence to rebut the presumption, which shall be determined on the balance of probabilities.

53.2.3. Where the individual cannot be identified, his affiliated Member Association or Club shall be held liable.

53.3 Penalty:

- 53.3.1 For an individual, unless specified and addressed in the concerned tournament regulations, the Disciplinary Committee may impose a fine of at least INR 20,000 plus cost of damage caused;
- 53.3.2 For a Member Association or Club, unless specified and addressed in the concerned tournament regulations, fine of at least INR 30,000 plus cost of damage caused.
- 53.3.3. Where the offence is aggravated, any further sanctions as deemed appropriate may be imposed by the Disciplinary Committee.

ARTICLE 54: INCITING HATRED AND VIOLENCE

1. A player or official who publicly incites others to hatred or violence will be sanctioned with match suspension for no less than twelve months and with a minimum fine of Rs 2,00,000.
2. In serious cases, in particular when the infringement is committed using the mass media (such as the press, radio or television) or if it takes place on a match day in or around a stadium, the minimum fine will be Rs 10,00,000/.

ARTICLE 55: PROVOKING THE GENERAL PUBLIC

Anyone who provokes the general public during a match will be suspended for two matches and sanctioned with a minimum fine of Rs 60,000/.

ARTICLE 56: INELIGIBILITY

1. If a player is fielded in an official match despite being ineligible, his team will be sanctioned by forfeiting the match (cf. art. 32) and paying a minimum fine of Rs 60,000/.
2. If a player is fielded in a friendly match despite being ineligible, his team will be sanctioned by forfeiting the match and paying a minimum fine of Rs. 30,000/.
3. If a team fields more than one (1) player who is ineligible in a match, the fine shall be multiplied by the number of ineligible players who participated in the relevant match.
4. If a player found to be ineligible takes part in an official or friendly match, such ineligible player shall be reported to the Disciplinary Committee, which shall thereafter take appropriate action against the Player and/or the club/team such player represents, in accordance with the provisions of the Code.
5. If the offence is discovered after the completion of a competition, the judicial body may additionally order that the team be excluded from a future competition or the deduction of points from a future competition.

ARTICLE 57: ABANDONMENT

1. If a team refuses to play a match or to continue playing one which it has begun, it will be sanctioned with a minimum fine

of Rs.6,00,000/- and will, in principle, forfeit the match (cf. art. 32).

2. In serious cases, the team will also be disqualified from the competition in progress.

SECTION 3. OFFENSIVE AND RACIST BEHAVIOUR

ARTICLE 58: OFFENSIVE BEHAVIOUR AND FAIR PLAY

1. Anyone who insults another person in any way, especially by using offensive or abusive gestures or language, will be sanctioned with a match suspension.
2. If the perpetrator is a player, he will be suspended for at least two (2) matches; if he is an official, he will be suspended for at least four (4) matches.
3. If the victim of the attack is the AIFF itself or one of its bodies/employees/official representatives, the duration of the suspension will be doubled (+100%); the sanction applies to all official matches.
4. A minimum fine of Rs. 5,00,000/- shall be pronounced in any of the above.

ARTICLE 59: OFFENCE AND DISCRIMINATION

1. a) Anyone who by any utterances, comments, publication or circulation offends or tends to offend or ridicule the reputation, image or dignity of AIFF and/or any of its Officials or any person

or a group of persons or through contemptuous, discriminatory or denigratory words or action offends the dignity of any one or group of persons concerning race, colour, language, religion, sexual orientation or origin, shall be imposed with sanctions of not less than five matches. Furthermore, considering the gravity of the offence, a ban in terms of Articles 22 and/or 23 and a fine of at least Rs 3,00,000/- may be imposed. If the perpetrator is an official, the fine shall be at least Rs 6,00,000/-. The exact quantum of the stadium ban and fine shall be decided by the Disciplinary Committee.

- b) Where more than one persons (officials and/or players) from the same club or Member Association simultaneously breach par. 1 a) as above or there are other aggravating circumstances, in addition to sanctions as provided in Art 1 a) above, the team concerned may be deducted three points for a first offence and six points for a second offence; a further offence may result in demotion to a lower division. In the case of matches in which no points are awarded, the team may be disqualified from the competition.
- 2.a) Where supporters of a team breach par. 1 a) at a match, a fine of at least Rs.10,00,000/- shall be imposed on the Member Association or club concerned regardless of the question of culpable conduct or culpable oversight.
- b) Serious offences may be punished with additional sanctions, in particular an order to play a match behind closed doors, the

forfeit of a match, a points deduction or disqualification from the competition.

3. Spectators who breach par. 1 a) of this article shall receive a stadium ban of at least two years.

SECTION 4. INFRINGEMENTS OF PERSONAL FREEDOM

ARTICLE 60: THREATS

Anyone who intimidates or seeks to intimidate a match official with serious threats will be sanctioned with a fine of at least Rs 1,00,000/- and a match suspension. These sanctions constitute a departure from art. 33, in that they may not be combined with others.

ARTICLE 61: COERCION

Anyone who uses violence or threats to pressure or seeks to pressure a match official into taking certain action or to hinder him in any other way from acting freely will be sanctioned with a fine of at least Rs 1,00,000/- and a match suspension. These sanctions constitute a departure from art. 33, in that they may not be combined with others.

SECTION 5. FORGERY AND FALSIFICATION

ARTICLE 62

1. Anyone who, in football-related activities, forges a document or falsifies an authentic document or uses a forged or falsified

document or a document containing false information to deceive in legal relations will be sanctioned with fine.

2. If the perpetrator is a player, a suspension of at least six matches or six months will be pronounced.
3. If the perpetrator is an official, a players' agent or a match agent, the body will pronounce a ban on taking part in any football-related activity for a period of at least twelve months.
4. A Member association shall be held liable for an infringement as defined in par.1 committed by one of its officials and /or players. In such a case, an expulsion from a competition shall be pronounced in addition to a fine for the Member association concerned.
5. A club shall be held liable for an infringement as defined in par.1 committed by one of its officials and /or players. In such a case, an expulsion from a competition and/or a transfer ban shall be pronounced in addition to a fine for the club concerned.

SECTION 6. CORRUPTION

ARTICLE 63

1. Anyone who offers promises or grants an unjustified advantage to a body of AIFF, a match official, a player or an official on behalf of himself or a third party in an attempt to incite it or him to violate the regulations of AIFF will be sanctioned:
 - a) with a fine of at least Rs. 3,00,000,

- b) with a ban on taking part in any football-related activity, and
 - c) with a ban on entering any stadium.
2. Passive corruption (soliciting, being promised or accepting an unjustified advantage) will be sanctioned in the same manner.
 3. In serious cases and in the case of repetition, sanction 1(b) may be pronounced for life.
 4. In any case, the body will order the confiscation of the assets involved in committing the infringement. These assets will be used for football development programmes.

SECTION 7. DOPING

ARTICLE 64: DEFINITION

Doping is prohibited. Doping and anti-doping rule violations are defined in the National Anti-Doping Regulations and sanctioned in accordance with the National Anti-Doping Regulations Code.

SECTION 8. FAILURE TO RESPECT DECISIONS

ARTICLE 65:

1. Anyone who fails to pay another person (such as a player, a coach, a club or a Member Association) or AIFF a sum of money in full or part, even though instructed to do so by a body, a committee or an instance of AIFF, or anyone who fails to comply with another decision (non-financial decision) passed by a body, a committee or an instance of AIFF:

- a) will be fined for failing to comply with a decision;
 - b) will be granted a final deadline by the judicial bodies of AIFF in which to pay the amount due or to comply with the (non-financial) decision;
 - c) (only for clubs:) will be warned and notified that, in the case of default or failure to comply with a decision within the period stipulated, points will be deducted or demotion to a lower division ordered. A ban on registering new players may also be pronounced, for a period of not less than 1 transfer window, which period may be increased as deemed appropriate by the Disciplinary Committee.
 - d) (only for Member Associations:) will be warned and notified that, in the case of default or failure to comply with a decision within the period stipulated, further disciplinary measures will be imposed. An expulsion from AIFF competitions may also be pronounced.
2. If the club disregards the final time limit, the relevant Member Association shall be requested to implement the sanctions.
 3. If points are deducted, they shall be proportionate to the amount owed.
 4. A ban on any football-related activity may also be imposed against natural persons, the period of which shall be specified by the Disciplinary Committee.

SECTION 9. RESPONSIBILITIES OF CLUBS AND MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS

ARTICLE 66: ORGANISATION OF MATCHES

66.1 Member Associations/Clubs that organise matches shall:

- a) assess the degree of risk posed by matches and notify the AIFF of those that are especially high-risk; officials, players and officials of the visiting team during their stay;
- b) comply with and implement existing safety rules (FIFA & AFC regulations, national laws, international agreements) and take every safety precaution demanded by circumstances before, during and after the match and if incidents occur;
- c) ensure the safety of match officials, players and officials of the visiting team during their stay;
- d) keep local authorities informed and collaborate with them actively and effectively;
- e) ensure that law and order are maintained in the stadiums and immediate surroundings and that matches are organised properly.

ARTICLE 67: FAILURE TO COMPLY

1. Any Member Association/Club that fails to fulfil any of its obligations relating to the organisation of matches in accordance with art. 66 shall be fined at least INR 25,000.
2. In the case of a serious infringement of art. 66, additional sanctions may be decided and imposed by the Disciplinary Committee, including additional financial penalties and/or stadium usage ban or ordering a team to play on neutral ground (cf. art. 26).
3. The right is reserved to impose certain sanctions for safety reasons, even if no infringement has been committed (cf. art. 8, par. 2).

ARTICLE 68: LIABILITY FOR SPECTATOR CONDUCT

1. The home Member Association or home club is liable for improper conduct among spectators, regardless of the question of culpable conduct or culpable oversight, and depending on the situation, may be fined. Further sanctions may be imposed in the case of serious disturbances.
2. The visiting Member Association or visiting club is liable for improper conduct among its own group of spectators, regardless of the question of culpable conduct or culpable oversight, and, depending on the situation, may be fined. Further sanctions may be imposed in the case of serious disturbances. Supporters occupying the “away sector” of a

stadium are regarded as the visiting association's supporters, unless proven to the contrary.

3. Improper conduct includes violence towards persons or objects, letting off incendiary devices, throwing missiles, displaying insulting or political slogans in any form, uttering insulting words or sounds, or invading the pitch.
4. The liability described in par. 1 and 2 also includes matches played on neutral ground.,

ARTICLE 69: OTHER OBLIGATIONS

It shall be ensured that:

- a)the age of players shown on the registration form/card they produce at competitions that are subject to age limits will be actively vetted;
- b)no one is involved in the management of AIFF, Member Associations or their affiliated units itself who is under prosecution for action unworthy of such a position (especially doping, corruption, forgery etc.) or who has been convicted of a criminal offence and sentenced to an imprisonment of 2 years or more.

SECTION 10. UNLAWFULLY INFLUENCING MATCH RESULTS

ARTICLE 70

- 1.Anyone who conspires to influence the result of a match in a manner contrary to sporting ethics shall be sanctioned with a match suspension or a ban on taking part in any football- related

activity as well as a fine of at least Rs 5,00,000/- . In serious cases, a lifetime ban on taking part in any football-related activity shall be imposed.

2.In the case of a player or official unlawfully influencing the result of a match in accordance with par. 1, the club or Member Association to which the player or official belongs may be fined. Serious offences may be sanctioned with exclusion from a competition, demotion to a lower division, points deduction and the return of awards.

SECOND TITLE. ORGANISATION AND PROCEDURE

CHAPTER I. ORGANISATION

SECTION 1: JURISDICTION OF AIFF, MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS AND OTHER ORGANISATIONS

ARTICLE 71: GENERAL RULE

1.With regard to matches and competitions not organised by AIFF (cf. art. 2), Member Associations and sports organisations that organise matches for cultural, geographical, historical or other reasons (cf. art 39 par. 2 b) are responsible for enforcing sanctions imposed against infringements committed in their area of jurisdiction.

2.The judicial bodies of AIFF reserve the right to sanction serious infringements of the statutory objectives of AIFF (cf. final part of art. 2) if Member Associations, and other sports organisations fail to prosecute serious infringements or fail to prosecute in

compliance with the fundamental principles of law.

3. Member Associations and other sports organisations shall notify the judicial bodies of AIFF of any serious infringements of the statutory objectives of AIFF.

ARTICLE 72: FRIENDLY MATCHES BETWEEN TWO REPRESENTATIVE TEAMS

1. Any disciplinary action to be taken at friendly matches between two representative teams from different Member Associations/two different clubs is the responsibility of that Member Association to which the sanctioned player belongs. However, in serious cases, the Disciplinary Committee may intervene ex officio.
2. The Member Associations shall inform AIFF of the sanctions pronounced.
3. AIFF ensures compliance with the sanctions by means of this Code.

SECTION 2. AUTHORITIES

ARTICLE 73: REFEREE

1. During matches, disciplinary decisions are taken by the referee.
2. These decisions are final.
3. In certain circumstances, the jurisdiction of the judicial bodies may apply (cf. art. 78).

ARTICLE 74: JUDICIAL BODIES

The judicial bodies of AIFF are the Disciplinary Committee, the

Appeal Committee, Club Licensing Appeals Body and the Player Status Committee.

ARTICLE 75: ARBITRATION TRIBUNAL

*** Deleted***

ARTICLE 76: AIFF MEDICAL

In compliance with the National Anti-Doping Regulations, the relevant AIFF Medical body out the doping test, analyses of samples and examination of medical certificates.

SECTION 3. DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE

ARTICLE 77: GENERAL JURISDICTION

The AIFF Disciplinary Committee shall have authority to deal with any determination of compensation and/or damages and other Impositions, Fine or any other sanction related to any breach of any AIFF Regulations, Agreements or otherwise related to any Club and/or Its Officials as be subscribed under the concerned Regulation or Agreement or otherwise, or which is not expressly provided otherwise in any Regulation or Code of AIFF.

ARTICLE 78: SPECIFIC JURISDICTION

The Disciplinary Committee is responsible for:

- a) sanctioning serious infringements which have escaped the match officials' attention;
- b) rectifying obvious errors in the referee's disciplinary decisions;
- c) extending the duration of a match suspension incurred automatically by an expulsion (cf. art 19, par. 4);

- d) pronouncing additional sanctions, such as a fine.

ARTICLE 79: JURISDICTION OF THE CHAIRMAN OR MEMBER RULING ALONE

The Chairman of the Disciplinary Committee or a member designated by the Chairman may take the following decisions alone. In the absence or noninvolvement of the Chairman for any reason, the Vice-Chairman of the Disciplinary Committee may designate a member to take the following decisions alone.

- a) suspend a person for up to three matches or for up to two months, where such suspensions shall include the statutory automatic suspensions imposed as a result of yellow and red cards incurred by a player or official during matches;
- b) pronounce a fine of up to Rs 6,00,000;
- c) rule on a request to extend a sanction (art. 137);
- d) settle disputes arising from objections to members of the Disciplinary Committee;
- e) pronounce, alter and annul provisional measures (cf. art. 130).

In the case of a member designated by the Chairman, this jurisdiction can only be exercised where it is essential for the timeliness or integrity of a competition during the period of the competition.

SECTION 4. APPEAL COMMITTEE

ARTICLE 80: JURISDICTION

The Appeal Committee is responsible for deciding appeals against any of the Disciplinary Committee's decisions that AIFF regulations do not declare as final or referable to another body as well as decisions passed by the Players' Status Committee, unless the same is a referral to the Disciplinary Committee. It is clarified any appeal against a decision must have cogent grounds in line with Article 122, and not be on a limited premise of 'mercy'.

ARTICLE 81: JURISDICTION OF THE CHAIRMAN OR MEMBER RULING ALONE

*** Deleted*** - - - replaced by Article 128 A.

SECTION 5. COMMON RULES FOR THE JUDICIAL BODIES

ARTICLE 82: COMPOSITION

1. The Executive Committee appoints the members of the Disciplinary Committee and the Appeal Committee for a period of four years. It designates the number of members deemed necessary for the committees to function properly.
2. The Executive Committee appoints the Chairman and the Deputy Chairman of each committee from among the members for the same period of four years.

ARTICLE 83: MEETINGS

1. The committee meetings are deemed to be valid if the quorum

as mentioned in the AIFF Constitution, for judicial bodies is met.

2. At the behest of the Chairman, the secretariat shall call a committee meeting.

ARTICLE 84: CHAIRMAN

1. The Chairman conducts the meetings and delivers the decisions which this Code empowers him to take.
2. If the Chairman is unable to attend, the deputy Chairman replaces him. If the deputy Chairman is unable to attend, the longest-serving member replaces him.

ARTICLE 85: SECRETARIAT

1. The general secretariat of AIFF provides the judicial bodies with a secretariat and the necessary staff at AIFF headquarters.
2. The general secretariat of AIFF designates the secretary to the judicial bodies.
3. The secretary takes charge of the administrative work and writes the minutes and decisions of the meetings.

The secretary takes care of the filing. The decisions passed and the relevant files shall be kept for at least five years.

ARTICLE 86: INDEPENDENCE

1. The judicial bodies of AIFF pass their decisions entirely

independently; in particular, they shall not receive instructions from any other body.

2. A member of another AIFF body may not stay in the meeting room during the judicial bodies' deliberations unless they have explicitly summoned him to attend.

ARTICLE 87: INCOMPATIBILITY OF OFFICE

The members of the judicial bodies may not belong either to the Executive Committee, of another judicial body or a standing committee of AIFF.

ARTICLE 88: WITHDRAWAL

1. Members of the judicial bodies of AIFF must decline to participate in any meeting concerning a matter where there are serious grounds for questioning their impartiality.
2. This applies in the following cases (among others):
 - a) if the member in question has a direct interest in the outcome of the matter;
 - b) if he is associated with any of the parties;
 - c) if he is belongs to the party implicated (the Member Association, club, official, player etc.);
 - d) if he has already dealt with the case under different circumstances.
3. Members who decline to participate in a meeting on any of the above grounds shall notify the Chairman immediately. The parties involved may also raise an objection to a member they believe to

be biased.

4. The Chairman shall decide on any such claim of bias.
5. Proceedings that have involved someone whom the Chairman has ordered not to participate will be considered null and void.

ARTICLE 89: CONFIDENTIALITY

1. The members of the judicial bodies shall ensure that everything disclosed to them during the course of their duty remains confidential (facts of the case, contents of the deliberations and decisions taken).
2. Only the contents of those decisions already notified to the addressees may be made public.

ARTICLE 90: EXEMPTION FROM LIABILITY

Neither the members of the judicial bodies of AIFF nor the secretariat may be made personally liable for any decisions, acts or omissions relating to any disciplinary procedure. In case a party to a dispute approaches court or other authority and impleads in a personal capacity, any member of a judicial body in a civil or criminal case, as a result of a decision passed by such judicial body, then such person shall be liable to pay a fine to the AIFF, being a minimum amount of Rs. 1,00,000/-.

CHAPTER II. PROCEDURE

SECTION 1. GENERAL RULES

SUBSECTION 1. TIME LIMITS

ARTICLE 91: CALCULATION

1. Time limits to which the Member Associations/clubs shall adhere commence the day after they have received the relevant document.
2. Time limits to which other persons shall adhere commence four days after receipt of the document by the Member Association/club responsible for forwarding it, except when the document is also or solely sent to the person concerned or his legal representative. If the document was also or solely sent to the parties or their legal representatives, the time limit commences on the day after receipt of the document in question.
3. If the last day of the time limit coincides with a public holiday in the place of domicile of the person required to comply with the document by a certain deadline, the time limit will expire on the next day that is not a public holiday.

ARTICLE 92: COMPLIANCE

1. The time limit has been met only if the action required has been carried out before expiry of the time limit.
2. The document must be submitted to the relevant body or mailed to its address no later than midnight on the last day of the time limit.
3. If the document is sent by telefax, the time limit has been met

if the document reaches the body on the last day of the time limit and the original document reaches it within another five days.

4. If the document is sent by electronic mail, the time limit has been met if the document reaches the body on the last day of the time limit. Hard copies or originals of submissions/relevant documents are required to be produced/provided by the parties on or before the day of the hearing, if any, or at a later date, if and when felt required, at the discretion of the concerned judicial body..
5. In the case of appeals, the deposit demanded (cf. art.124) is considered to have been paid in time if the payment has irreversibly been made to AIFF's account by the end of banking hours on the last day of the time limit or a demand draft for the deposit demanded has been received at AIFF's designated location by the end of working hours on the last day of the time limit.

ARTICLE 93: INTERRUPTION

1. Time limits are interrupted:
 - a) during the period starting two (2) days before the AIFF AGM and up to two (2) days after;
 - b) during the period starting two (2) days before the National tournament's final competition and up to two (2) days after except for facts arising during the final competition and facts which have occurred before but which may have repercussions on the final competition.

- c) the periods when the AIFF House is officially closed. The exact dates of the closure will be announced to the Member Associations/Clubs via a circular
- 2. Special provisions may apply in certain circumstances.

ARTICLE 94: EXTENSION

- 1. The Chairman may extend the time limits he has set, upon request. The time limits fixed in this Code may not, however, be extended.
- 2. A time limit may not be extended more than twice and, the second time, only in exceptional circumstances.
- 3. If the Chairman refuses to extend the time limit, the applicant will be granted two extra days. In emergencies, the Chairman may announce his negative decision to the applicant orally.

SUBSECTION 2. RIGHT TO BE HEARD

ARTICLE 95: CONTENTS

- 1. Subject to Article 96 of this Code, the concerned parties may request for a personal hearing before any final decision is passed. The Chairman may, but is not obliged to, grant a personal hearing after considering the merits of the request. However, in any case a show cause notice shall be issued to the concerned person seeking such person's explanation. In the event of any stated urgency in the matter, the personal hearing may be conducted over telephonic/audio-visual conference and the same shall be mentioned in the decision.

2. The concerned parties may, in particular:

- a) refer to the file;
- b) present their argument in fact and in law;
- c) request production of proof;
- d) be involved in the production of proof;
- e) obtain a reasoned decision.

3. Special provisions may apply in certain circumstances.

ARTICLE 96: RESTRICTIONS

1. The right to be heard may be restricted in exceptional circumstances on a need basis, such as when confidential matters need to be safeguarded or the proceedings need to be conducted urgently, or any other circumstance as may be deemed appropriate by the Committee and duly recorded as such in its decision.

2. Once show cause notice is issued and response thereto is provided, the Committee would have discretion to permit any personal hearing, unless so demanded in the response to the Show Cause Notice.

3. In the event of any Emergent Circumstances as defined under Article 5.14 of this Code, the Disciplinary Committee or its Chairman based on the reports of the Match Officials, may provide suitable sanction within 24 (twenty-four) hours as per the provisions of this Code, determined by circulation over electronic mail. In such cases, written approval of the final proposed decision by at least 3 (three) members of the

Disciplinary Committee shall be considered to be adequate for the purposes of determining due consultation, perusal and review of the decision by the member(s) for the valid issuance and implementation of the concerned decision(s), following issuance of show cause notice to the concerned party and based on the response received, if any. The Chairman of the Committee may call for a response on an expedited timeframe of even a few hours by circulating the reports of the Match Officials, based on urgent circumstances which may be duly recorded, through electronic mail and the charged player and/or Official shall be duty bound to respond to such shorter notice. Any decision passed shall be final and binding with regards to such Committee and any appeal against such decision shall only lie or be admissible with regard to orders to pay a sum of money, if any.

SUBSECTION 3. PROOF

ARTICLE 97: VARIOUS TYPES OF PROOF

1. Any type of proof may be produced.
2. Proof that violates human dignity or obviously does not serve to establish relevant facts shall be rejected.
3. The following are, in particular, admissible: reports from referees, assistant referees, match commissioners and referee assessor, declarations from the parties and witnesses, material evidence, expert opinions and audio or video recordings.

ARTICLE 98: EVALUATION OF PROOF

1. The judicial bodies will have absolute discretion regarding proof.
2. They may, in particular, take account of the parties' attitudes during proceedings, especially the manner in which they cooperate with the judicial bodies and the secretariat (cf. art. 111).
3. They decide on the basis of their personal convictions.

ARTICLE 99: MATCH OFFICIALS' REPORTS

1. Reporting and facts contained in match officials' reports are presumed to be accurate and binding.
2. If there is any discrepancy in the reports from the various match officials and there are no means of resolving the different versions of the facts, the referee's report is considered authoritative regarding incidents that occurred on the field of play; the match commissioner's report is considered authoritative regarding incidents that took place outside the field of play.
3. Any challenge to the Reports of Match Officials must be supported by incontrovertible substantive material evidences.

ARTICLE 100: BURDEN OF PROOF

1. The burden of proof regarding disciplinary infringements rests

on AIFF.

2. In the case of an anti-doping rule violation, it is incumbent upon the suspect to produce the proof necessary to reduce or cancel a sanction. For sanctions to be reduced, the suspect must also prove how the prohibited substance entered his body.

SUBSECTION 4. REPRESENTATION AND ASSISTANCE ARTICLE 101

1. The parties may arrange to have legal representation.
2. If they are not required to appear personally, they may be represented.
3. The parties are free to choose their own representation and legal representation.

SUBSECTION 5. LANGUAGE USED IN PROCEEDINGS ARTICLE 102

1. The language used in all proceedings shall be English.
2. The services of an interpreter may be used in case the language used in proceedings is other than English.

SUBSECTION 6. NOTIFICATION OF DECISIONS

ARTICLE 103: ADDRESSEES

1. All the parties are notified of the decisions.
2. Decisions and other documents intended for Member Associations, clubs, players, officials and any other person are addressed to the Member Association/clubs concerned on condition that it forwards the documents to the parties concerned. In the event that the documents were not also or

solely sent to the party concerned, these documents are considered to have been communicated properly to the ultimate addressee four days after communication of the documents to the Member Association/clubs (cf. art. 91). However, it is clarified that for decisions affecting tournaments which are underway, these documents may be expedited as per timelines deemed appropriate by the Disciplinary Committee.

3. Doping decisions passed by the NADA Disciplinary Committee shall be communicated to FIFA. AIFF will announce anti-doping rule violations within 30 days.

ARTICLE 104: FORM

1. Decisions communicated by telefax or electronic mail shall be legally binding unless otherwise specified in this code. Alternatively, decisions may be communicated by registered letter or courier, which shall also be legally binding.

SUBSECTION 7. MISCELLANEOUS

ARTICLE 105: OBVIOUS ERRORS

A judicial body may rectify any mistakes in calculation or any other obvious errors at any time.

ARTICLE 106: COSTS AND EXPENSES

1. Costs and expenses may be imposed by the judicial body on the unsuccessful party.
2. If there is no unsuccessful party, they shall be borne by AIFF.
3. If considered fair to do so, they may be split among several parties.

4. The judicial body that rules on the substance of the matter decides how costs and expenses shall be allocated and the relevant amounts are stipulated by the Chairman. These rulings are not subject to appeal.
5. The Chairman may exceptionally decide to curtail or dispense with costs and expenses.

ARTICLE 107: ENFORCEMENT OF DECISIONS

Decisions come into force as soon as they are communicated.

ARTICLE 108: BASELESS PROCEEDINGS

Proceedings may be closed, if, among other reasons:

- a) the parties reach an agreement;
- b) a party declares bankruptcy;
- c) they become baseless.

SECTION 2. DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE

SUBSECTION 1. COMMENCEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS AND INVESTIGATION

ARTICLE 109: COMMENCEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS

1. Disciplinary infringements are prosecuted ex officio.
2. Any person or body may report conduct that he or it considers incompatible with the regulations of AIFF to the judicial bodies. Such complaints shall be made in writing.
3. Match officials are obliged to report infringements which have come to their notice.

ARTICLE 110: INVESTIGATION

The secretariat carries out the necessary preliminary

investigation ex officio under the Chairman's guidance.

ARTICLE 111: COLLABORATION BY THE PARTIES

1. The parties are obliged to collaborate to establish the facts. In particular, they shall comply with requests for information from the judicial bodies.
2. Whenever deemed necessary, the secretariat verifies the parties' versions of the facts.
3. If the parties are dilatory in responding, the Chairman of the judicial body may, after warning them, impose a fine of up to Rs 3,00,000.
4. If the parties fail to collaborate, especially if they ignore the stipulated time limits, the judicial bodies will reach a decision on the case using the material on record.

SUBSECTION 2. ORAL STATEMENTS, DELIBERATIONS, DECISION ARTICLE

112: ORAL STATEMENTS, PRINCIPLES

1. As a general rule, there are no oral statements and the Disciplinary Committee decides on the basis of the material on record.
2. At the request of one of the parties, the concerned judicial body may arrange for oral statements to be heard, if it is deemed necessary by the Chairman based on the merits of the case, after which any or all of the parties shall be summoned to give oral statements if they wish to do so.
3. Oral statements shall always be heard behind closed doors. The

parties providing oral testimonies may be asked by the judicial body to either be present together in the same room or record their testimonies in presence of only the concerned judicial body.

4. If in response to the show cause notice(s), any charge(s) is/are admitted, then no appeal shall be maintainable for sanction(s) issued for such charge(s).

ARTICLE 113: ORAL STATEMENTS, PROCEDURE

1. The Chairman decides on the sequence of the oral statements.
2. Once the hearing of evidence has ended, the Chairman allows the person against whom proceedings are being conducted a final opportunity to speak.
3. The oral statements terminate with the parties' closing statements.

ARTICLE 114: DELIBERATIONS

1. The Disciplinary Committee deliberates behind closed doors.
2. If oral statements have been heard, they will immediately be followed by deliberations.
3. Deliberations are conducted between members of any judicial body without interruption, unless there are exceptional circumstances beyond the control of the concerned judicial body.
4. The Chairman decides in which order the various questions will be submitted for deliberation.
5. The members present express their opinions in the order set out by the Chairman, who always speaks last.

6. In case some members of the concerned committee are joining the meeting over telephone call or audio/video conferencing, due opportunity will be provided to that member, by the chairman and such member's vote shall also be counted in passing the decision. Decisions are passed by a simple majority of the members present, who shall each have 1 (one) vote. If any member/s joins the meeting through telephone call or videoconferencing or through any other method, such member shall be deemed to have attended the meeting and shall be counted in the quorum of the meeting.

ARTICLE 115: PASSING THE DECISION

1. Subject to Art. 118 and 128, decisions are passed by a simple majority of the members present, who shall each have 1 vote. If any member/s joins the meeting through telephone call or audio/video conferencing or through any other method, such member shall be deemed to have attended the meeting and shall be counted in the quorum of the meeting.
2. Every member present, along with those mentioned in Article 115(1) shall vote.
3. If votes are equal, the Chairman has the deciding vote.

ARTICLE 116: FORM AND CONTENTS OF THE DECISION

1. Without prejudice to the application of article 117 below, the decision contains:
 - a) the composition of the committee;
 - b) the name of the parties;

- c) a summary of the facts;
 - d) the provisions on which the decision was based;
 - e) the terms of the decision;
 - f) *** Deleted***.
2. The decisions are signed by the Chairman and the members of the committee and communicated by the AIFF secretariat, to the concerned parties. In case the written decision cannot be signed by any member for any reason, such member may provide his consent by letter or email, which shall be accepted in lieu of his signature on the decision. The decisions can also be communicated through electronic means.

ARTICLE 117: DECISIONS WITHOUT GROUNDS

The judicial bodies may decide not to communicate the grounds of a decision and instead communicate only the terms of decision. The parties will have ten days from receipt of the terms of the decision to request, in writing, the grounds of the decision, and that failure to do so will result in the decision becoming final and binding.

SUBSECTION 3. PROCEEDINGS BEFORE THE CHAIRMAN OR MEMBER OF THE DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE ACTING ALONE

ARTICLE 118

The rules governing the Disciplinary Committee apply in the same way whenever the Chairman or member decides alone.

SECTION 3. APPEAL COMMITTEE

ARTICLE 119: CONTESTABLE DECISIONS

An appeal may be lodged to the Appeal Committee against any decision passed by the Disciplinary Committee or the Players' Status Committee, unless the sanction imposed is:

- a) a warning;
- b) a reprimand;
- c) a suspension for a total consolidated quantum of three matches or lesser, which would include any automatic suspensions already being faced by a player for incurring yellow/red cards in matches, or a suspension of up to two months;
- d) a fine of Rs 4,00,000 or lesser imposed on a Member Association or a club or on an Official of the Club, or Rs 200,000 or lesser on a player or in any other case.
- e) decisions passed in compliance with art. 65 of this Code.

ARTICLE 119 A: JURISDICTION OF THE APPEAL COMMITTEE

The Appeal Committee is responsible for deciding appeals against any of the Disciplinary Committee's decisions as well as against decisions passed by the Players' Status Committee.

ARTICLE 120: ELIGIBILITY TO APPEAL

1. Anyone who has been a party to the proceedings before the

Disciplinary Committee or the Players' Status Committee and has a legally protected interest justifying amendment or cancellation of the decision, may lodge an appeal to the Appeal Committee.

2. Member Associations/clubs may appeal against decisions sanctioning their players, officials or members if they have the written consent of the person concerned.

ARTICLE 121: TIME LIMIT FOR APPEAL

1. Any party intending to appeal must inform the AIFF Appeal Committee of its intention to do so in writing within three (3) days of notification of the decision.
2. Reasons for the appeal must then be given in writing to AIFF within a further time limit of seven (7) days, this seven-day period begins after the first deadline of three (3) days has expired.
3. If this requirement has not been complied with, the appeal is not admitted.
4. The Member Association receiving the petition of appeal shall forward it immediately to AIFF.

ARTICLE 122: GROUNDS FOR APPEAL

1. An appeal shall be admissible/maintainable only with regards to inaccurate reproduction or appreciation of the facts and/or wrong application of the law/code in the decision, and not in any other scenario, devoid of discretionary power.

2. No new ground or fact, other than as provided in the response, if any, to the show cause notice, shall be admissible in appeal.
3. If the contested decision concerns failure to comply with the decision, the decision passed by AIFF body ordering someone to pay certain some of money to another person the appellant may not question the initial financial decision.

ARTICLE 123: PETITION OF APPEAL

1. The appellant shall submit his petition of appeal in triplicate.
2. The petition shall include the claim as well as facts and grounds of appeal together with the relied upon documents and be signed by the appellant or his representative, subject to art. 120 par.2.

ARTICLE 124: DEPOSIT

1. Anyone wishing to lodge an appeal against a decision of the Disciplinary Committee or the Player Status Committee or any other AIFF judicial body (not including the Appeal Committee) shall be required to transfer an appeal fee in the manner as prescribed below:
 - (i) Rs 60,000 (Rupees Sixty Thousand) in the case of an individual appellant;
 - (ii) Rs 120,000 (Rupees One Lakh Twenty Thousand) in the case of a club or institution, not being a natural person.
2. The above amounts, as the case may be, are required to be transferred by the prospective appellant to AIFF's bank account before expiry of the time limit of seven days to formalise the

appeal, after any initial intimation of appeal has been conveyed to the AIFF as per Article 121.

3. It is clarified that the stated appeal fee shall be determined by assessing the nature of the entity/person which was a party to the order passed by the earlier judicial body.
4. Additionally, if all the criteria for submission of an appeal are not complied with, the appeal amount transferred by the concerned party may stand forfeited.
5. If the above requirements have not been complied with, the appeal is not admitted.
6. If the appeal is considered to be improper, costs and expenses may be imposed in addition to the deposit.

ARTICLE 125: EFFECTS OF APPEAL

1. The Appeal Committee has full power in fact and in law to rule on the appeal.
2. The appeal against a decision of the Disciplinary Committee or the Player Status Committee does not have a suspensive effect except with regard to orders to pay a sum of money.

ARTICLE 126: SEQUENCE IN PROCEEDINGS LEADING UP TO THE DECISION

1. The sequence in proceedings is determined as described in this Code.
2. In case some members of the Appeal Committee are joining the

meeting or deliberations over telephone call or audio/video conferencing, due opportunity will be provided to that member, by the chairman and such member's vote shall also be counted in passing the concerned decision. Decisions are passed by a simple majority of the members present, who shall each have 1 (one) vote. If any member/s joins the meeting through telephone call or videoconferencing or through any other method, such member shall be deemed to have attended the meeting and shall be counted in the quorum of the meeting.

3. Decisions may not be amended to the detriment of the party contesting them.
4. The decisions are to be signed by the Chairman and the other members of the Appeal Committee, unless the Chairman is passing decision alone or through a designated member who passes decision alone, and communicated to the AIFF secretariat for communication to the concerned parties.
5. In case some other members of the Appeal Committee are, for any reason, not available for signing the order so passed by the Appeal Committee, such orders shall be passed with the signatures of the Chairman alone, while other members not present for signing may send their consent via letters or email to the Chairman, which shall be accepted in lieu of their signature on the decision. The decisions can also be communicated through electronic means.

ARTICLE 127: CONTINUATION OF THE PROCEEDINGS

1. The Appeal Committee rules, in principle, as a body in the last

instance unless otherwise provided in the AIFF Constitution.

ARTICLE 128: PROCEEDINGS BEFORE THE CHAIRMAN OR MEMBER OF THE APPEAL COMMITTEE ACTING ALONE

128.1. The rules governing the Appeal Committee apply in the same way whenever the Chairman or member of the Disciplinary Committee or the Players' Status Committee or any member designated by them decides alone.

ARTICLE 128A: JURISDICTION OF THE CHAIRMAN OR MEMBER RULING ALONE

1. The Chairman of the Appeal Committee or a member designated by the Chairman may take the following decisions alone:
 - a) decide on an appeal against a decision from another AIFF Judicial Body to extend a sanction (art. 142);
 - b) resolve disputes arising from objections to members of the Appeal Committee;
 - c) rule on appeals against provisional decisions passed by the Chairman of the Disciplinary Committee or Player Status Committee and other decisions passed by the member of the Disciplinary Committee or Player Status Committee designated by the Chairman in either case, in case of ruling alone (art.79);
 - d) pronounce, alter and annul provisional measures (cf. art. 130) passed by any judicial body of AIFF. In the case a member is designated by the Chairman, this jurisdiction can only be

exercised where it is essential for the timeliness or integrity of a competition during the period of the competition.

SECTION 4. ARBITRATION TRIBUNAL

ARTICLE 129

The AIFF Constitution stipulates the decisions passed by the judicial bodies of AIFF that may be appealed before the Arbitration Tribunal.

SECTION 5. SPECIAL PROCEDURES

SUBSECTION 1. PROVISIONAL MEASURES

ARTICLE 130: GENERAL RULE

1. If an infringement appears to have been committed and a decision on the main issue cannot be taken early enough, the Chairman of the judicial body may be acting alone, in emergencies, provisionally pronounce, alter or revoke a sanction as early as possible without providing an oral hearing to the party. Such decision may be communicated over email.
2. In similar circumstances, he may take other provisional measures at his discretion, especially to ensure compliance with a sanction already in force.
3. He will take action upon request or suo moto.
4. As a general rule, it is stated and clarified that any person who is a party to a matter before any AIFF judicial body, is prohibited from directly contacting members of such AIFF judicial body and/or attempting to coerce/influence/threaten/manipulate in any way the members of such AIFF judicial body. Any violation

of this provision shall be liable to be punished with a minimum penalty of Rs. 5,00,000 (Rupees Five Lakh), along with any additional penalty as deemed appropriate by the AIFF Disciplinary Committee. All communication in such matters is required to be carried out through the AIFF.

ARTICLE 131: PROCEDURE

1. The Chairman shall make his decision based on the evidence available at the time.
2. He is not obliged to hear the parties.

ARTICLE 132: DECISION

1. The Chairman delivers his decision immediately.
2. That decision may be implemented immediately.

ARTICLE 133: DURATION

1. Provisional measures may not be valid for longer than 30 days.
2. This period may be extended only once by 20 days.
3. If a sanction has been pronounced provisionally, the duration shall be offset against any final sanction.

ARTICLE 134: APPROVAL OF APPEAL

The appeal will be admitted only if the contested decision is factually incorrect and/or is contrary to law.

SUBSECTION 2. DELIBERATIONS AND DECISION-TAKING WITHOUT MEETING

ARTICLE 135

1. If the circumstances so require, the secretariat may arrange the

deliberations and decision taking to be conducted via telephone conference, electronic mail, audio/video conference or any other similar method.

2. Art. 112 par. 2 is, in this case, not applicable.
3. The secretary takes minutes as if it were an ordinary meeting in the case of telephonic discussions or audio/video conferencing discussions, and where, for deliberations conducted or consent provided over electronic mail, transcripts/electronic mail records of the same shall suffice as minutes of such meeting.

SUBSECTION 3. EXTENDING SANCTIONS TO HAVE EFFECT AT NATIONAL/INTERNATIONAL LEVEL

ARTICLE 136: REQUEST

1. If the infringement is serious, in particular but not limited to, unlawfully influencing match results (cf. art. 70), misconduct against match officials (cf. art. 50), forgery and falsification (cf. art. 62) or violation of the rules governing age limits (cf. art. 69 a), the Member Associations and clubs shall request AIFF to extend the sanctions they have imposed so as to have effect at National/International level.
4. Any doping-related legally binding sanction imposed by another international sports association, national anti-doping organisation or any other state body shall automatically be adopted by AIFF to have effect at National/International level.
5. The request shall be submitted in writing and enclose a certified copy matching the decision. It shall show the name and address of the person who has been sanctioned and that of the club

and the Member Association concerned.

6. If the judicial bodies of AIFF discover that Member Associations and/or clubs have not requested a decision in relations to a serious infringement to be extended at National/International level, these bodies may themselves pass a decision.

ARTICLE 137: CONDITIONS

The request for sanctions to be extended will be approved if:

- a) the person sanctioned has been cited properly;
- b) he has had the opportunity to state his case;
- c) the decision has been communicated properly;
- d) the decision complies with the regulations of AIFF;
- e) extending the sanction does not conflict with public order and accepted standards of behaviour.

ARTICLE 138: PROCEDURE

1. The Chairman makes his decision, in principle, without negotiations or hearing any of the parties, using only the material on record.
2. He may exceptionally decide to summon the parties concerned.

ARTICLE 139: DECISION

3. The Chairman is restricted to ascertaining that the conditions of art. 138 have been fulfilled. He may not review the substance of the decision.
4. He either grants or refuses to grant the request to have the

sanction extended.

ARTICLE 140: EFFECT

5. A sanction imposed by a Member Association has the same effect in each Member Association of AIFF as if the sanction had been imposed by any one of them, which shall be ratified by the AIFF.
6. If a decision that is not yet final in a legal sense is extended to have effect at National level, any decision regarding extension shall always be based on the content of the Member Association's current decision.

ARTICLE 141: APPEAL

1. The provisions of art. 120. shall apply, subject to par. 2 of this article, to any appeal lodged against a decision passed by the AIFF Disciplinary Committee or the AIFF Player Status Committee.
2. Any appeal pertaining to extending sanctions to have effect at national/international levels may only refer to the terms set out in art.137 and 138. It is inadmissible to question the substance of the initial decision for such cases.

SUBSECTION 4. REVIEW

ARTICLE 142

1. A review may be requested after a legally binding decision has been passed if a party discovers facts or proof that would have resulted in a more favourable decision and that, even with due diligence, could not have been produced sooner.

2. A request for review shall be made within ten days of discovering the reasons for review unless otherwise specified in concerned regulations.
3. The limitation period for submitting a request for review is one year after the enforcement of the decision, unless otherwise specified in concerned regulations.

ARTICLE 143: SCOPE OF THE CODE, OMISSIONS, CUSTOM, DOCTRINE AND JURISPRUDENCE

1. This Code governs every subject to which the text or the meaning of its provisions refers.
2. If there are any omissions in this Code, the judicial bodies will decide in accordance with the AIFF's custom. or in the absence of custom, in accordance with the principles of equity.
3. During all their operations, the judicial bodies of AIFF draw on settlements already established by sports doctrine and jurisprudence.

ARTICLE 144: AIFF CONSTITUTION

To the extent that this Disciplinary Code is inconsistent with the AIFF Constitution, the AIFF Constitution shall prevail.

ARTICLE 145: MATTERS NOT TO BE TAKEN TO COURT

Recourse to ordinary courts of law is prohibited before exhausting all remedies provided in AIFF Regulations unless specifically provided for in the AIFF and FIFA Regulations.

ARTICLE 145 A: MATTERS NOT PROVIDED FOR

Any matter not provided for under these or other applicable

AIFF Regulations shall be settled by the Disciplinary Committee using the applicable laws of India and concept of natural justice.

ARTICLE 146: ADOPTION AND ENFORCEMENT

The AIFF Executive Committee adopted this code on August 1, 2013, which comes into force with immediate effect. Subsequent amendments and revisions were carried out for the 2018-19 and 2019-20 seasons with prospective effect.

For the AIFF Executive Committee:

Praful M Patel
President

Kushal Das
General Secretary