



# 2023 REGULATIONS



## Purpose and Applications

These Regulations for the Singapore Football League (SFL) are promulgated by the Football Association of Singapore (FAS) to regulate and govern the conduct, operations and administration of the SFL, all Clubs, League and Club Officials, Match Officials, Referees, Players, and other related stakeholders as cited within these Regulations.

## Scope of Application

These Regulations shall be used at all times in conjunction with all other governing documents and regulations of the SFL as issued from time to time. These Regulations shall be binding on the SFL, all Clubs in the Competition, League and Club Officials, Referees, Players and other stakeholders and partners as cited within these Regulations and other FAS governing documents.

## Enforcement

Any breach of any of the provisions of these Regulations shall be enforced by the imposition of action and possible sanctions pursuant to the FIFA, AFC and/or FAS Disciplinary Code as may be subsequently issued.

## Definition and Interpretation

Unless otherwise indicated, words and expressions in these Regulations shall have the same meaning as in other governing documents of the FAS. Any interpretation of provision of these Regulations shall at all times be the interpretation that best achieves the objectives of the FAS.

## Amendments

Any part of these Regulations may be amended from time to time, provided that any such amendments are formalized after appropriate consultation with the relevant committees of the FAS and approved by FAS Exco.

## DEFINITIONS

Unless the contrary appears from the context in this and the following Sections,

Club	An amateur club which participates in the Singapore Football League (SFL) and Football Association (FA) Cup in membership to the Football Association of Singapore.
Council	The Council of the Football Association of Singapore.
Exco	The Executive Committee of the Football Association of Singapore, and any decision made by the Exco shall be deemed to be the decision of the Council.
FAS	The Football Association of Singapore.
FIFA	The Federation Internationale De Football Association.
GS FAS	The General Secretary, Football Association of Singapore.
He / His	Used for any persons, whether Male or Female.
Director, Competitions	The Director of Competitions Department, Football Association of Singapore.
Person	Any company or association or body of persons, whether incorporated or not.
Public	Any class of the public or any community.
Match	Any match in any tournament organized by the Football Association of Singapore and/or sanctioned pursuant to these Rules.
Season	A particular calendar year in which the Singapore Football League (SFL) and the Football Association Cup (FA Cup) take place.
Competition / League	Refers to the Singapore Football League (SFL) and the Football Association Cup (FA Cup).
Manual	The FAS Competitions Operation Manual.
Dollars	The Singapore Dollar.

Laws of the Game	The Official Laws of the Game as promulgated by IFAB and enforced by FIFA.
Match Official	A referee, assistant referee, fourth official, match commissioner, referee assessor or any person in charge of safety or any person appointed by FAS to assume responsibility in connection with a match.
Official	Club Official - the administration, management or organization of a Club (whether paid or unpaid), including employees, contractors, consultants, officers and directors and representatives; or  Team Official - the management, preparation or participation of a Club's team (whether paid or unpaid) including the coaches, managers, medical staff (including Sports Trainer), kitman and other support staff.
Registration Window	First Registration Window - The period starting on 1 March and ending on 12 May 2023;  Second Registration Window - The period starting on 26 June and ending 28 July 2023 for registrations for sport related reasons.

## SECTION A: COMPOSITION OF THE LEAGUE

### 1. Composition of the League

- 1.1. The FAS organizes, manages, and runs the Singapore Football League in Singapore, through a combination of football Clubs, known as the “Singapore Football League”.
- 1.2. The League shall include the following competitions:
  - 1.2.1. Singapore Football League;
  - 1.2.2. Football Association Cup;
  - 1.2.3. Any other competition which the FAS may decide to organize;
  - 1.2.4. Any other competitions which the FAS may sanction.
- 1.3. The above competitions shall be governed by these Regulations and shall be played in accordance with the FIFA Laws of the Game.
- 1.4. These Regulations and all directives, decisions, guidelines, and circulars issued by the FAS shall be binding upon all parties participating and involved in the preparation, organization, and hosting of Matches in the Competition.
- 1.5. The League shall be spread over as much of a year, be divided into two (2) Tournaments namely, the Singapore Football League and the Football Association Cup.
- 1.6. Any reference to the FAS Constitution, FIFA regulations and Laws of the Game refer to those valid at the time of application.
- 1.7. The Exco or the Council shall appoint a Competitions Committee, an Administrative and Finance Committee, a Marketing Committee, a Players Status Committee or other Committee or Committees in their respective terms and Rules there under, if any shall determine the format, timing, and venues of, and all other rules relating to match or matches, and any play-offs thereof, or regulating Players, Coaches, or any other key personnel, their contracts of service, their registrations, administration and management thereof, and the use of the stadia or anything relating thereto, and/or anything relevant and desirable for promoting football in Singapore.
- 1.8. Such Committee or Committees, so appointed from time to time, shall promote, provide for, regulate, publish, where necessary, manage all or on any details or arrangements or other things necessary or desirable for or ancillary to the comfort, conduct, management, convenience or benefit of the game, the League and/or the Clubs thereunder and/or its members thereof.
- 1.9. Save as otherwise expressly provided for by these Regulations, all such decisions and ruling of the Committee shall be deemed to be decisions of the Exco or the Council as per these Regulations in these Sections hereinafter

appearing, the Exco being deemed the supreme body and the final decider and/or decision-maker.



## **SECTION B: RESPONSIBILITIES**

### **2. The Football Association of Singapore**

- 2.1. The FAS Competitions Department shall be responsible for organizing the Competition in accordance with the Manual and/or these Regulations.
- 2.2. The responsibilities of the FAS shall include, but are not limited to;
  - 2.2.1. Supervising general preparations and deciding on the Competition format, draws and entries;
  - 2.2.2. Determining the Competition Schedule;
  - 2.2.3. Selecting the match venues for the Competition;
  - 2.2.4. Appointing of Match Officials for each Match;
  - 2.2.5. Choosing the official football and stipulated technical material;
  - 2.2.6. Reporting cases where appropriate to the FAS Disciplinary Committee;
  - 2.2.7. Replacing Participating Clubs that have withdrawn from the Competition;
  - 2.2.8. Dealing with cases of cancelled or abandoned Matches;
  - 2.2.9. Dealing with cases of Force Majeure; and
  - 2.2.10. Dealing with any Matters Not Provided For.
- 2.3. All decisions made by the FAS Competitions Committee and/or FAS Competitions Department are final and binding and not appealable.
- 2.4. All decisions made by the FAS Disciplinary Committee in relation to the Competition are in reference to these Regulations and/or the FIFA/AFC/FAS Disciplinary Code.

### **3. Participating Clubs**

- 3.1. The principal obligations and responsibilities of each Participating Club are stipulated in the Participating Team Agreement (PTA), these Regulations, the Manual, the FAS Constitution and all other FAS regulations, directives, guidelines and circulars.
  - 3.1.1. Each Participating Club shall submit a PTA in order to participate in this Competition.
  - 3.1.2. Each Participating Club shall have made full payment and be clear of all outstanding Sanctions/Offer of Compositions and/or Fines imposed in order to participate in this Competition.
  - 3.1.3. The PTA and other such documents as requested by the FAS shall be completed and submitted to FAS in accordance with the deadline stipulated by the FAS.
  - 3.1.4. Failure to submit the PTA to the FAS by the stipulated deadline shall result in the non-participation of the Club in this competition.
- 3.2. Each Participating Club shall ensure as a condition of its participation that every member of its official Team Delegation is aware and complies with the PTA.

- 3.3. In all matters and transactions relating to the League, each Club shall behave towards each other and FAS or its Departments or its Committees with utmost good faith.
- 3.4. Each participating Club shall undertake to:
  - 3.4.1. Observe all obligations set out in the PTA, these Regulations, the Manual, the FAS Constitution and all other FAS regulations, derivatives, guidelines and circulars;
  - 3.4.2. Comply with the FIFA Laws of the Game;
  - 3.4.3. Accept that all the administrative, disciplinary and refereeing matters connected with the Competition shall be settled by the FAS in compliance with these Regulations;
  - 3.4.4. Observe the principles of Fair Play;
  - 3.4.5. Ensure the good conduct of its official Team Delegation who are registered and any person carrying out duties on its behalf throughout the Competition;
    - 3.4.5.1. Failure to ensure the good conduct of its official Team Delegation may result in the Club being issued with a fine;
    - 3.4.5.2. The FAS Disciplinary Committee may issue further sanctions at its discretion;
  - 3.4.6. Observe the Official Match Countdown and all other Match-related protocol notified by the FAS;
- 3.5. No player/official, its employees of a club or agents shall by any means whatsoever unfairly criticize, disparage, belittle or discredit any other Club or FAS or its Departments or its Committee or in either case any of its directors, officials, employees or agents or bring football into disrepute.
- 3.6. During or after its membership in the Competition, a Club shall not disclose, divulge either directly or indirectly to any person, firm/company or otherwise make use of any confidential information as to the business or finance of the FAS or its Departments or its Committees or any of its dealings, transactions or affairs or as to any other matters which may come to its knowledge by reason of its membership without FAS's prior written consent, save as to statutory and regulatory authorities and to such employees of a team to whom such disclosure is strictly necessary for purpose of their duties and only then to the extent so necessary.
- 3.7. Each Club shall procure that each of its officials, employees and players are made aware of the provisions of Articles 3.5 and 3.6 above.
- 3.8. Membership of the League shall constitute an agreement between FAS and each Club, and between each of the Clubs, to be bound by and to comply with:
  - 3.8.1. These Regulations (each as altered, revoked or added to from time to time);
  - 3.8.2. The Constitution of FAS (each as altered, revoked or added to from time to time);



- 3.8.3. Such other Regulations that are applicable to the Clubs partaking in tournaments organized and/or sanctioned by FAS;
  - 3.8.4. Such decisions of the Exco or the Council of FAS;
  - 3.8.5. The Laws of the Game as laid down from time to time by FIFA as adopted by FAS or otherwise;
  - 3.8.6. Such agreement shall have effect from the date of the Club's admission to the League and terminate upon the Club ceasing to be a member thereof (but without prejudice to any rights or claims which may have arisen in respect of circumstances prior to such a date and to any Rules which, by their terms, establish rights and obligations applicable after such a date) and/or pursuant to any resolution of FAS, through the Exco and/or the Council.
- 3.9. Any Club found to be in breach of these Regulations herein shall be deemed guilty of misconduct.

## **SECTION C: ENTRY, WITHDRAWAL, COMPETITION SCHEDULE & SYSTEM**

### **4. Entry**

- 4.1. Any Club participating in the Competition shall be affiliated to the FAS or receive an official Notice of Invitation to participate by the FAS.
- 4.2. The Exco or the Council reserves before, during or after any Season, the right to determine at all material times and at their absolute discretion the membership of any Club in the League which fails to meet the criteria and/or requirements, from time to time, of FAS.
- 4.3. A Club eligible to participate in the Competition shall also be required to satisfy any other criteria for continuing its membership in the Competition as shall from time to time be sanctioned by the Exco or the Council and/or through the Rules formulated and sanctioned by FAS Standing Committee.
- 4.4. The name of the Clubs participating in the League shall contain and include any landmarks, roads, locations, associations and/or heritages located in Singapore.

### **5. Withdrawal Prior to Commencement of the Competition**

- 5.1. Any Club that enters the League shall undertake to play all its matches as set out in the Competition Schedule, determined by the FAS Competitions Department.
- 5.2. If a Club withdraws from the League before its commencement, the Club shall be fined a minimum sum of Two Thousand Dollars (SGD\$2,000.00).
- 5.3. The FAS Competitions Committee may refuse any future application made by the Club to participate in the League and impose any other sanctions as the Committee may determine.
- 5.4. The FAS Disciplinary Committee may impose further sanctions in its discretion.
- 5.5. In the case of a Club withdrawing or being excluded from the League, the FAS Competitions Committee shall be responsible for making any necessary decisions, including but not limited to;
  - 5.5.1. Replace the Club;
  - 5.5.2. Change the Competition System
  - 5.5.3. Change the Regulations
- 5.6. All decisions made by the Committee in this regard are final and binding.

## **6. Withdrawal After Commencement of the Competition**

- 6.1. A Club shall be considered to have withdrawn from the League after its commencement if the Club;
  - 6.1.1. Withdraws from the League after it has commenced; or
  - 6.1.2. Does not report for a Match; or
  - 6.1.3. Refuses to continue with a Match; or
  - 6.1.4. Leaves the stadium prior to completion of a Match.
- 6.2. If a Club withdraws from the League after its commencement, the Club shall be fined a minimum sum of Three Thousand Dollars (SGD\$3,000.00), and the Club shall be suspended from participating in the League for a period of minimum One (1) Season, not including the Season in which the Club withdrew from.
- 6.3. The FAS Competitions Committee may refuse any future application made by the Club to participate in any competition and impose any other sanctions as the Committee may determine.
- 6.4. The results of all matches played by and against the Club prior to this withdrawal shall be declared null and void as if the Club had not participated in the competition.
- 6.5. The results of all FA Cup matches played by and against the Club prior to its withdrawal shall stand and remain unchanged.
- 6.6. The Competition format, including but not limited to the relegation and promotion procedures, shall remain as stipulated in this Regulations and are not affected by the withdrawn Club, as if the Club had not participated in the League.

## **7. Expulsion of Club**

- 7.1. If a Club is expelled from the League, the following shall apply;
  - 7.1.1. The expelled Club shall not be allowed to continue its participation in the current season of the League.
  - 7.1.2. The expelled Club shall not be allowed to participate in future SFL, IWL and FA Cup competitions for a period of minimum one (1) season, not including the season in which the Club was expelled from.
  - 7.1.3. Pursuant to Article 7.1.2., the expelled Club shall, after having served the duration of expulsion, be allowed re-entry into the League only through the IWL, or any other qualifying competition to the SFL which may be organized by FAS.
  - 7.1.4. The FAS shall withdraw any or all financial privileges given by the FAS to the Club for the entire period of expulsion.
  - 7.1.5. The results of all matches played by and against the Club prior to its expulsion shall be declared null and void as if the Club had not participated in the League. The Club shall also lose its current position in the League

standings and status in the League as if the Club had not participated in the League.

- 7.1.6. The Competition format, including but not limited to the relegation and promotion procedures, shall remain as stipulated in the Regulations and are not affected by the expelled Club, as if the Club had not participated in the League.
- 7.1.7. The results of all FA Cup matches played by and against the Club prior to its expulsion shall stand and remain unchanged.

## **8. Competition Schedule**

- 8.1. All matches in the League shall be arranged as soon as possible prior to the commencement of the Season. The copyright in all lists or arrangements or such fixtures in any Competition in any Season or of any match sanctioned by the Competitions Committee shall be vested in FAS.
- 8.2. All matches shall, unless re-arranged with the approval of the Competitions Department, be played on the dates and venues scheduled at the commencement of the Season.
- 8.3. All kick-offs shall adhere to the time stipulated by the FAS Competitions Department. No grace period shall be permitted except for inclement weather conditions. In cases of inclement weather conditions, a minimum thirty (30) minutes grace period shall be observed. The Match Commissioners and Match Officials shall report any delays at the scheduled time of kick-off and the start of the second half.
- 8.4. Any Club causing a kick-off to be delayed beyond the stipulated time of kick-off shall be deemed guilty of misconduct. The FAS Competitions Department may impose any sanctions as it may determine and/or refer the Club to the FAS Disciplinary Committee for further sanctions.
- 8.5. All decisions made in this regard are final and binding.

## **9. Competition Format**

- 9.1. The SFL is played on a 'home' and 'away' round robin League basis.
- 9.2. Three (3) points shall be awarded for a win. One (1) point to both teams involved in a drawn match, and no points to a losing team.
- 9.3. The team which accumulates the greatest number of points at the end of the Competition shall be declared Champion.
- 9.4. In the event that two (2) or more teams have accumulated a similar number of points, then the higher placed team shall be the team which has a greater goal difference i.e. number of goals conceded subtracted from the number of goals scored.

- 9.5. In the event that two (2) or more teams have a similar goal difference, then the higher placed team shall be the team which scores the greater number of goals.
- 9.6. In the event that two (2) or more teams score a similar number of goals, then the higher placed team shall be the team which attains the greater number of wins.
- 9.7. In the event that two (2) or more teams attain the same number of wins, then the higher placed team shall be the team which attains the higher number of points from the matches played between the teams in question.
- 9.8. In the event that two (2) or more teams attain the same number of points from the matches played between the teams in question, then the higher placed team shall be the team which has the greater goal difference from the matches played between the teams in question.
- 9.9. In the event that two (2) or more teams have a similar goal difference from the matches played between the teams in question, then the higher placed team shall be the team which scored the greater number of goals from the matches played between the teams in question.
- 9.10. In the event that two (2) or more teams score a similar number of goals from the matches played between the teams in question, then the higher placed team shall be the team which attains the greater number of wins from the matches played between the teams in question.
- 9.11. In the event that two (2) or more teams cannot be separated using the above criteria, the winner shall be decided by the team having the higher standing in the fair play table.
- 9.12. In the event that two (2) or more teams have the same standings in the fair play table, a play-off shall determine the winner.

## **10. Promotion & Relegation**

- 10.1. At the conclusion of the 2023 SFL Season, the bottom two (2) teams of the SFL Division One shall be relegated to the SFL Division Two for the following season.
- 10.2. At the conclusion of the 2023 SFL Season, the top two (2) teams of the SFL Division Two shall be promoted to the SFL Division One for the following season.
- 10.3. At the conclusion of the 2023 SFL Season, the bottom two (2) teams of the SFL Division Two shall be relegated to the Island-Wide League (IWL) for the following season.

- 10.4. At the conclusion of the Island-Wide League (IWL) 2023 Season, the two (2) finalists of the IWL shall be promoted to the SFL Division Two for the following season.
- 10.5. The FAS Competitions Committee may in its absolute discretion make amendments to Articles 10.1, 10.2, 10.3 and 10.4 above.

## **11. Football Association (FA) Cup**

- 11.1. Unless stipulated or expressed otherwise, The FA Cup Competition shall be governed by these Regulations under these sections and in accordance with the Manual as part of the League.
- 11.2. The Competition shall be open to all Clubs taking part in the Singapore Football League and Island Wide League.
- 11.3. The Council may invite any other Club to participate in this Competition. The Council may also in its absolute discretion reject the entry of any Club.
- 11.4. The draw of the Competition shall be done at least one month before the commencement of the preliminary rounds. The first named team in the fixture bracket shall be considered the 'home' team.
- 11.5. The Competition shall be played based on a single-leg knockout system. The Committee reserves the right to vary the format.
- 11.6. The winner for the preliminary round matches shall be the team that scores the greater number of goals in 90 minutes of regulation time. In the event the scores are tied after 90 minutes of regulation time, the winner shall be decided by kicks from the penalty mark.
- 11.7. For the Final match, the winner of the match shall be the team that scores the greater number of goals in 90 minutes of regulation time. In the event the scores are tied after 90 minutes of regulation time, 30 minutes of extra time (two halves of 15 minutes each) shall be played. The winner shall be the team that scores the greater number of goals in the 30 minutes of extra time. In the event that the scores are still tied after 30 minutes of extra time, the winner shall be determined by kicks from the penalty mark.

## **SECTION D: TECHNICAL REGULATIONS**

### **12. Duration of Matches**

- 12.1. All League Matches shall be of ninety (90) minutes' duration (forty-five (45) minutes for each half) but any Match which for any cause whatever falls short of ninety (90) minutes' duration may be ordered to count as a completed fixture or to be replayed in full as the FAS Competitions Department may in its absolute discretion determine.
- 12.2. The half-time interval shall not exceed fifteen (15) minutes, from whistle to whistle.

### **13. Fixture Scheduling Policy**

- 13.1. All matches shall be arranged with a minimum of forty-eight (48) hours of rest for all clubs between its previous and the next match.
- 13.2. All clubs shall submit any block-out date requests to FAS Competitions Department at least one (1) month before the commencement of the League. All requests are subject to approval from the FAS Competitions Department/Committee.
- 13.3. With the exception of extenuating circumstances, no request for postponement or rescheduling of a match from a club shall be permitted after the commencement of the League.
- 13.4. A club may request for a postponement and rescheduling of a match if at least four (4) or more players from their squad have been officially called up to represent the National Team, National Age Group Teams or representative teams in any official international match or competition sanctioned either by the FAS or a Member Organization of FIFA.

### **14. Cancellation of Matches**

- 14.1. For any Match which is cancelled as a result of Force Majeure, the FAS Competitions Committee shall decide on the matter at its sole discretion and take whatever action is deemed necessary.
- 14.2. Any Match which is cancelled not as a result of Force Majeure as deemed by the FAS Competitions Committee, may lead to the imposition of sanctions by the FAS Disciplinary Committee against the errant party.

## 15. Abandonment of Matches

- 15.1. For any Match which is abandoned as a result of Force Majeure, the FAS Competitions Committee shall decide on the matter at its sole discretion and take whatever action is deemed necessary.
- 15.2. Any Match which is abandoned not as a result of Force Majeure as deemed by the FAS Competitions Committee, may lead to the imposition of sanctions by the FAS Disciplinary Committee against the errant party.
- 15.3. An abandoned/postponed match shall not be considered as the match where a suspended player has served the suspension; the suspended player shall serve the suspension in the immediate match following the abandoned/postponed match. If an abandoned match is to be replayed, any caution issued during that match shall be annulled but a red card received by a player in an abandoned match shall count and the appropriate sanction shall follow. The replay of the abandoned match shall not be considered as the match where the errant player has served the suspension. 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, then all of the cautions are upheld.
- 15.4. In the event where the match is postponed or abandoned through the fault of a team, the result shall be decided by the FAS Competitions Committee as to whether there should be a replay. The Competitions Committee reserves the right to take whatever action they deem fit against the infringing team, including but not limited to imposing a penalty on the team.
- 15.5. If a match is abandoned, suspension is only considered to have been served if the team to which the suspended player belongs is not responsible for the facts that led to the abandonment of the match.
- 15.6. In the event where a match is abandoned before the 80<sup>th</sup> minute of play (ie. Between 0 to 79 minutes) as determined by the Match Official, the match shall be replayed. The score of the abandoned match shall be considered null and void, and the replay shall start as a new match playing the ninety (90) minutes of regulation time with a score of 0-0.
- 15.7. In the event where a match is abandoned on or after the 80<sup>th</sup> minute of play as determined by the Match Official, the result of the match shall stand, and the match shall be deemed as played.

## 16. Technical Area

- 16.1. The technical area shall be considered as extending one (1) meter on either side of the designated seated area and shall extend forward up to a distance of one (1) meter away from the touch-line.



- 16.2. The occupants of the technical area shall be identified by the Fourth Official and/or the Match Commissioner before the commencement of the match.
- 16.3. No player who has been given the red card (or any suspended Player or Official) shall be permitted to sit in the technical area or be allowed to be in the vicinity of the field of play).
- 16.4. Only one (1) Official in the technical area at a time has the authority to convey tactical instructions.
- 16.5. The coach and other officials shall remain within the confines of the technical area except in special circumstances, for example, a doctor and/or a physiotherapist and/or a Sports Trainer or a first aid nurse (s) can enter the field of play with the Referee's permission to treat an injured player.
- 16.6. The coach and other occupants of the technical area shall conduct themselves at all times in a responsible manner.
- 16.7. Only a maximum of seven (7) registered officials and seven (7) substitute players are allowed to be on the substitutes' bench.

## **17. Footballs**

- 17.1. The footballs for the Competition shall be selected and supplied by FAS.
- 17.2. Each participating club shall receive twenty (20) Match Balls prior to commencement of the Competition.
- 17.3. The Home Team of every match shall provide a minimum of three (3) Match Balls supplied by FAS.

## **18. Player Selection List**

- 18.1. For all Matches, each Club shall receive a 'Player Selection List' on which the jersey numbers and names of the Players are listed, minimum two (2) days prior to the Match.
- 18.2. The Club shall indicate in the Player Selection List, the starting players taking part in the game and a maximum of seven (7) substitutes to the Match Commissioner, no later than fifteen (15) minutes before the scheduled time of kick-off. The Club is liable for disciplinary action for failure to submit the Player Selection List on time.
- 18.3. Once the Player Selection List is submitted to the Match Commissioner, The Match Commissioner shall produce the Player Start List, as an official document signed by both teams and the Match Commissioner, and if the match has not yet kicked-off, the following instructions apply:

- 18.3.1. If any of the eleven (11) players listed on the Player Start List selected to start the match are not able to start the match for any reason, they may be replaced by any of the named substitutes. Such replacements shall reduce the quota of substitute players accordingly. The player being replaced cannot be renamed as a substitute. During the match, five (5) substitutions may still be made by the Club.
- 18.3.2. If any of the substitutes named on the Player Start List is not able to be fielded for any reason, they may not be replaced, which means that the quota of substitute players shall be reduced accordingly.
- 18.4. Any Club/team failing to carry out these provisions shall be fined a sum of One Thousand Dollars (SGD\$1,000.00) for the first offence, Two Thousand Dollars (SGD\$2,000.00) for the second offence and for any subsequent offence shall be deemed guilty of misconduct and may be referred to the FAS Disciplinary Committee.

## **19. Substitute Players**

- 19.1. Each Club is permitted a maximum of five (5) named substitutions; a maximum of seven (7) substitutes may be nominated and their names shall be included on the Player Selection List submitted to the Match Commissioner before the match with accordance with Article 18.2.

## **20. Player Identification**

- 20.1. The Players' jerseys shall be clearly numbered on the back in accordance with the registration of players and with the Player Selection List submitted to the Match Commissioner before the match. The registration of players' numbers and its conditions are:
- 20.1.1. Each player shall be allocated a different number from numbers 1 to 99.
- 20.1.2. A player's number shall remain with him for the duration of the Season unless either:
- 20.1.2.1. He ceases to play for the Club; or
- 20.1.2.2. For other reasons that are deemed satisfactory to the FAS Competitions Committee as per the Regulations
- 20.1.3. Any new players registered during the season shall not be registered with a number that had been allocated to any other player in the same club during the season.
- 20.2. Pursuant to the above, any Club which fields a Player in a match wearing a jersey not carrying the number allocated to him shall be fined a minimum sum of Five Hundred Dollars (SGD\$500.00).
- 20.3. Before the match commences, the Team Manager or his team official acting as the Team Manager of each team shall notify the Match Commissioner the Captain of the team. The Captain shall wear the "Respect Campaign" armband issued by the FAS Competitions Department to indicate his status.

- 20.4. Pursuant to the above, a club whose Captain fails to wear the “Respect Campaign” armband issued by the FAS Competitions Department shall be fined a sum of Five Hundred Dollars (SGD\$500.00).
- 20.5. The Match Commissioner shall, fifteen (15) minutes before the stipulated kick-off time, check the Letter of Authorization (LOA) of the Players named in the Player Selection List to ensure that it is in order, and that the Player is eligible to play.

## **21. 2.4km Fitness Test**

- 21.1. All registered players shall be required to pass the mandatory 2.4km Fitness Test, before they are eligible to participate in the League.
- 21.2. All outfield players shall meet the minimum passing time of twelve (12) minutes and thirty (30) seconds or below to be eligible for participation in the League.
- 21.3. All goalkeepers shall meet the minimum passing time of fourteen (14) minutes and thirty (30) seconds or below to be eligible for participation in the League.
- 21.4. A player shall be exempted from the mandatory 2.4km Fitness Test if the player is able to provide an official Individual Physical Proficiency Test (IPPT) Results slip, and the result meets the minimum passing requirement for participation in the League. The result slip submitted shall be dated within six (6) months from the player’s date of registration in the League.
- 21.5. In the event that any club and/or player(s) who is caught cheating or attempting to cheat during the test, the player shall be banned from being registered for the League for a duration of a minimum of two (2) seasons, excluding the season in which he is banned from. The club and/or player(s) each shall be fined a sum of minimum Two Thousand Dollars (SGD\$2,000.00) and referred to the FAS Disciplinary Committee for further sanctions.

## **22. Club Protest**

- 22.1. Any Club intending to lodge a protest against their opponents for any violation of the Tournament procedure in or about the Match shall do so in writing signed by the General/Club Manager or Hon. Secretary of the Club or a responsible Official of the Club to the FAS Competitions Department within forty-eight (48) hours from the end of the Match with a deposit of One Thousand Dollars (SGD\$1,000.00).
- 22.2. Pursuant to article 22.1 above, any protest(s)/complaints lodged by Clubs without meeting the conditions stipulated in article 22.5 below, shall not be entertained by the FAS Competitions Department.
- 22.3. No protest shall be lodged relating to the Referee’s decisions regarding facts connected with play. Such decisions are final and binding and not subject to appeal.

- 22.4. In cases where a decision by the Referee involves an obvious error (such as mistaking the identity of the person penalised), the FAS Committee and/or judicial bodies may only review the disciplinary consequences of that decision. In cases of mistaken identity, the relevant proceedings may be opened against the person who was actually at fault.
- 22.5. Any Club intending to lodge a protest against the Referee's decision at a match shall abide by the following procedure:
- 22.5.1. The Team Manager or a responsible official of the Club shall notify the Match Commissioner immediately after the relevant match that he shall be filing an official protest. The Match Commissioner shall reflect this in his report and submit a detailed report on the incident.
  - 22.5.2. The Team Manager/official must then send in a full written report (including the appropriate Protest Form issued by the FAS General Secretariat) of his official protest to the FAS Competitions Department within forty-eight (48) hours, following the end of the relevant match, accompanied by a fee of One Thousand Dollars (SGD\$1,000.00).
  - 22.5.3. On receiving the protest, the Director, Competitions, after studying the relevant reports, shall decide on the outcome where possible.
  - 22.5.4. When no decision can be ascertained, the FAS Referees' Department and/or FAS Committees may be consulted.
  - 22.5.5. The player pending the appeal shall have to serve his mandatory suspension until a decision is arrived at by the Director, Competitions.
  - 22.5.6. All decisions pertaining to the protest shall be binding and final.
  - 22.5.7. Where the Referee's decision is upheld, the Director, Competitions, shall decide whether the Club shall have to forfeit the One Thousand Dollars (SGD\$1,000.00) imposed on the Club and where the Referee's decision is overruled, the One Thousand Dollars (SGD\$1,000.00) deposit may be refunded to the Club.
- 22.6. The FAS Committee and/or judicial bodies are also responsible for:
- 22.6.1. sanctioning serious infringements which have escaped the Match Official's attention; and
  - 22.6.2. rectifying obvious errors in the Referee's disciplinary decisions.

## **SECTION E: PLAYER & OFFICIAL REGISTRATION**

### **23. List of Players**

23.1. All Players playing in the League shall be classified as:

#### 23.1.1. Amateurs

23.2. An amateur Player is defined as one who may be paid his actual expenses involved in playing football, e.g. travelling allowance, etc. Players who have never received remuneration other than for actual expenses incurred during the course of their participation in or for any activity connected with association football shall be regarded as amateur. To this effect, meal allowances, travel and hotel expenses incurred through involvement in a match and the cost of a Player's equipment, insurance and training, may be reimbursed without jeopardizing a Player's amateur status.

### **24. Training Compensation**

24.1. Should an amateur player from the Singapore Football League, regardless of age, registered with an SFL Club is transferred to an SPL club, and registered as a SPL player, on either a non-amateur or amateur capacity, the last SFL Club in which the player represented shall be entitled to a one-time compensation fee of Three Thousand Dollars (SGD\$3,000.00) from the SPL Club, for training and development of the player.

24.2. Compensation for training and development shall not be payable for SFL players playing for both Police Sports Association (PSA) and Singapore Armed Forces Sports Association (SAFSA) while serving their National Service.

24.3. Compensation for training and development shall not be payable for SFL players who have previously played for any SPL, S.League, Prime League or one of its Centre of Excellence (COE) teams, on either a non-amateur or amateur capacity, prior to playing in the SFL.

24.4. If the player had represented two (2) SFL clubs in the preceding season before his transfer to an SPL club, the fixed quantum of one-time compensation shall be shared equally between both SFL clubs.

### **25. Eligibility of Players**

25.1. Each Club shall ensure that all players are duly registered with FAS pursuant to these Regulations and its transfer regulations.

25.2. A Registered Player is one who has been registered and approved by FAS before playing in any competitions organized and sanctioned by FAS or the Competitions Department and/or Competitions Committee.

- 25.3. The responsibility lies on the Player and his Club to ensure that they have received a proper release (Local Transfer Certificate or International Transfer Certificate) of the Player from his previous Club/Country.
- 25.4. Club Officials are responsible to ensure that all details in the Registration Documents are true and correct before submission to the FAS office and accompanied with all the relevant documents.
- 25.5. An Eligible Player for a particular Match is one who:
- 25.5.1. Is not serving a suspension as a result of a caution/dismissal in a match; or
  - 25.5.2. Is not serving a suspension as a result of an FAS Disciplinary Committee verdict; or
  - 25.5.3. Has passed the mandatory 2.4km Fitness Test.
- 25.6. A Player shall be deemed ineligible, without limitation, if:
- 25.6.1. There is a violation of Articles 25.4 or 25.5; or
  - 25.6.2. The FAS determines that any document submitted during registration is false or inadequate.

## **26. Breach of Conditions of Eligibility**

- 26.1. Should a Club field an ineligible and/or a suspended player, or field a registered player in the starting line-up who has been named as a substitute, or without the player's name being indicated so either in the starting line-up or as a substitute in accordance with the Player Start List and the procedures in accordance with the Manual, the infringing team may be fined a sum of up to Two Thousand Dollars (SGD\$2,000.00) and/or in addition three (3) points shall be awarded to the opposing non-infringing team, and the score of the Match concerned to remain/or a three (3) – nil (0) shall be awarded to the said non-infringing team, whichever is greater. At the discretion of the FAS Competitions Committee, the infringing club/player may be referred to the FAS Disciplinary Committee for further sanctions.

## **27. Registration and Transfer of Players**

- 27.1. There shall be two (2) Registration Windows for the registration of players:
- 27.1.1. First Registration Window – The period starting on 1 March and ending on 12 May 2023;
  - 27.1.2. Second Registration Window – The period starting on 26 June and ending 28 July 2023.
- 27.2. Clubs in the League can change as many of their local and foreign Players during the registration window on any dates decided by the FAS Competitions Department. Without breaching any of the Rules in these Sections, a Player is

eligible to play if he is registered no later than seventy-two (72) hours before the kick-off of the next upcoming match during the registration window.

- 27.3. No registration of players shall be made after the closure of the Registration Window.
- 27.4. An amateur Player who wishes to move to another Club at the end of his engagement is free to do so without his new club having to pay any form of compensation, with the exception of Article 24.1.
- 27.5. At any time before the commencement of the League, should a Local Transfer Certificate (LTC) request be made by a Club, the LTC shall be approved on MyFAS, or issued by the releasing Club within seven (7) days from the date of request. If the releasing Club is unable to release the LTC, the reason(s) shall be made known in writing to the requesting club, with a copy to FAS Competitions Department, who shall have the authority to decide on the validity of the reason(s) stated.
- 27.6. When the LTC is not issued within the seven (7) days period, the requesting Club may seek assistance from FAS, at its absolute discretion, may issue a LTC for the player concerned on behalf of the releasing Club.
- 27.7. During the ongoing League, a player shall be allowed to be transferred and registered to another club in either the SFL Division One or SFL Division Two within the same Season.
- 27.8. Pursuant to Article 27.7 above, a player may only be registered with a maximum of two (2) SFL clubs per season.
- 27.9. A player who is registered with an SFL club for the 2023 Season shall not be allowed to be registered or transferred to an IWL club within the same season, regardless of circumstances.
- 27.10. Upon request of the International Transfer Certificate (ITC) of a player (foreign or local), provided all other registration documents are in order and no SFL League Rules are being breached, provisional registration may be granted by Director, Competitions, for the player concerned pending the arrival of the ITC. The player concerned shall only be eligible to play when the ITC is received by FAS.

## **28. Stages of Registration of Players**

- 28.1. There are three stages of player registration:
  - 28.1.1. Preliminary Registration (Minimum Registration Deadline);
  - 28.1.2. Player Selection List in accordance with the Manual and these Regulations;
  - 28.1.3. Player Start List in accordance with the Manual and these Regulations.

## **29. Minimum and Maximum Registration**

- 29.1. Before the Minimum Registration Deadline stipulated by Competitions Department, a Club shall register a minimum of twenty (20) Players and a maximum of thirty (30) Players (inclusive of Foreign Players, if any).
- 29.2. All Clubs shall register a minimum of six (6) under-23 players of Singaporean nationality (born on or after 1 January 2000). The allocated six (6) Under-23 slots shall not be filled or replaced with registration of players above the age of 23.
- 29.3. Players shall be sixteen (16) years of age and above (born on or before 31 December 2007) to be eligible for registration for the League. Players aged sixteen (16) years shall only be allowed to be registered upon his sixteenth (16<sup>th</sup>) birthday.
- 29.4. All Clubs may register a maximum of two (2) Foreign Players with a minimum age of 16 years at the point of registration. These foreign players shall be legally residing/employed in Singapore as non-professional footballers.
- 29.5. Permanent Residents shall be considered Foreign Players.
- 29.6. These foreign Players shall either be working (does not include professional footballers), studying or legally residing in Singapore and possess a valid Work Permit (WP), Skilled Workers Pass (SP), Employment Pass (EP), Student Pass, Dependent's Pass or Singapore Permanent Residency status. No Foreign Player can be registered with the FAS until his International Transfer Certificate (ITC) has been received by the FAS and submitted together with other relevant and required supporting documents as stipulated by Competitions Department. Clubs intending to register Foreign Players shall seek prior approval in writing from Director, Competitions.

## **30. Documents for Registration of Players**

- 30.1. Participating Players and Officials shall be registered via the MyFAS online registration system with the supporting documents set out in the Manual.
- 30.2. All Registered Players shall be issued Letter of Authorization (LOA) authorized by the FAS. Should an LOA be misplaced, the Club shall be required to pay One Hundred Dollars (SGD\$100.00) as a replacement production fee for each LOA.

## **31. Breach of Conditions of Registration**

- 31.1. Should a Club field an unregistered player, the club shall be expelled from the League and any further participation in the League, in accordance with Article 7 and its sub-articles.



## **32. Cancellation of Registration**

- 32.1. The registration of a Player may only be terminated during the playing season as follows:
- 32.1.1. In writing by the Club;
  - 32.1.2. As decided by the FAS Competitions Department
- 32.2. The registration of a Player, local or foreign, released or terminated by his Club and by the Competitions Department the latter being satisfied of the same, shall be cancelled.
- 32.3. The Club shall notify the FAS Competitions Department immediately in writing, accompanied by the supporting or relevant documents related to the termination when the registration of such a Player is cancelled by the Club for any reason whatsoever.
- 32.4. Any Club found to have infringed this Rule shall be deemed to be guilty of misconduct.

## **33. Inducements and Approaches**

- 33.1. Clubs, Officials or players shall not directly or indirectly attempt to induce a Registered Player of another Club to leave for any purpose whatsoever the Club with which he is registered. Any infringement of this Rule shall be deemed to be misconduct and shall be dealt with by the FAS Competitions Department in its absolute discretion, which shall (but not limited to) be entitled to take such action/or impose such penalties against the Official or Player or the Club as they may in the circumstances think fit. Any penalty imposed on a Club may include the refusal to register for the Club guilty of the infringement, any Player who they consider has been so induced.
- 33.2. All transfers of registration shall be arranged directly between the Clubs concerned (and the Player). No Club shall register a Player who is on the list of registered Players of another Club or who has failed to comply with a decision of the Competitions Committee or the Players' Status Committee, adjudicated on an appeal made under these Rules. Infringements of this Rule shall also be dealt with by the Competitions Committee which may impose any penalty, at its absolute discretion, as it feels necessary, including a refusal to register the Player.
- 33.3. Subject to the provisions of any Rule on compensation, a Registered Player shall not directly or indirectly communicate with or approach another Club or any Official or Player of another Club with the object of negotiating or arranging the transfer of himself or another Club another Player to such other Club. Any infringement of this rule shall render the Player concerned and any Official or other Player who enters into communication or negotiation with him liable to

such penalties by way of fine, suspension, expulsion or otherwise as the Competitions Committee may deem fit in the circumstances.

### 34. Registration of Team Officials

- 34.1. Each Club shall submit to FAS via MyFAS its registration of Team Officials and the supporting documents in accordance with this Regulations.
- 34.2. Except with the prior written consent of FAS, no person, by himself or with one or more associates, shall at one time, either directly or indirectly, be involved in any capacity whatsoever in the management or administration of more than one Club.
- 34.3. All Clubs may register a minimum of two (2) and a maximum of ten (10) Team Officials.
- 34.4. Up to seven (7) Team Officials may be registered for each match to be on the Substitutes Bench. The following two (2) Team Officials shall be present at all matches:
  - 34.4.1. A Head Coach
  - 34.4.2. A Sports Trainer
- 34.5. All Clubs shall ensure that the following positions adhere to the following Requirements stipulated below:

Position	Requirements
Head Coach	Valid AFC 'B' License Certification or equivalent for SFL Division 1 and 2
Sports Trainer	Valid First Aid Certification

- 34.6. All Registered Officials shall be issued Accreditation Cards authorized by the FAS. Should a card be misplaced, the Club shall be required to pay One Hundred Dollars (SGD\$100.00) as a replacement production for each Card.

## SECTION F: DISCIPLINARY

### 35. Disciplinary Measures

- 35.1. All disciplinary measures in relation to the League shall be undertaken in accordance with this Regulations, FAS Constitution, FAS Disciplinary and Ethics Code, and any relevant FAS circular.
- 35.2. The FAS may introduce new disciplinary rules and sanctions for the duration of the League. Such rules shall be communicated to the Clubs in due course.
- 35.3. Only Players and Officials may serve match suspensions in the League. For avoidance of doubt, this requires the registration of the relevant individual within a Registration Window in accordance with the deadlines set out in these Regulations.
- 35.4. All sanctions and/or penalties shall commence with immediate effect except in cases where the FAS Competitions Committee or the Director, Competitions may otherwise decide, and all fines including composition fines imposed shall be paid in full within seven (7) days from the date the penalty/sentence is imposed before the said Player can participate in any match of a competition in which the offence was committed. A fine, including composition fines imposed on a Player/Official shall be paid in full within seven (7) days from the date the penalty/sentence is imposed. For the purpose of these Rules, all tournaments organised by the FAS shall fall under the Rules.
- 35.5. All sanctions and/or penalties under this Rule shall be served out or complied with in full during the competition in which the offence or offences were committed by the Player/Official. If the sanctions and/or penalties cannot be fully served or complied with in full, it shall be deferred only to the following season of the same competition where the said Player/Official is registered and eligible.
- 35.6. Red card and yellow card cautions shall not be accumulated to the following season of the competition or to any other competition organised by FAS.
- 35.7. Any disciplinary measures imposed by the Referee on the field of play are final with exceptions being made for possible modifications arising from corrections made to the Referee's Report.
- 35.8. All Players agree to:
- 35.8.1. respect the spirit of fair play, respect, non-violence, and the authority of the Match Officials;
  - 35.8.2. behave accordingly; and
  - 35.8.3. refrain from doping.

## 36. Administrative Procedure

- 36.1. Where a specified financial penalty and/or sanction is/are provided for in these Rules in these Sections, the FAS Exco shall have, through the Director, Competitions or any of the Standing Committees, the full power to impose against any Club, Official and/or Player and/or Member who they shall deem guilty of having offended against or committed a breach of these Rules in these Sections such financial penalties and/or sanctions as these Rules hereinafter appearing permit.
- 36.2. The FAS Congress shall elect a Committee known as the FAS Disciplinary Committee [hereinafter "the Committee"].
- 36.3. The Committee shall receive from the Director, Competitions, or any Standing Committee of the FAS or the FAS Exco itself notice of any suspected or alleged offence or breach of any of these Rules of these Sections or any misconduct notwithstanding that a penalty for such offence, breach of the Rules under these Sections or misconduct is not specifically provided for by the Rules.
- 36.4. The FAS Exco delegates the exercise of any of its powers under these Rules either generally or specifically to the Committee or the Director, Competitions, or any of the Standing Committees of the FAS or the FAS PSC for adjudication and determination as hereunder set out.
- 36.5. The Committee pursuant to these Rules shall consist of a maximum of twelve (12) members, of whom any three (3) shall be adequate to hear and determine any matter. From among the three (3) one shall be the Chairperson of the Committee. The Chairman of the Committee has the power to appoint a Deputy Chairman or any member of his Committee who shall deputise as Chairman as and when necessary.
- 36.6. The Committee shall draw its own sub-rules which may include procedures, infringements and sanctions, implementation thereof, and any appeal procedures or powers thereof, including such order as to the payment of expenses, costs or financial penalties by Clubs, Players or Officials or Members of the Club as they think fit, in accordance with the FAS Disciplinary and Ethics Code.
- 36.7. The Committee shall have the power of inquiry into all disputes, questions or differences between Clubs and Players, Officials or Members of the Club, and into all matters constituting or pertaining to any breach of these Rules under the various Sections by Clubs, Players, Officials and Members as may be referred to by the Director, Competitions or any of the FAS's Standing Committees, and to convene a hearing on notice being given, and to effect that purpose the Committee may require the attendance of all Officials, Players and other persons for the hearing of the complaint and compel the production of all books, letters and other documents relevant and necessary for the determination of the dispute/question/difference.

- 36.8. Any Club, Official, Player or Member offering or receiving a payment or any other form of inducement to or from any Club or Official or Player or Member of any Club or any person, or any such Club, Official or Player or Member receiving or seeking to receive any payment or any other form of inducement from any other person or organisation to win, lose or draw a match under the jurisdiction of the FAS shall be deemed guilty of misconduct. The FAS or any of its Standing Committees or the Director, Competitions shall have the power to refer such acts to the relevant authorities.
- 36.9. The Committee or such other Standing Committee of the FAS, inclusive of the Director, Competitions, the Arbitrator or Board of Arbitrators or the Appeals Committee or the PSC, shall be entitled to publish in the media or in such other manner as they shall think fit reports of their proceedings, acts, resolutions, findings and financial penalties whether the same shall or shall not reflect on the character or conduct of any Club, Official, Player or Member, and every such Club, Official, Player or Member shall be deemed to have assented to such an inquiry and such publication.

### **37. Differences between Clubs**

- 37.1. A Club in the first instance shall refer all differences and questions or disputes between it and any other Club or Officials or Players or Members thereof to the Director, Competitions. Each Club making such a reference shall do so in writing and shall deposit a fee of Three Thousand Dollars (SGD\$3,000.00) only which shall be liable to be forfeited to the FAS at the discretion of the Committee or the Director, Competitions or Arbitrator or the FAS three (3) Arbitrators or such Standing Committee or the PSC as the case may be.
- 37.2. On any such submission or reference, the Director, Competitions, may in his absolute discretion:
- 37.2.1. either determine the dispute, question or difference himself; or
  - 37.2.2. refer to or delegate the determination of such dispute, difference or question, at the absolute discretion of the Director, Competitions, to a single Arbitrator or a Board of three (3) Arbitrators appointed by the Director, Competitions or to any of the Standing Committees of the FAS or the PSC; or
  - 37.2.3. refer the matter to the Committee.
- 37.3. The Director, Competitions shall be under no obligation whatsoever to grant an oral hearing to a Club should he, in his absolute discretion, refer the matter to a single Arbitrator or a Board of three (3) Arbitrators or the Committee or any of the Standing Committees of the FAS or the PSC.
- 37.4. Any Club aggrieved at the determination of the Director, Competitions or the Arbitrator or the Board of three (3) Arbitrators or of the Committee or any of the Standing Committees of the FAS, made pursuant to this Rule as regards the

determination of the dispute, question, difference, or at the manner in which such determination was arrived at, shall refer the matter to the Appeal Committee [hereinafter "the Appeal Committee"] as provided in this Section, and any decision of the Appeal Committee shall be final and binding on all parties.

- 37.5. Membership for the time being for the FAS shall constitute an agreement to refer all disputes, questions and differences between the Director, Competitions who shall determine the same in accordance to the provision of Rule 37.2 above.
- 37.5.1. The Arbitration tribunal ("the tribunal") shall consist of either a single Arbitrator or three (3) Arbitrators appointed by the Director, Competitions. The Director, Competitions, in a case involving three (3) Arbitrators, appoint a Chairman to chair all such meetings, and three (3) members must hear the matter, adjudicate and determine the dispute, question or difference.
- 37.5.2. If any arbitrator appointed by the Director, Competitions shall die, refuse to act or become incapacitated from acting prior to the making of a determination a further arbitrator shall be appointed by the Director, Competitions to replace him.
- 37.6. As soon as practicable after it has been convened, the Arbitrator or Board of three (3) Arbitrators or such Standing Committee of the FAS or the PSC as the case may shall convene a meeting with the parties or their representatives. The Arbitrator or Board of three (3) Arbitrators or such Standing Committee of the FAS or the PSC may adopt such procedures as it considers appropriate for the resolution of the dispute, question or difference, and may proceed by way of oral hearing or by written submission, and by such manner of evidence as it considers appropriate.
- 37.7. Any decision or procedural decision shall be made by the Arbitrator himself or in the case of the Board of Arbitrators or such Standing Committee or the PSC shall, where necessary, be made by a majority and, in the event that no majority may be formed, the Chairman of the Board of Arbitrators or the Chairman of such Standing Committee or the PSC shall make his determination as if he were a sole arbitrator.
- 37.8. No party shall be represented at any hearing by a solicitor or counsel acting in his capacity as such, unless he has been a member of a Club for a period of at least twelve (12) months preceding the appointment of the Arbitrator, Board of Arbitrators or such Standing Committee or the Committee or the PSC or the Appeal Committee to hear the dispute, question or difference or any appeal therefrom.
- 37.9. In the event of default by either party in respect of any procedural order of the Arbitrator or Board of three (3) Arbitrators or such Standing Committee or the Committee or the PSC, the Arbitrator or such Board or such Standing Committee or the Committee or the PSC shall have the power to debar that party from further participation in the arbitration/ proceedings, and deliver its

determination as the Arbitrator or such Board or such Standing Committee or the Committee or the PSC may deem fit.

- 37.10. The power of the Director, Competitions, the Arbitrator or the Board of three (3) Arbitrators or such Standing Committee or the Committee or the PSC to forfeit the deposit under Rule 37.1 shall be in addition to the power conferred on the Director, Competitions, the Arbitrator or the Board of three (3) Arbitrators or such Standing Committee or the Committee or the PSC to determine the difference, dispute or question. Any form of misconduct during the conduct of the proceedings found by the Director, Competitions or the Arbitrator or the Board of Arbitrators or such Standing Committee or the Committee or the PSC or the Appeal Committee may be referred to the FAS Exco.

### **38. Procedure and Appeals**

- 38.1. The Director, Competitions, the Arbitrator or the Board of Arbitrators or the Committee or any of the Standing Committees of the FAS (save for the PSC) imposing any decision or penalty on any Club, Player or Official or Member shall inform in writing any Club or person against whom action is being taken of any such decision as soon as practicable thereafter.
- 38.2. Any Club or person against whom action is being taken (save for the decision of the PSC) may, within seven (7) working days of being informed of such a decision, require the body or person taking such action to specify in writing the findings of fact leading to the decision and the reasons for the decision. A fee of One Thousand Dollars (SGD\$1,000.00) must accompany such request. Any such requirement shall be met within seven (7) working days of its receipt and shall be accompanied by copies of all materials which were before the body or person making the decision, or such of that material as such body or person may consider relevant to the decision.
- 38.3. Any Club or person on whom a decision and/or penalty has been imposed pursuant to these Rules may appeal against such decision and/or against the penalty so imposed. Any such appeal shall be made and conducted in accordance with the provisions of this Rule.
- 38.4. A notice of appeal must be in writing and must be lodged with Director, Competitions with a copy to the Secretary of the Appeal Committee within seven (7) working days of the receipt of the decision, or where a request for the reasons for the decision has been made within seven (7) working days of the receipt of those reasons and shall be accompanied by a deposit of Three Thousand Dollars (SGD\$3,000.00). This amount may be refunded to the appellant if the appeal is successful.
- 38.5. At the same time that the notice of appeal is lodged there shall also be lodged with the Director, Competitions with a copy to the Secretary of the Appeal Committee:

- 38.5.1. a statement of the grounds of appeal; and
  - 38.5.2. if leave is sought to present any fresh evidence to the Appeal Committee, particulars of such evidence and of the reasons why it was not presented to the earlier decision-maker, and
  - 38.5.3. particulars of any fact or circumstances which do not appear from the statement or accompanying documents upon which the appellant is seeking to rely.
- 38.6. The Appeal Committee shall be elected by the FAS Congress. No persons so appointed shall have taken part in any previous proceedings relating to the same matter. The decision of the Appeal Committee shall be final and binding on all parties concerned.
- 38.7. Upon the application of either party, or of its own motion, the Appeal Committee may hold-preliminary hearings for the purpose of:
- 38.7.1. deciding any application for leave to call fresh evidence;
  - 38.7.2. giving any other instructions which it considers necessary for the conduct of the proceedings; and the Appeal Committee may at any time extend or abridge all or any time limits governing appeals and may permit amendments to documents lodged by the parties on such terms as it thinks fit.
- 38.8. No fresh evidence shall be presented to the Appeal Committee without its leave. Save in the exceptional circumstances, no such leave shall be given unless:
- 38.8.1. the evidence was not available at the time of the hearing appealed against despite the exercise of reasonable diligence;
  - 38.8.2. it is credible evidence; and
  - 38.8.3. it is relevant.
- 38.9. An appeal shall be by way of re-hearing on the documents, except where the Appeal Committee gives leave to present fresh evidence and save that the parties shall be entitled to make oral representations to the Appeal Committee at the hearing. Subject to Rule 38.8 above, no party may be represented at the hearing of any appeal by solicitor or counsel acting in his capacity as such.
- 38.10. The Appeal Committee, like the PSC, may conduct the hearing in such a manner and at such times as it considers desirable and/or suitable. If either party fails to attend at the hearing, the Appeal Committee, like the PSC, may proceed in its absence. The Appeal Committee and/or the PSC shall not be bound by any enactment or rule of law relating to the inadmissibility of evidence in proceedings before any court of law.



- 38.11. An Appeal Committee shall have power:
- 38.11.1. to allow or dismiss the appeal;
  - 38.11.2. to vary the decision and/or penalty in such a manner as it shall think fit, including the power to increase, decrease or remit any penalty included in such decision except when such penalty shall be specified in these Rules when the Appeal Committee shall impose such penalty if it finds the case proved;
  - 38.11.3. to remit the matter with such directions as it thinks fit for re-hearing and determination by the earlier decision making body;
  - 38.11.4. to make such further or other order as it thinks fit, including an order to forfeit the deposit.
- 38.12. An Appeal Committee shall not be bound to allow an appeal on the ground of misdirection or wrong evaluation of evidence, unless in the opinion of the said Committee, substantial injustice, including a miscarriage of justice, has thereby been occasioned.
- 38.13. An Appeal Committee may take account of facts or matters which have become evident or have occurred since the date of the decision appealed against where, pursuant to leave given to call fresh evidence, evidence has been given about such matters.
- 38.14. Where an Appeal Committee dismisses an appeal or varies the decision, the Appeal Committee may order the deposit to be forfeited towards the costs of the appeal and may make any further order for the payment of costs.

### **39. Powers of the Director, Competitions, the Arbitrator or Board of Arbitrators or the Committee or Standing Committee of the FAS**

- 39.1. Upon finding an offence, or a breach of these Rules or if misconduct is proved, the Director, Competitions, the Arbitrator, the Board of Arbitrators or the Committee or any such Standing Committee of FAS or the PSC shall be entitled to take such action and to impose such penalties by way of reprimand, fine, suspension, deduction of points, or other penalty (or combinations thereof) as the Director, Competitions, the Arbitrator, the Board of Arbitrators or the Committee or any such Standing Committee or the PSC may think fit in the circumstances.
- 39.2. The Committee or such Standing Committee of the FAS shall only be entitled to recommend expulsion of a Club to the FAS Exco, and such power shall also avail to the Appeal Committee, but no Club shall be expelled from the League without the sanction of a resolution passed at a Meeting of the Exco of the FAS. There shall be no right of appeal against a resolution to expel, passed as aforesaid, by the FAS Exco.
- 39.3. The Director, Competitions, Arbitrator, Board of Arbitrators or the Committee or the Standing Committees of the FAS or the PSC shall be entitled to order any Club,

Player, Official or Member for any such offence against or breach of these Rules of these Sections or misconduct, and, where applicable, cancel or refuse registrations of Players which are contrary to these Rules or Rules laid down by any of the Standing Committees of the FAS.

#### **40. Sanctions / Penalties**

40.1. Disciplinary sanctions and penalties which may be imposed by the FAS, the Committee, any of the Standing Committees of the FAS, or the Arbitrator or Board of three (3) Arbitrators or the PSC or the Appeal Board on Players, Clubs, Officials and Members of the Clubs shall include:

- 40.1.1. a caution;
- 40.1.2. a censure;
- 40.1.3. a fine;
- 40.1.4. suspension for a specified number of matches and/or a specified period;
- 40.1.5. a ban on participating or being involved in a game in any capacity whatsoever;
- 40.1.6. cancellation of a match (requiring a replay, if any);
- 40.1.7. deduction or cancellation of points;
- 40.1.8. a win by default, in which case a score of three (3)-nil (0) shall be given, unless the goal difference attained in the match is greater in favour of the non-infringing Club;
- 40.1.9. a ban from the stadium/stadia or on terms;
- 40.1.10. matches to be played with the exclusion of the public or on certain conditions;
- 40.1.11. a ban from taking part in the current and/or future competition or any part thereof;
- 40.1.12. a cancellation/refusal of registration of a Player or on terms;
- 40.1.13. withdrawal of any or all financial privileges given by the FAS or on terms.

40.2. In determining any disciplinary sanction or penalty to be imposed, the FAS, the Committee or any of the Standing Committees of the Board, or the Arbitrator or Board of Arbitrators or the PSC, and the Appeal Board may be guided by the list of disciplinary measures as specified in the regulations of the Federation Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) and/or AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Code and/or FAS Disciplinary and Ethics Code.

## 41. Competition Specific Sanctions and Penalties

### 41.1. Match Caution, Dismissal and Accumulation

- 41.1.1. A Player who is sent off for any of the sending-off offences stated under Law 12 in The Laws of The Game shall be suspended for the following two (2) matches. However, under these same laws, in the case where he is being sent off for receiving a second caution in the same match, he shall only serve a one (1) match suspension. The Player may also be referred to the Disciplinary Committee, who may after due inquiry impose sanctions and/or penalties over and above the mandatory sanctions and/or penalties on him.
- 41.1.2. A Team Official who has been sent off by the referee under Law 12 in The Laws of The Game shall be suspended from the touchline for the following one (1) match. The Team Official may also be referred to the Disciplinary Committee, who may after due inquiry impose sanctions and/or penalties over and above the mandatory sanctions and/or penalties on him.
- 41.1.3. Subject to the provisions of Article 41.1.1 above, a player who has accumulated two (2) red cards in the course of the competition shall be suspended for an additional two (2) matches. This suspension shall be additional to the mandatory suspension that the player shall serve as a result of his sending-off offence under the provisions of Article 41.1.1 above. The player shall be fined Three Hundred Dollars (\$300.00) and/or referred to the Disciplinary Committee, who may after due inquiry impose sanctions and/or penalties over and above the mandatory sanctions and/or penalties on him. In the event the said Player fails or is unable to pay the composition fine within the next seven (7) days, the said Player shall be referred to the Disciplinary Committee. Until then, the said Player shall not be allowed to play in the competition until he has served the suspension imposed by the Disciplinary Committee, who may after due inquiry impose other sanctions and/or penalties over and above the mandatory penalties.
- 41.1.4. Subject to the provisions of Article 41.1.1 above, a player who has accumulated three (3) red cards in the course of the competition shall be suspended for an additional three (3) matches. This suspension shall be additional to the mandatory suspension that the player shall serve as a result of his sending-off offence under the provisions of Article 41.1.1 above. The player shall be fined Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) and/or referred to the Disciplinary Committee, who may after due inquiry impose sanctions and/or penalties over and above the mandatory sanctions and/or penalties on him. In the event the said Player fails or is unable to pay the composition fine within the next seven (7) days, the said Player shall be referred to the Disciplinary Committee. Until then, the said Player shall not be allowed to play in the competition until he has served the suspension imposed by the Disciplinary Committee, who may after due inquiry impose other sanctions and/or penalties over and above the mandatory penalties.
- 41.1.5. A Team Official who has accumulated two (2) red cards in the course of the competition shall be fined Five Hundred Dollars (SGD\$500.00) or referred to the Disciplinary Committee, who may after due inquiry impose sanctions

and/or penalties over and above the mandatory sanctions and/or penalties on him.

- 41.1.6. A Player who has received three (3) yellow card cautions in the course of the competition shall automatically be suspended for the following one (1) match in the said competition. If the Player receives a further two (2) yellow card cautions in the course of the same competition, he shall automatically be suspended for the following two (2) matches in that competition. If he receives a further one (1) yellow card caution in the course of the same competition, he shall be suspended for the following one (1) match in the said competition and shall be fined Three Hundred Dollars (\$300.00) or referred to the Disciplinary Committee, who may after due inquiry impose sanctions and/or penalties over and above the mandatory sanctions and/or penalties on him. In the event the said Player fails or is unable to pay the composition fine within the next seven (7) days, the said Player shall be referred to the Disciplinary Committee. Until then, the said Player shall not be allowed to play in the competition until he has served the suspension imposed by the Disciplinary Committee, who may after due inquiry impose other sanctions and/or penalties over and above the mandatory penalties.
- 41.1.7. A Team Official who has received two (2) yellow card cautions in the course of the competition shall automatically be suspended for the following one (1) match in the said competition.
- 41.1.8. A Player who has received two (2) yellow card cautions in the course of the FA Cup competition shall automatically be suspended for the following one (1) match in the said competition. This shall apply to all stages of the competition and shall be carried forward until the Final.
- 41.1.9. Notwithstanding Article 41.1.1, the Director, Competitions or any of the Standing Committees of the FAS (including the Committee) or the Arbitrator of the Board of Arbitrators or the PSC or the Appeals Committee may refer to the Committee (and the Committee itself may consider) any misconduct by any Player, and the Committee may after due inquiry, impose any further sanctions and penalties over and above the mandatory penalties. When disciplinary action is taken against any player by way of a composition fine or referred to the Disciplinary Committee for further sanctions, the yellow/red cards accumulated by the said player shall not be considered for further sanctions.
- 41.1.10. The Club and Player shall be responsible for monitoring the record on the yellow and red cards and suspensions accumulated by their respective players in the respective tournaments.

#### 41.2. **Fielding of Minimum Eleven Players at Point of Kick-Off**

- 41.2.1. In the exception of extenuating circumstances, any club that is found guilty of failing to field a minimum of eleven (11) starting players at the point of kick-off for their matches, shall at the discretion of Director, Competitions, on its first offence, be fined up to Five Hundred Dollars (SGD\$500.00) and/or referred to the FAS Disciplinary Committee, who may after due inquiry impose sanctions and/or penalties over and above the mandatory sanctions and/or penalties on the club.

- 41.2.2. On the club's second offence, the club shall be fined up to One Thousand Dollars (SGD\$1,000.00) and/or referred to the Disciplinary Committee, who may after due inquiry impose sanctions and/or penalties over and above the mandatory sanctions and/or penalties on the club.
- 41.2.3. On the club's third offence, the club shall be expelled from the League and any further participation in the League, in accordance with Article 7 and its sub-articles.

#### 41.3. **Minimum Required Players for Match**

- 41.3.1. A match shall not start or continue during a match if either team consists of fewer than seven (7) players including the goalkeeper.
- 41.3.2. In the exception of extenuating circumstances, any club that is found guilty of failing to field a minimum of seven (7) starting/fielded players at the point of kick-off, or at any point of time during their match, causing the match to be called off, shall at the discretion of Director, Competitions, on its first offence, be fined up to One Thousand Dollars (SGD\$1,000.00), Also, three (3) points shall be awarded to the opposing non-infringing team, and the score of the Match concerned to remain/or a three (3) – nil (0) shall be awarded to the said non-infringing team, whichever is greater.
- 41.3.3. On the club's second offence, the club shall be expelled from the League and any further participation in the League, in accordance with Article 7 and its sub-articles.

#### 41.4. **Team Colours**

- 41.4.1. Any club that is found guilty of failing to adhere to the team colours indicated in the Player Selection List, or failed to produce a second set of kits upon request from the Match Officials shall, at the discretion of Director, Competitions, be fined a minimum of Three Hundred Dollars (SGD\$300.00) and/or referred to the Disciplinary Committee, who may after due inquiry impose sanctions and/or penalties over and above the mandatory sanctions and/or penalties on the club.

#### 41.5. **Post-Match Handshake**

- 41.5.1. Players from both the teams are required to assemble at the centre circle with the Match Officials for a post-match handshake. Any player who fails to do so shall be issued with a mandatory fine of One Hundred Dollars (SGD\$100.00).

#### 41.6. **Smoking & Littering**

- 41.6.1. All clubs shall be required to maintain cleanliness of the match venue at all times, including the technical areas, changing rooms, toilets, Field of Play and any other areas within the match venue.
- 41.6.2. Smoking is strictly prohibited within the vicinity of all match venues. Should any player be caught smoking and/or any club and/or player be caught

littering within the vicinity of the match venue, the player and/or the club respectively shall be fined a sum of Three Thousand Dollars (SGD\$3,000.00) and/or be referred to the FAS Disciplinary Committee for further sanctions.

41.6.3. All decisions made by the FAS Competitions Department and/or FAS Disciplinary Committee in this regard are final and binding.

#### **41.7. Disparaging Remarks on Refereeing / Charging at Referees / Conduct of Club Officials and Players**

41.7.1. No Club Official, Coach, Player or a member of the Team shall make any disparaging remarks about the refereeing of a match; any such remark made by a Club Official, Coach or a member of the Team may render such person liable to disciplinary action.

41.7.2. No Club Official, Coach, Player or a member of the Team shall make any abusive/offensive remarks towards any appointed Match Referee/Match Commissioner/Referees Assessor of a match; any such remark made by a Club Official, Coach or a member of the Team may render such person liable to disciplinary action.

41.7.3. Players/Officials are prohibited from charging at the referee before, during or after the game, for whatever reasons. Any such action shall render the player/official and club concerned, liable to a fine at the discretion of Director, Competitions and/or referred to the FAS Disciplinary Committee.

41.7.4. Any Club Official or player who fails to conduct oneself in a proper and responsible manner before, during or after the game, including but not limited to misconduct on the field of play, in the technical area, dressing rooms and stadium premises, shall be liable to disciplinary action.

#### **42. Payment of Sanctions, Offer of Compositions & Fines**

42.1. All payments of Sanctions, Offer of Compositions and Fines imposed to a club or player shall be made within the deadline stipulated in the notice of Sanctions/Offer of Compositions or Fines.

42.2. After the expiry of the notice issued, and the player have not made the full payment of the Sanction/Offer of Composition or Fine, the player shall not be allowed to participate in any matches in the League until the full payment has been received. The case may also be referred to the FAS Disciplinary Committee for further action.

42.3. After the expiry of the notice issued, and the club have not made the full payment of the Sanction/Offer of Composition or Fine, the club shall be referred to the FAS Disciplinary Committee for further action.

42.4. All payments of Sanctions, Offer of Compositions and Fines which are issued shall not be allowed to be deducted from the SFL Financial Subsidy, unless the club's claim for SFL Financial Subsidy has been approved.

### **43. Compounding Offences**

- 43.1. Without prejudice to the Rules hereinbefore, the Director, Competitions, is empowered to compound any offence, misconduct or breach of these Rules of these Sections committed by a Player, Team Official or Club to a maximum limit of Five Thousand Dollars (SGD\$5,000.00) and/or a suspension of up to a maximum of two (2) matches and/or awarding a win by default, in which case a score of three (3)-nil (0) shall be given, unless the goal difference attained in the match is greater in favour of the non-infringing Club.

### **44. Disputes Involving League Clubs**

- 44.1. Any dispute, question or difference or matter affecting Clubs, Officials or Players or Members shall be referred to the Director, Competitions, who has powers to adjudicate, determine or resolve it himself or refer the same as per the provisions of these Rules.

### **45. Prohibition to Recourse to Ordinary Court**

- 45.1. Pursuant to Article 59 of the FIFA Statutes adopted at the Extraordinary Congress in Zurich on 26 February 2016 and which came into force immediately after adoption, clubs and members are prohibited from taking a dispute to ordinary courts of law and are required to submit any disagreement to the jurisdiction of the Association (FAS), the Asian Football Confederation (AFC) or FIFA.

## SECTION G: ADMINISTRATION

### 46. Prize Money and Awards

46.1. The FAS shall pay and award the following:

#### 46.1.1. Singapore Football League Division One

46.1.1.1. Winner	: SGD\$15,000.00, with 35 medals (Gold)
46.1.1.2. Runner-up	: SGD\$9,000.00, with 35 medals (Silver)
46.1.1.3. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Runner-up	: SGD\$6,000.00, with 35 medals (Bronze)
46.1.1.4. Fair Play	: SGD\$2,000.00
46.1.1.5. Player of the Year	: SGD\$1,000.00
46.1.1.6. Top Goalscorer	: SGD\$1,000.00

#### 46.1.2. Singapore Football League Division Two

46.1.2.1. Winner	: SGD\$7,500.00, and 35 medals (Gold)
46.1.2.2. 1 <sup>st</sup> Runner-up	: SGD\$4,500.00, with 35 medals (Silver)
46.1.2.3. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Runner-up	: SGD\$3,000.00, with 35 medals (Bronze)
46.1.2.4. Fair Play	: SGD\$2,000.00
46.1.2.5. Player of the Year	: SGD\$1,000.00
46.1.2.6. Top Goalscorer	: SGD\$1,000.00

#### 46.1.3. Football Association Cup

46.1.3.1. Winner	: SGD\$10,000.00, and 35 medals (Gold)
46.1.3.2. 1 <sup>st</sup> Runner-up	: SGD\$5,000.00, with 35 medals (Silver)
46.1.3.3. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Runner-up	: SGD\$2,000.00, with 35 medals (Bronze)
46.1.3.4. 3 <sup>rd</sup> Runner-up	: SGD\$1,000.00

46.2. The Player of the Year and the Coach of the Year shall be awarded to the Participating Player and Coach who has a major influence on each of his club's matches and the Competition overall.

46.3. The Fair Play Award shall be awarded to the Club who has collected the most Fair Play Points in the Competition based on the criteria stipulated in the Fair Play System.

### 47. Champions of the SFL & FA Cup

47.1. The Winners of the SFL and the FA Cup shall receive the Championship Trophy from the FAS. Additional souvenirs may be presented by consent of the FAS, such as replica trophies.

47.2. Should any of the trophies be lost, destroyed or damaged by fire or by any other cause whilst under the care, control or custody of the Club, the latter shall refund



to the FAS the amount of the total cost or through repair and outgoings in addition to any other penalty which FAS may impose.

#### **48. External Match Arrangements**

48.1. Clubs shall not arrange matches, which will interfere or disrupt the fixtures. Clubs desiring to stage Representative or Friendly matches shall obtain prior approval from Director, Competitions and obtain the required sanctions.

#### **49. Breach**

49.1. Any breach of these Rules in these Sections (notwithstanding that it may not have been so expressed) shall be deemed misconduct, and the Club, Player or Official, as the case may be, or a member of the Club, shall be referred to the Disciplinary Committee or the appropriate Committee, through the Director, Competitions, for appropriate action as that Committee deems fit at their absolute discretion.

49.2. With accordance with Article 43.1, the Director, Competitions, shall, at his absolute discretion, compound offences, where applicable, for any breaches of these Rules in these Sections by Club Officials and/or Players or any other Member of the Club.

#### **50. Special Instructions**

50.1. The FAS shall issue any instructions necessitated by special circumstances which might arise in the organization of matches.

#### **51. Decisions**

51.1. All decisions made in accordance with these Regulations, except where expressly identified otherwise, are final and binding.

#### **52. Amendments**

52.1. The FAS reserves the right to make amendments to any part of these Regulations for any reason whatsoever. The Director, Competitions or the Competitions Committee, where applicable, reserves the right to change the date of the matches, venues or any of these Rules. Such amendments shall be duly communicated in due course.

#### **53. Force Majeure**

53.1. The FAS Exco is the only body capable of declaring a Force Majeure event.

#### **54. Matters Not Provided For**

54.1. Any matter not provided for in these Rules, shall be dealt with by Director, Competitions or where relevant by the Competitions Committee, whose decision shall be final and binding.

## 55. Closing Provisions

- 55.1. The FAS is entrusted with the operational management of the Competition and is therefore entitled to make decisions and adopt the detailed provisions necessary for implementing these Regulations.

*Correct as at 23 February 2023*