

Arabian Gulf League  
Competition  
Regulations Season  
2016 – 2017

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## Preamble

### Having perused:

- The ministerial Decision no. (17) for 1972 on the registration of the UAE Football Association (UAEFA);
- The minutes of meeting of the general assembly on 17/9/2007, on the approval of the Statutes of the UAE Football Association (UAEFA);
- The statutes of The Fédération Internationale de Football Association (FIFA);
- The statutes of The Asian Football Confederation (AFC);
- The statutes of The International Football Association Board (IFAB);
- The decree under federal law no. (7), 2008, on the General Authority of Youth and Sports Welfare and other concerned bodies;
- The decree under federal law no. (60), 2009, on the UAE joining the International Convention against Doping in Sport;
- The decree under federal law no. (119), 2009, on the UAE joining the International Convention against Doping in Sport;
- The Executive Regulations of Low No.8 of the year 2014 on the Security of Sports Facilities and Sports Events
- The Internal Statue of the PLC issued by virtue of resolution No. 34 of 2011 of the UAE FA Board of Directors.
- And based on the proposal made by the PLC, approved by the UAE FA Board of Directors;

We have issued the regulations of the Arabian Gulf League Competition for the sports season 2016/2017, as follows:

## Section (1)

### Article (1)

#### Definitions

Unless the context otherwise requires, the following words and terms in these Regulations shall have the same meaning set for them in the Statutes and General Rules of UAE FA, and the following words and terms shall have the meaning assigned to each of them:

Country: United Arab Emirates

FIFA: The Fédération Internationale de Football

Association AFC: The Asian Football Confederation

IFAB: The International Football Association

Board WADA: World Anti-Doping Agency.

NADO: National Anti-Doping

Organization UAE FA: UAE Football

Association

PLC: Pro League Committee

Quality Control Procedures: procedures required to be followed by the clubs to provide suitable facilities or to organize matches inside the stadium with regard to any match of the PLC Arabian Gulf Leagues, in a manner that does not contravene with the disciplinary regulations, competition regulations, stadium regulations and sanctions assigned thereto.

Trademark Guidelines: guidelines governing the proper use of competition trademarks and sponsors' logos.

Technical Meeting: the meeting held prior to any League matches (when required), and attended by the appointed match officers and team managers of the participating clubs.

Authorized person: the person authorized to carry out certain activities within the official areas as per the accreditation card.

Member Club: the club having membership in the UAEFA as per the Statutes.

Club: the commercial body and/or football companies entitled to participate in the PLC's competition on behalf of the member club according to a written agreement between the parties thereto.

Participating Teams: teams participating in the competition under the authority of the Club and the PLC.

Circulars: Instructions or amendments related to these Regulations, notified

to the Participating Clubs in the forms of official letters before or during the season, by the PLC.

**Commercial Affiliates:** anybody obtaining any right of the commercial rights from the PLC.

**Commercial Rights:** all utilization rights of The Competition, including but not limited to broadcasting, concession, hosting, photography, trading, promotional, sponsoring, travel, tour, new media, video registration, and/or commercial utilization using any other means according to the Statutes of the Association.

**Referees:** the match officers appointed by the Referees Committee according to these Regulations.

**League:** Arabian Gulf League.

**Medical Team:** All medical officers working for the clubs, including physicians, nurses, specialists of natural treatment, professional massagers, pharmacists, other medical practitioners and all other persons authorized by the concerned Health Authority in each emirate according to the rules and regulations governing health care and medical responsibility in UAE, the relevant regulations of the UAE FA.

**Force Majeure or Sudden Incidents:** any unexpected incident that may not be avoided arising from a foreign cause that has no relation to the parties and which affects or could affect the enforcement of any articles herein, including but not limited to storms, floods, lightening, fire, explosions, earthquakes, structural damages, epidemic catastrophe, or any other natural disaster, wars, terrorist attacks or military actions, riot, chaos, strike, lockouts, industrial procedures or civil disobedience.

**The Professional League Committee (The Committee):** The committee constituted of the professional clubs eligible to participate in the Professional League for the season 2016-2017, and is responsible for marketing, organization and utilizing the competitions thereof.

**The Executive Office:** it is the body constituted by the Committee chaired by the Committee Chairman (FA vice-chairman) which approved by the FA Board of Directors to perform administrative and technical functions.

**The Technical Committee:** the committee constituted by virtue of the resolution of the Executive Office of the Professional League Committee, and which undertakes the tasks stipulated for herein in this regulations in accordance with the executive regulations and the internal statute of the FA and in coordination with the Competitions Committee with regards to mutual matters.

**The Executive Department of the Committee:** is the administrative sections in charge of the implementation of the regulations and the resolutions issued by the Committee and/ or the Executive Office and to supervise the organization of competitions and to coordinate among the subcommittees and the professional clubs.

**Participating Player:** the player registered and participating in the competition as well as any other player under the authority of the PLC.

**Regulations:** all regulations and/or policies controlled and published by the and/or the UAE FA in connection with the Competition, including but not limited to the UAE FA Statutes, Disciplinary Code, the Competition Regulations, PLC Stadia Regulations, PLC Equipment Regulations, PLC Youth Programme Regulations, PLC Accreditation policy, PLC Media Regulations, PLC Marketing Regulations.

**Matches:** All football matches held in the framework of the Arabian Gulf League including deferred or repeated matches.

**Facilities:** the official areas and press centers/facilities, tickets kiosks and hosting areas used in relation to the competition matches held by the PLC.

**Competition:** the Arabian Gulf League including the matches registered in the match schedule and the activities held on the field (in addition to matches) such as celebrations, media conferences, or other relative official activities.

**General Coordinator:** the match officer appointed by the host club according to these Regulations.

**Host club:** the club first-mentioned in in any of the Competition matches registered in the match schedule.

**Match Schedule:** the official fixture list as defined by the PLC.

**Broadcast Affiliates:** any entity(ies) including without limitation the Host Broadcaster, that have acquired from the PLC any rights in relation to the Broadcast Rights.

**Host Broadcaster:** the party assigned by the PLC to provide a specific scope of services in relation to the production of basic audio-visual broadcasting materials (or any other materials) related to any Match or any official event.

**Broadcasting Rights:** the right to broadcast the competition matches and entering the stadium for purposes of TV live broadcasting and/or radio broadcast and/or voice recording and/or audio-visual media recording in addition to obtaining licenses for live broadcast and/or recording and/or any of these matters in any form whatsoever or all forms of TV broadcast and/or radio or any other media existing nowadays or might exist in the future including all forms of land, wired and satellite TV broadcast, the internet, TV broadband (fixed and/or wireless), internet, interactive televisions, broadcasting by phone and any other electronic applications or other means and tools.

**U21 League:** the league competition organized by the PLC participated by the under- 21 team of the Clubs.

**Arabian Gulf League:** the premiere league organized by the PLC participated by the first team of Clubs.

**Pro League Committee Logo:** the official logo for the pro league committee and/or other official logos that are only used by the PLC and/or authorized by the PLC except as agreed upon between the concerned parties.

**Match Officials:** the referees appointed by the UAE FA and/or the PLC in accordance with these Regulations.

**FIFA Laws of the Game:** the codified rules which are authorized and published by the sport's governing body FIFA via the International Football Association Board that help define association football.

**Official Match Countdown:** the list containing PLC approved activities and events starting three hours before the match and ending one hour after the match, this list includes the activities as well as the time these activities should take place.

**Prohibited Items List:** the list of items which spectators are prohibited from taking into any stadia used for any Competition Match, which shall be periodically communicated to Participating Clubs.

**AG Cup Competition:** an annual competition organized by the PLC, composed of two stages, the group stage played in a league system and a second stage featuring a knock-out format.

UAE President's Cup: the annual knock-out competition organized by the UAE FA.

**AG Super Cup:** a one match event organized by the PLC, usually at the beginning of the League Season, between the champion of the Arabian Gulf League and the champion of the UAE President's Cup; or in case champion of both the Arabian Gulf League and the UAE President's Cup are the same, then the match will be played between champion of the Arabian Gulf League and the runner-up of the Arabian Gulf League.

**Disciplinary Committee:** a semi-judicial committee of the association.

**Dispute Settlement Chamber:** an arbitration body specialized in settling disputes between players and clubs.

**Appeal Committee:** a semi-judicial committee of the association specialized in reviewing the appealed decisions issued by the disciplinary committee or chamber of disputes settlement.

**Cassation Committee:** a semi-judicial committee of the UAE FA specialized in the settlement of the decisions of the Appeal Committee and the committees of arbitration in their appellate capacity.

**Referee Committee:** the committee formed by the association responsible for all matters related to referees including the appointment of referees and appraisers for all competition matches.

**Appeal Regulations:** the regulations issued by the association on organizing the process of appealing decisions by the members and clubs.

**Stadium Regulations:** the regulations specifying the requirements to be fulfilled in the stadiums of clubs participating in competitions organized by the PLC.

**Disciplinary Regulations:** the regulations specifying the violations under the association rules and regulations in addition to possible penalties and regulating the process of preparing and specifying the procedures to be followed by these authorities.

**Arbitration Panel Regulations:** the regulations issued by the UAE FA to regulate the appeal process in the settlement of the decisions of the Appeal Committee and the Arbitration Committees in their appellate capacity by the members and the clubs.

**UAE FA Regulations of Players' Transfer and Status:** the binding rules regulating the status of players and their eligibility to participate in the organized football competitions, and their transfer from and to the clubs of the UAE FA.

**FIFA Regulations for Players' Status and Transfers:** the international binding rules regulating the players' conditions and qualification for participating in the organized football competitions as well as their transfers between clubs from different leagues and associations.

**Equipment Regulations:** the regulations governing the equipment and clothes used by players and teams officers in the Competitions Matches organized by the PLC.

Match Commissioner: the match officer appointed by the PLC in accordance with these Regulations.

Access Control Officer: the person appointed by the PLC to control the enforcement of the PLC accreditation system and the security arrangements related to the Competition Matches according to these Regulations.

Doping Control Officer: the representative of NADO in accordance to these Regulations.

Referees Assessor: the match officer appointed by the referees committee in accordance to these Regulations.

Access Control Areas: the locations of the Matches and other events, such as (without limitation) Stadium and their fences and perimeters, the aerial space above the stadium, and all other locations associated with the Competition, including the

Facility Areas, media centres, hospitality and VIP areas and facilities, other areas to which admission is regulated by the PLC Accreditation Regulations.

League Season: the period from the first football match organized under the auspices of the PLC (either in the Super Cup, Arabian Gulf Cup or the Arabian Gulf League) until the last football match organized by the PLC (either in the Arabian Gulf Cup or the Arabian Gulf League or the U21 League) from July 2016 to June 2017.

Health Authority: the Ministry of Health or any other governmental federal or local authority working in the health sector inside UAE.

Media: all personnel working in the printed media, direct editors, photographers, TV staffs, representatives of parties owning the broadcasting rights and those entitled to obtain a media authorization card as specified by the PLC.

Starting List: the list, prepared by the Match Commissioner or any person tasked to do so by the PLC, consisting of (11) players who will start the match in addition to a maximum of (7) substitute players.

## Section 2

### General Provisions

#### Article (2)

##### Introduction

- 2.1 This regulation regulates the rights, obligations and responsibilities of clubs participating in the competition.
- 2.2 All participating clubs should prepare, organize and host the competition matches according to the association statute, the executive regulation as well as regulations, directions and circulars issued by the PLC.
- 2.3 The clubs must not work against the public interest in developing and improving the level of UAE football and/or association and/or PLC.
- 2.4 Any rights associated with the Competition, that are not granted to the Clubs by these Regulations and/or specific agreements belong to the PLC.

#### Article (3)

##### The Executive Office of the Pro League Committee

- 3.1 The Executive Office of the Pro League Committee is the direct authority responsible for executing the provisions contained in the Regulations and has the right to interpret the provisions at its own discretion as well as has the right to issue decisions on those matters not covered through the conditions and terms of the Regulations.

#### Article (4)

##### Technical Committee

- 4.1 The Technical Committee formed by virtue of the decision issued by the Executive Office of the PLC to:
  - 4.1.1 Develop the principles of Competition Match agenda
  - 4.1.2 Deal with appeals arising from the Quality Control Procedures;
  - 4.1.3 Develop proposals and technical studies for the development of the competitions
- 4.2 In the event of the dissolution of the Technical Committee and/or in case it was not constituted, the Executive Office of the Technical Committee shall assume the responsibilities thereof.

## Article (5)

### Participation in Other Competitions

- 5.1 Clubs are not authorized to represent PLC or the Competition without prior written approval from the Executive Office of the PLC
- 5.2 If for any reason the Competition shall be cancelled, the club ranking from the last season shall be consulted to choose clubs that will represent the country in any local, continental and international competitions, provided that such club shall have qualified for participation in such competitions in accordance with the provision of Article 6 of this Regulation.
- 5.3 Participation in foreign competitions for the Clubs shall be decided by the UAE FA Board of Members upon the recommendation of the Executive Office of the PLC without conflict with the Regulations of the AFC, FIFA or the association organizing the competition. This decision shall determine which clubs shall participate in the next edition of the relevant continental or regional competitions.
- 5.4 When necessary, and after securing the approval of the Board of Directors in accordance with the FA statute, The PLC may organize any new competition and/or change the titles of the championships, which should be notified to the Clubs with reasonable notice.
- 5.5 The champion of the League shall have the right to participate in next season's AG Super Cup. In case the champion of the League and the champion of the UAE President's Cup are the same, then the runner-up of the League shall have the right to play in the AG Super Cup.

### Section (3)

#### Participating Clubs

#### Article (6)

#### Eligibility / Admission Criteria

- 6.1** The number of clubs participating in the Arabian Gulf League for the season 2016/2017 is (14) clubs.
- 6.2** For the purpose of participating in this Competition, Provided all other requirements of these Regulations, and other PLC and / or UAE FA regulations are met, the fourteen (14) Participating Clubs shall be those clubs finishing in the top twelve positions of last season's league rankings plus the champion and runner-up of the first division organized by the UAE FA.
- 6.3** In case either the champion or runner-up of last season's first division organized by the UAE FA is not able to meet the other requirements of this competition as per the Regulations, clubs ranking third and/ or fourth respectively in the last season for First Division will be promoted. In case clubs ranking third and/ or fourth did not meet the requirements for participation in the Competition, the clubs ranking thirteen and/ or fourteen (either one of them or both) remain in the Competition.
- 6.4** Eligible Clubs willing to become a member of the League must adhere to the procedures and directives stated in these Regulations, and any other relevant regulations.
- 6.5** All Clubs participating in the Competition shall fulfill all the compulsory criteria provided for in the Manual of Criteria of the Asian Champions League (ACL)
- 6.6** All the Clubs shall abide by the business sponsorship contracts related to the matches and signed by the the Executive Office and/or the Exectuive Department[SA1].

#### Article (7)

#### Obligations of Participating Clubs

Upon participating in the competition, the clubs must undertake to:

- 7.1** To observe any agreements entered into with the PLC as well as Regulations, policies, decisions, guidelines and circulars issued by the PLC and/or the Executive Office and/or the Football Association and / or the applicable national laws;

- 7.2 To comply with the Laws of the Game issued by the IFAB;
- 7.3 To accept that all the administrative, disciplinary and refereeing matters connected with the Competition shall be settled by the PLC and/or the UAE FA in compliance with these Regulations or the decisions of relevant PLC and/or UAE FA Committee(s);
- 7.4 To recognize the jurisdiction of the Court of Arbitration for Sport in Lausanne;

- 7.5 To field their strongest team throughout the Competition;
- 7.6 To observe the principles of Fair Play;
- 7.7 To comply with and adhere strictly to the Official Match Countdown;
- 7.8 To be responsible for the behavior of their players, officials, members, supporters and any person carrying out duties on their behalf throughout all Competition Matches.
- 7.9 To accept all the arrangements made by the Host Club in agreement with the PLC.
- 7.10 To attend and participate in all official activities and events such as, but not limited to Technical Meeting, Broadcast Meeting, match organizational meeting, press conferences, other media activities, etc. organized by the PLC in accordance with guidelines and/or instructions in circulars issued by the PLC.
- 7.11 To have a minimum of twenty (20) players with professional contracts.
- 7.12 To ensure that unauthorized persons are not allowed to enter the pitch area, its surrounding areas and the dressing rooms.
- 7.13 To ensure that all players and officials do not engage in any activities that will bring the game into disrepute and/or damage the integrity of the game.
- 7.14 To cooperate with PLC at any time – and in particular at the end of matches – in the collection of items from the game and players' personal items that could be used by PLC to create a memorabilia collection to illustrate the heritage of the competition, to the exclusion of any commercial use.
- 7.15 The club may use its name and/or logo provided all the following requirements are satisfied:
  - 7.15.1 The name is mentioned in the statutes of the club;
  - 7.15.2 The name is registered with the chamber of commerce or equivalent body;
  - 7.15.3 it is registered at the UAE FA and used all other national competitions;
  - 7.15.4 the name and logo do not refer to the name of a commercial partner.

If so requested, the club must provide PLC with the necessary documents and evidence.

#### Article (8)

#### Players Registration and Participation in the

## Competition

- 8.1. Adding, registering and transfer of players of the clubs participating in the competition shall be in accordance with the regulations of players' movements and the annual circular No. (1) of the committee concerned with conditions and movements of players for the League Season 2016/2017.
- 8.2. For this Competition, each club is entitled to register:

- 8.2.1. a maximum of twenty-two (22) Emirati players;
  - 8.2.2. a maximum of three (3) foreign players (non-AFC and/or AFC member association origin);
  - 8.2.3. a maximum of one (1) Asian player (from AFC member associations)
  - 8.2.4. Goalkeeper shall be an Emirati Goalkeeper throughout the entire match time. In case the goalkeeper was sent off during the match, or left the match for any other reason, he cannot be replaced by any foreign player whether the foreign player is already participating in the match or on the team bench.
- 8.3. All players must be correctly registered at the record department and the players must be registered at the Association within the two periods mentioned in Article 8.1; the players must hold official card of players according to the laws of the Association.
  - 8.4. The total number of players eligible to participate in this Competition are as follows:
    - 8.4.1. All players registered as per Articles 8.2 (total maximum of 26 players) and 8.3 and as per these Regulations;
    - 8.4.2. All Emirati players registered in the club's lists of players with the UAE FA provided that these players are 16 years old
  - 8.5. The players' transfers during the registration periods should be subject to the annual circulation no. (1) issued by the concerned committee in addition to the conditions of players' transfers for season 2016-2017

## Article (9)

### Team Officials' Registration

- 9.1 The PLC shall keep and maintain a register of Team Officials and management employed or engaged by any Club, including:
  - 9.1.1 The management staff;
  - 9.1.2 The technical staff; and
  - 9.1.3 The medical staff.
- 9.2 At a minimum, the following officials must be registered by each Participating Club:
  - 9.2.1. Team manager
  - 9.2.2. Team administrator
  - 9.2.3. Head coach
  - 9.2.4. Assistant coach
  - 9.2.5. Goalkeeper coach
  - 9.2.6. Fitness coach
  - 9.2.7. Doctor
  - 9.2.8. Physiotherapist
  - 9.2.9. Team media officer
  - 9.2.10. Any other individuals who are either technical coaching staff, or medical staff or translator.
- 9.3 Member Clubs must abide by the registration procedure communicated to them prior to the commencement of the League Season for issuing Accreditation Cards in accordance with Accreditation Regulations.
- 9.4 Head coach of each Participating Club must have at least 'Pro' Coaching certificate approved by the AFC. In case the Head coach does not have 'Pro' coaching certificate approved by the AFC, the head coach and the Participating Club are obliged to obtain the AFC recognition of competence in order for a Head coach to be approved for the Competition. When the coach is approved and registered by the UAE FA, he will be given a temporary card until his status is modified.
- 9.5 For the avoidance of doubt, the Head coach will not be eligible for accreditation if documents in Article 9.4 are not submitted to the PLC. Subsequently, he will not be allowed to sit on the team bench and/or be in the team dressing room.

9.6 At least one of the assistant coach of the Participating Club must have at least the AFC 'A' Coaching certificate. In case the assistant coach does not

have a coaching certificate issued by the AFC, the assistant coach and the Participating Club are obliged to obtain the AFC recognition of competence in order for an assistant coach to be registered in the Competition. When the coach is approved and registered by the UAE FA, he will be given a temporary card until his status is modified.

- 9.7 For the avoidance of doubt, the assistant coach will not be eligible for accreditation if documents in Article 9.6 are not submitted to the PLC. Subsequently, he will not be allowed to sit on the team bench and/or be in the team dressingroom.
- 9.8 Participating Clubs must register at least one (1) goalkeeping coach who must have at least the AFC 'Level 1' Goalkeeping certificate. In case the goalkeeping coach does not have a coaching certificate issued by the AFC, the goalkeeping coach and the Participating Club are obliged to obtain the AFC recognition of competence in order for an goalkeeping coach to be registered. When the coach is approved and registered by the UAE FA, he will be given a temporary card until his status is modified.
- 9.9 For the avoidance of doubt, the goalkeeping coach will not be eligible for accreditation if documents in Article 9.8 are not submitted to the PLC. Subsequently, he will not be allowed to sit on the team bench and/or be in the team dressingroom.
- 9.10 Participating Clubs must register at least one (1) fitness coach who must have at least the AFC 'B' Coaching certificate. In case the fitness coach does not have a coaching certificate issued by the AFC, the fitness coach and the Participating Club are obliged to obtain the AFC recognition of competence in order for a fitness coach to be registered in the Competition. When the coach is approved and registered by the UAE FA, he will be given a temporary card until his status is modified.
- 9.11 For the avoidance of doubt, the fitness coach will not be eligible for accreditation if documents in Article 9.10 are not submitted to the PLC. Subsequently, he will not be allowed to sit on the team bench and/or be in the team dressingroom.
- 9.12 Any changes to any of the staff listed in Article 9.2 must be officially communicated to the PLC after successful registration according to the UAE FA regulations, by submitting an application through the Online Accreditation System before the scheduled match for the team in the competition. No accreditation cards will be issued outside official PLC working hours. Accreditation cards will be given to clubs after the PLC reviews the documents submitted by the club and ensuring that the submitted documents meet all the requirements as per the Licensing Regulations.

- 9.13 All participating clubs shall abide by the UAE FA registration procedure with regards to team officials, whereby all club medical staff must have a valid license (from the relevant Emirate) in order to practice as a Medical Health practitioner. Furthermore, in accordance with the laws and regulations governing health care and medical responsibility in their relevant Emirate, no member of a clubs' medical staff shall not be entitled to perform his or her functions before they are licensed by the relevant Health Authority.

## Article (10)

### Teams Arrival & Player Selection List

- 10.1. Teams (players and team officials) must arrive at the stadium no later than ninety (90) minutes prior to the scheduled kick-off time for each Competition Match. Teams which fail to comply with this arrival deadline shall be penalized for failing to comply with the official match countdown in accordance with the Quality Control Procedure (QCP).
- 10.2. The team manager of each participating Club is responsible for approving the duly completed 'Player Selection List' on the FA NET no later than ninety (90) minutes prior to kick off. The list shall indicate the following:
- 10.2.1. The (11) Players starting the match,
  - 10.2.2. The (7) replacement players,
  - 10.2.3. Team Captain,
  - 10.2.4. Team Goalkeeper (starting and substitute)
  - 10.2.5. A list of maximum ten team officials who shall be seated on the team bench, and
  - 10.2.6. Verification of the list in the form of a signature by the team manager.

## Article (11)

### Starting List

- 11.1 Upon receipt of the "Player selection list", the Match Commissioner shall immediately produce a Starting List, which will be verified with the assistance of the fourth referee during a check of player jerseys prior to kick-off.
- 11.2 The finalized Starting List shall be distributed to participating teams, the media, broadcasters and LED personnel.

- 11.3 After the player list is completed, and if the match has not yet kicked-off, no replacement is allowed except in the following cases:
- 11.3.1 If any of the eleven (11) players indicated on the player selection list is not able to start the match due to unexpected physical incapacity (physical injury), they may only be replaced by any of the seven substitutes listed on the initial player selection list. The substitute(s) in question may then only be replaced by a registered player(s) not listed on the initial player selection list, so that the quota of substitutes is not reduced. During the match, three (3) players may still be substituted; This injured substituted player cannot take any part in the match and must not sit on the substitute bench
  - 11.3.2 If any of the seven (7) substitutes listed on the player selection list is not able to be fielded due to unexpected physical incapacity, they may only be replaced by a registered player not listed on the initial player selection list;
  - 11.3.3 The Club concerned must, upon request, provide the PLC with the necessary medical certificates and reports
- 11.4 A player must have played in a match in order to be considered as having participated in that match.

## Article (12)

### Officials Authorized to sit on the Team Bench

- 12.1 Ten individuals of the team officials may sit on the team bench.
- 12.2 The team officials registered for the match herein must wear their valid accreditation cards in the official areas in the stadium.
- 12.3 The list of officials approved in the FA Net must include the following:
- 12.3.1 Team manager / Team Supervisor / Team Administrator (maximum two of them)
  - 12.3.2 Head Coach
  - 12.3.3 Assistant Coach
  - 12.3.4 Doctor
  - 12.3.5 Physiotherapist
  - 12.3.6 Assistant Coach / physical fitness coach / Goalkeeper CoachTranslator (Assistant coach or physical fitness trainer can be approved instead of the translator if the coach is non-foreigner).
- 12.4 For the avoidance of doubt, for positions listed in Articles 12.3.3 to 12.3.8, only those who have submitted their qualifications as

indicated in Articles 9.4 to 9.13, and approved by the PLC are eligible to be seated on the team bench. Further, for every match in the Competition, it is compulsory for officials listed in Articles 12.3.1 to 12.3.5 to be on the bench, unless due to decision of the UAE FA Disciplinary Committee.

## Section 4

### Technical Regulations

#### Article (13)

##### Laws of the Game

- 13.1 All Competition Matches shall be held according to FIFA Laws of the Game (English Version) as laid down by the IFAB and published by FIFA.
- 13.2 Each team shall consist of eleven (11) starting players including the goalkeeper and no more than seven (7) substitute players.
- 13.3 If the number of the players on any team becomes less than seven (7) during any Competition Match then the Match will be dealt with in accordance with Article 23.
- 13.4 Only three (3) substitutes listed on the starting list may take part in the

match. Article (14)

##### Competition Format

- 14.1 The Competition Matches shall be played in accordance with the league format, whereby each Club shall play two (2) Competition Matches against each of the other Participating Clubs during the league season, being the Host Club in one of the two matches and being the visiting club in the other match.
- 14.2 The following points will be awarded for Matches in the League format:
  - Win = 3 points
  - Draw (Tie) = one  
point
  - Loss = nothing
- 14.3 As per the UAE Club Licensing regulations, Participating Club may start the League with minus three (3) points.
- 14.4 The Clubs ranking shall be organized in a league table in descending order according to the number of points acquired by each of them, whereupon at the end of the league season, the club with the highest number of points shall be considered the champion of the League.
- 14.5 If any two (2) or more Clubs have scored the same number of points in a group, their position in the table shall be determined in accordance with Article 15.
- 14.6 The two Participating Clubs finishing the League in the last two (2) positions in the ranking table shall be demoted to the UAE first division

league organized by the UAE FA.

## Article (15)

### Tie breaking procedure

- 15.1 If two or more clubs are equal in the points number, their positions in the table will be determined as follows:
  - 15.1.1 The club who has the highest number of points from matches held between the clubs equal in points,
  - 15.1.2 The club who has the highest goal difference in the matches between the clubs equal in points,
  - 15.1.3 The club scoring the highest number of goals in matches between the clubs equal in points,
  - 15.1.4 The club scoring the highest number of goals away from home in matches between the clubs equal in points,
  - 15.1.5 If, after having applied criteria 15.1.1) to 15.1.4), there are still teams having an equal ranking, criteria 15.1.1) to 15.1.4) are reapplied exclusively to the matches between the teams in question to determine their final rankings. If this procedure does not lead to a decision, criteria 15.1.6) to 15.1.10 apply;
  - 15.1.6 The club who has the highest goal difference in all Competition Matches,
  - 15.1.7 The club scoring the highest number of goals in all Competition Matches,
  - 15.1.8 The club scoring the highest number of goals away from home in the Competition,
  - 15.1.9 The club receiving the least number of yellow and red cards in all competition matches provided that they are calculated by deducting one point for each yellow card, three points for each direct red card and/or each red card as a consequent of two yellow cards, and four points for a yellow and direct red card received by the same player.
  - 15.1.10 By draw.

## Article (16)

### Match Duration

- 16.1. Each Competition Match shall last 90 minutes, comprising two (2) periods of 45 minutes, with an interval of fifteen (15) minutes in between from the whistle ending the first period to the whistle starting the second period.

## Article (17)

### Kick-Off Time

- 17.1. The Executive Office shall approve kick-off times for all Competition Matches based on the recommendations of the Technical Committee
- 17.2. Each Club participating in a Competition Match shall adhere to the kick-

off time.

- 17.3. Any Club which delays the kick-off of a Competition Match either at the start of the match or the re-start after the fifteen (15) minute half-time interval (as per

Law 7 of the FIFA Laws of the Game) shall be fined in accordance with the Quality Control Procedure.

## Article (18)

### Match Schedule

- 18.1 The Technical Committee shall determine the schedule for Competition Matches. All matches must be played as per the schedule decided. Notwithstanding, the date or venue of any Competition Match can be changed as may be required by public interest
- 18.2 If required, all matches of the last three rounds of the Competition will be held in one day at the same time.
- 18.3 If required, the UAE FA or the Executive Department of the PLC will inform Participating Clubs that cooling break will be introduced during the match. Where cooling break is introduced during the match, the following procedure will apply:
  - 18.3.1 In the first half of the match: At approximately the 30<sup>th</sup> minute and when the ball is out of play, the referee will signal for the start of the cooling break. Players will gather at the front of their team bench, but while still within the field of play, to cool themselves with sponge soaked with icy water, ice and cool drinking water. This break will last approximately two (2) minutes and will end when the referee signals through his whistle. Players are not allowed to leave the field of play.
  - 18.3.2 In the second half of the match: At approximately the 75<sup>th</sup> minute and when the ball is out of play, the referee will signal for the start of the cooling break. Players will gather at the front of their team bench, but while still within the field of play, to cool themselves with sponge soaked with icy water, ice and cool drinking water. This break will last approximately two (2) minutes and will end when the referee signals through his whistle. Players are not allowed to leave the field of play
- 18.4 In case a club wishes to change the time and/or date of the match, the club must submit, at least one week prior to the Competition Match, its application for the change. The application for change must include the proposed new time and date, the reason for the change. The final decision will be at the discretion of the PLC.
- 18.5 In the case of a Competition Match being rescheduled to a new venue, the Home Club will be considered the Host Club and shall be responsible for all matters in accordance with Chapter 5 of these Regulations.

## Article (19)

### Rest Days due to Participation in Other Competitions

- 19.1. If a Member Club plays a match within a Gulf, Arab or AFC Competition then the club shall be given a minimum of two (2) days rest and its next Competition match shall be played on the third day.
- 19.2. Article 19.1 is applied to periods of time preceding and following participation of the team in the external championships (Gulf, Arab and AFC Competitions).

## Article (20)

### Suspension of Matches

- 20.1. If any Competition Match is stopped by the Referee before the end of normal time because of any force majeure or any other incidents such as, but not limited to, the field of play not fit to play, weather conditions, etc., the following procedures must be followed:
  - 20.1.1. The match is automatically suspended for the duration of thirty (30) minutes to allow conditions to improve sufficiently to restart the match, unless the Referee decides that the match can be resumed earlier.
  - 20.1.2. In the event that the Referee decides to restart the match in accordance with Article 20.1.1 above, the participating clubs have the right to request for an additional five (5) minutes preparation and warm-up time; and
  - 20.1.3. In the event that the Referee cannot restart the match after the thirty (30) minute delay the match is abandoned in accordance with Article 21.

## Article (21)

### Abandoned / Postponed Matches due to Force Majeure

- 21.1. The Executive Management has the right to abandon or postpone a match due to force majeure or any emergency incidents from 24 hours and until 3 hours prior to the kick off time. The referee and match commissioner decision to abandon or postpone the match shall be in the period of 3 hours prior to the kick off time until kick off time.
- 21.2. In case of an abandoned or postponed match due to force majeure, this match will be played the next day, unless otherwise decided by the PLC Technical Committee. The whole match will be replayed regardless of the result and remaining time. All yellow and red cards given during the match shall be cancelled. Nonetheless, any offence committed which is due in front of the Disciplinary

Committee and/or any additional reports from the referee and/or match commissioner arising from this match shall be maintained and implemented. Further, any player who was not fielded in this match due to suspension, is considered not to have served his suspension (i.e. as if the match had not been played at all).

- 21.3. In case the match was not played on the next day, the Technical Committee of the PLC will determine the date time and venue of the replayed match.
- 21.4. The decisions set forth under the articles hereinabove may not be objected or appealed.

## Article (22)

### Matches Suspended and/or abandoned due to Power Failure and/or Floodlight Failure

- 22.1 Where a Competition Match is suspended or abandoned by the Referee due to a power disconnection affecting the floodlights the following procedures must be followed:
- 22.1.1 In the case of a power and/or floodlight failure taking place before the kickoff which cannot be solved within 30 minutes after the scheduled kick-off time, the match shall be postponed and re-arranged at a stadium to be decided by the Technical Committee;
  - 22.1.2 In the case of a power and/or floodlight failure taking place during any stage of a Competition Match which has started and it cannot be solved within 30 minutes:
    - 22.1.2.1 If the visiting Club is winning, the Referee shall end the match and the result shall be decided in favour of the visiting Club (0-3 or if the score is greater, the greater score shall prevail); or
    - 22.1.2.2 If the match is tied or the visiting Club is not winning, the match shall be replayed irrespective of the result and the time of abandonment.
    - 22.1.2.3 In the case of another power failure during the match, the final decision in this case will be for the match referee and match commissioner.
- 22.2 Notwithstanding Article 22.1.1 and 22.1.2 above, if the power and/or floodlight is disconnected during any stage of a Competition Match played at a neutral stadium or at a match organized by the PLC, the Referee shall declare the match to be abandoned and the results of the match will be null and void. Article 21 shall apply.
- 22.3 Except in cases of Force Majeure, the Host Club shall be responsible for any costs incurred by the PLC in case of match cancellation and/or postponement due to power and/or floodlight failure.

## Article (23)

### Abandoned Matches due to Player Expulsion

- 23.1 If the number of players of any of the Participating teams becomes less than (7) players during any of the competition matches, the referee must end the match and procedures in accordance to the UAE FA Disciplinary Regulations.

## Article (24)

### Withdrawal & Penalty for Failing to Play

24.1 Clubs shall play in all Competition Matches.

24.2 If a Club withdraws from the Competition for any reason other than Force Majeure before the beginning of the season, the Executive Office shall take the necessary steps to replace the withdrawn club.

24.3 Any Club that withdraws from the Competition for any reason other than Force Majeure shall be subject to the following actions:

24.3.1 More than 45 days before the beginning of the Competition:

24.3.1.1 Shall be relegated to the lower division.

24.3.2 Less than 45 days before the beginning of the Competition:

24.3.2.1 Shall be relegated to the lower division;

24.3.2.2 Shall pay a fine of AED 1,000,000;

24.3.2.3 Shall be prevented from participating in the Competition for the next season.

24.3.3 During first Round of the Competition:

24.3.3.1 The Club shall be relegated to the lower division for the following season and be disqualified from participating in the Competition for the next two (2) consecutive seasons;

24.3.3.2 Shall pay a fine of AED 2,000,000; and

24.3.3.3 Shall bear the losses resulting from the forfeiture of the income expected from the commercial contracts, TV transmission contracts and all other expenses resulting from participating in the competition matches before withdrawal.

24.3.3.4 Have all its matches cancelled and considered null and void (all points, goals scored and goals against will not be counted and taken into consideration when deciding the Competition ranking). Nonetheless, any sanctions passed down from the Disciplinary Committee shall remain as well as any Yellow or Red cards recorded during the above cancelled matches.

24.3.4 During the second Round of the Competition:

24.3.4.1 The Club shall be relegated to the lower division for the following season and be disqualified from participating in the League for the next two (2) consecutive seasons;

24.3.4.2 Shall pay a fine of AED 2,000,000;

24.3.4.3 Shall bear the losses resulting from the forfeiture of the income expected from the commercial contracts, TV transmission contracts and all other expenses resulting from participating in the competition matches before withdrawal;

24.3.4.4 All of its matches played in the league (all points, goals scored and goal against will be counted and

taken into consideration when deciding the Competition ranking). All sanctions passed down from the Disciplinary Committee shall remain as well as any yellow or red cards recorded during the above matches; and

24.3.4.5 Have all its matches that was played in the second Round to the point of withdrawal cancelled and considered null

and void (all points, goals scored and goals against will not be counted and taken into consideration when deciding the Competition ranking). Nonetheless, any sanctions passed down from the Disciplinary Committee shall remain as well as any Yellow or Red cards recorded during the above cancelled matches.

- 24.4 The Executive Office of the PLC shall take decisions in cases where Participating Club withdraws from the competition due to force majeure and exceptional circumstances.

#### Article (25)

##### Replacing the Withdrawing Club

- 25.1. If any club withdraws from the competition pursuant to article 24, the Executive Office of the PLC shall decide on an alternative club to participate in the Competition provided that such club fulfills all requirements of Participating Clubs.

#### Article (26)

##### Playing Field

- 26.1 Clubs are responsible for ensuring that their field of play is maintained in good condition in order to help facilitate the playing of Competition Matches to the highest quality to enhance the technical standard of play. If the field of play is not in the best condition, the Technical Committee reserves the right to change the venue for the match. In such cases, the Host Club is responsible for all related costs as a result of the match being moved to the new venue.
- 26.2 The Host Club shall ensure that no activities including but not limited to training sessions are held on the field of play from forty-eight (48) hours prior to the kick-off of the match.
- 26.3 Field of play markings must be in accordance with Law 1 of the FIFA Laws of the Game (including all its appendices). It is the responsibility of the Club to ensure that field of play is marked according to the FIFA Laws of the Game and the Pitch Marking Manual.
- 26.4 Upon arrival at the stadium, the Match Commissioner and the Referees shall inspect the stadium and field of play and ensure that all arrangements are in accordance with the FIFA Laws of the Game and all of PLC's relevant regulations. If the conditions of the Field of Play (including goal dimensions and the pitch) do not comply with the FIFA Laws of the Game and/or all of PLC's relevant regulations, the Match Commissioner and/or the Referees shall immediately issue relevant instructions to the Host Club to rectify the

situation.

- 26.5 If fifty (50) minutes prior to the kick-off Article 26.4 is not complied, a fine of 50,000 AED will be imposed on the club according to the Quality Control Procedures (QCP). In case the necessary amendment was not implied until 15 minutes prior to kick-off time, the match will be abandoned and the Away team wins (3-0).

26.6 The Host Club shall ensure that watering of the pitch does not affect the LED systems and/or broadcast equipment. Should the LED system and/or broadcast equipment malfunction due to the watering of the pitch, the Host Club is responsible for the financial costs of repairing these equipment. The Host Club may water the pitch on the following times:

26.6.1. Before warm-up time until 60 minutes before kick-off time.

26.6.2. immediately after warm-up time has finished (i.e. 20 minutes prior to kick-off time) for a maximum of five (5) minutes.

26.6.3 In the half-time break for a maximum of five (5) minutes provided that watering the pitch starts only after all players have left the field of play.

In all cases, the Host Club shall inform match commissioner about watering times during the organizational meeting of the match held 3 hours before the match. In case the Host Club watered the pitch without informing the match commissioner, a fine will be imposed on the Host club in accordance with the Quality Control Procedures.

26.7 Throughout the Competition, a Club must play all its home matches in the Competition at one and the same Stadium. In case where the home stadium of the club is not ready, the Club must inform the Executive Department at least seven (7) days before the match day. The notification must include the proposed new venue, agreement from the new venue and the reason for the change. Further, the proposed venue should be from the list of stadia already approved by the Executive Department. The final decision will be made by the Executive Office of the PLC.

26.8 In case of a force majeure where a club is unable to play its matches on its home stadium, the club must notify the Executive Department of the PLC immediately. The notification should include the new venue and a copy of the agreement from the new venue and the reason for the change. The new venue should be from the list of stadia already approved by the Executive Department. The final decision will be made by the Executive Office of the PLC.

## Article (27)

### Team Bench & Technical Area

27.1 Dedicated team benches shall be provided directly adjacent to the pitch for each team for the sole use of Team Officials, medical staff and substitute players.

27.2 Each technical area must have direct access to the pitch and shall be located equidistant from the halfway line.

27.3 Team benches must contain a minimum of twenty (20) full size seats, which are affixed to the bench and have backrests. Moveable chairs are not allowed. Benches must be covered to protect against bad weather and spectator misbehavior.

- 27.4 A maximum of ten (10) team officials and seven (7) substitutes are allowed to sit on the team bench, provided they are in possession of the appropriate accreditation card.
- 27.5 During matches, players and team officials on the team bench are not allowed access to any TV footage of the match and/or electronic communication tools including but not limited to telephone, tablets, walkie talkie, etc. unless the electronic device is used for technical purposes only and is not connected to the internet and/or to any other device. The match commissioner have the right to confiscate any of this electronic equipment in case of violation of this article.
- 27.6 If at any time the number of the persons sitting on the bench exceeds that allowed under Article 27.4 above, then the responsible Club shall be fined in accordance with the Quality Control Procedure (QCP).
- 27.7 If at any stage during a Competition Match one or more people related to one of the participating Clubs who are not registered on the team officials list refuse to leave the field of play (pitch area, team benches, technical area or any other place around the field of play) after instructions from the

Referee, the result of the match shall be considered as 3-0 in favour of the other team. Moreover, the Referee shall abandon the Match and the responsible Club shall be fined in accordance with the decision of the Disciplinary Committee.

- 27.8 All team officials and players seated on the bench must wear kits that are contrasting with the colours of the players and Referees on the pitch, and must wear bibs when instructed by the Referees.
- 27.9 Team benches on the left side (when facing the pitch) are designated for the Host Team while the team benches on the right side (when facing the pitch) are designated for the Away Team. If the match is played on a third party stadium, the team benches on the left side are designated for the team first mentioned in the Match Schedule while the team benches on the right side are designated for the second mentioned team.

#### Article (28)

##### Official Training Sessions

- 28.1 There are no official training sessions for the visiting team unless otherwise determined by the Technical Committee.

#### Article (29)

##### Warming Up

- 29.1 Teams shall be entitled to warm up on the field of play before the match if the weather permits (as determined by the Match Commissioner). The warm up shall start from 50 minutes before kick-off of the match and shall end at the latest 20 minutes before the match starts.
- 29.2. In case of any renovations or modification on the pitch, the match commissioner shall specify warm-up location.
- 29.3. Teams are not allowed to warm up earlier and/or later than the above- mentioned times. Teams which fail to comply with the official pre-match warm up timings in Article 29.1 above, shall be penalized for failing to comply with the official match countdown in accordance with the Quality Control Procedure (QCP). The teams may decide not to warm up if they wish.
- 29.4. During the match, all substitutes from each team may warm up at the same time assisted by one (1) official, but without a ball (except for the goalkeeper), behind the goal closest to their substitutes' bench or in a space determined by the Match Commissioner prior to kick-off. In the event that there is limited space behind the goal, the Match Commissioner may determine a space next to the team's team bench. In this case, only a maximum of three (3) players from each team will be allowed to warm-up at the same time (without a ball). The three (3) players may be assisted by one (1) official.

## Article (30)

### Match & Training Balls

- 30.1. The Executive Department of the PLC shall provide each Host Club with ten (10) footballs for each match in this Competition that it will host in the League. These footballs will be provided at the beginning of the League Season. Host Club is obliged to use ten (10) new balls for every Competition Match that it hosts.

- 30.2. The pressure of the footballs shall be set between 0.8 bar to 1.0 bar. The footballs shall be placed in the referee's room at least 120 minutes before the start of the match. The referees shall ensure that this procedure is completed.
- 30.3. Participating Clubs shall only use footballs approved by the Executive Office in all official functions, including but not limited to training sessions, press conferences, photo shoots, etc.
- 30.4. In addition to the balls referred to in Article 30.1, the Executive Department of the PLC shall provide each Participating Club with fifty (50) footballs at the beginning of the League Season.

### Article (31)

#### Stadium

- 31.1. All Participating Clubs must name one stadium that fulfills all requirements set forth in the PLC Stadia Regulations at least thirty days before the start of the first match in the Competition. Any renovations on the nominated stadium must be finished at least thirty days before the first match in the Competition. Stadia may only be used if approved by the Executive Department of the PLC.
- 31.2. In the event that renovations cannot be completed thirty days before the first match of the Competition and/or if the home stadium of the Participating Club does not meet the PLC Stadia Regulations, the Participating Club shall nominate an alternative Stadium where it shall play all its home matches. The nomination shall be submitted together with a written agreement from the stadium owner clearly indicating the name of stadium and the matches for which the stadium will be used for.
- 31.3. The Executive Office may grant an exception to a specific structural criteria in the PLC Stadia Regulations in cases of particular hardship or structural impossibility to meet the required criteria; and upon reasoned request.
- 31.4. The Host Clubs must deliver their stadium to the Executive Department of the PLC at 8 o'clock on the match day.
- 31.5. If a Participating Club decides to change its stadium once the League Season has started, it shall notify the Executive Department of the PLC at least one week before the intended match day to be hosted at the new stadium. The application for change must include the name of proposed new venue, the reason for the change as well as agreement from the stadium owner. In case of change of venue, the proposed venue should be from the list of stadia already approved by the Executive Department of the PLC. In addition, all costs related to changing the stadium shall be borne by the Participating Club.
- 31.6. Each club must make its stadium and fields available to the Executive Department of the PLC when requested, provided that the

application is sent by the Executive Department of the PLC at least seven days before the day when the PLC requires the stadium. The notice period

may be reduced in case of emergency after taking into consideration the former arrangements that must be done by the concerned club.

- 31.7. The Executive Department of the PLC may carry out stadium inspections at any time before and/or during the competition to check whether the stadium meets the criteria in the PLC Stadia Regulations.

## Article (32)

### Players' Equipment

- 32.1 Participating Clubs must comply with the Equipment Regulations approved by the Executive Office and the UAE FA Board of Members, which govern the apparel and equipment worn by players and officials in Competition Matches. The Equipment Regulations are in force from the time the Participating Club's Official Delegation arrive at a Stadium until the time the Participating Club's Official Delegation depart from the stadium.
- 32.2 Each Club shall submit a sample of both their primary and secondary kit colours (shirt, shorts and socks) for both outfield players and goalkeepers to the Executive Department of the PLC, at a date determined by the Executive Department of the PLC. All items to be used by a Participating Club within the Stadium during the Competition Matches shall be subjected to the approval of the Executive Department of the PLC in accordance to the procedures set by the Equipment Regulations and any other instructions related thereto.
- 32.3 The Match Officials and/or the Match Commissioner and / or the Marketing personnel in the Executive Department of the PLC has / have the right and duty to check kit items at the match venue and are entitled to send such items to the PLC Headquarters for further control after the match.
- 32.4 Decisions regarding the approval of kits and other items mentioned in the PLC Equipment Regulations are final. The PLC declines all responsibility and authority in the event of conflicts arising from contract between a Participating Club and its sponsor(s) on account of the advertising provisions of the Equipment Regulations. The Participating Club agrees to hold PLC harmless from any and all damages which may arise from decisions regarding kits.
- 32.5 Any players participating in Competition Matches must have their name and shirt number appearing on the back of their playing shirt, ensuring the following:
- 32.5.1 The number must be legible to the match officials and spectators in the stadium from a considerable distance, as well as to the TV audience;
- 32.5.2 The colour of these names and numbers must be noticeably different from that of the players' kit and must either be a contrast colour or appear on a signed – coloured patch. It must

contrast (light on dark or vice versa) with the colour of the shirt;

- 32.5.3 All players must maintain the same shirt number and name for all PLC Competitions. Numbers allocated to a player registered in any other PLC Competitions cannot be used again for this Competition, unless it is for the same player. In case a player is transferred to another team, his number may be given to another player who has no team number during the same season. Numbers are from 1 to 99 with number 1 reserved for the goalkeeper.

32.6 The Executive Department of the PLC shall determine the kit colours (outfield players and goalkeepers) for each Competition match which shall be communicated to all clubs no later than five (5) days before the match. The selection of colours will be based on each team's colours approved by the Executive Department of the PLC, with preference given as follows in the event of clash of colours:

32.6.1 Outfield players of home team;

32.6.2 Outfield players of away team;

32.6.3 Goalkeeper of home team;

32.6.4 Goalkeeper of away team.

The away team may be asked to play using combined kit from its first registered colours, and its second or third registered colours.

When, and only when, the above preferences and procedure still fails to produce a distinctive difference in the colours of the two teams, the home team may be required to wear a combination of its home and away kit or its full away kit, while the away team maintains its home kit. The decision of the referee in this regard is final.

32.7 Member Clubs shall bring both their primary and secondary kits (players and goalkeepers) to each Competition match and ensure that neither of the uniform is similar to the other. If the selection of kit is restricted due to the team not bringing both of its kits, the respective club will be fined AED10,000 in accordance to the Quality Control Procedure (QCP).

32.8 In case all options referred to in article (32-6) hereinabove have been exhausted, the Away club will be given until fifteen (15) minutes before match kick-off, the match will be abandoned and the Home team wins (3-0).

### Article (33)

#### Conduct of Team Officials & Players

33.1 All players and team officials participating in the Competition shall strictly abide by the principles of sportsmanship and Fair Play in all matches and other PLCactivities.

33.2 Instances of player or team official misconduct are dealt with by the Disciplinary Committee and are punished in accordance with the Disciplinary Regulations.

33.3 Smoking is strictly prohibited on the field of play, media/broadcast areas and all official areas within the stadium (dressing rooms, players' tunnel, etc.). Violations of this Article shall be dealt with in accordance with the Disciplinary Regulations.

### Article (34)

#### Filming of Matches

34.1 Teams are permitted to record their matches with a technical camera (video or photographic) in a pre-determined place in each stadium, which shall be identified by the Match Commissioner.

## Section 5

### Host clubs

#### Article (35)

##### Stadium Requirements

- 35.1 Host Clubs shall undertake to provide all the necessary facilities listed in the PLC Stadia Regulations for each Competition Match. Non-compliance with these requirements will result in Host Clubs being fined in accordance with the Quality Control Procedure (QCP).
- 35.2 Once a facility have been determined by the Executive Department of the PLC (i.e. media centre, press conference room, PLC officials office, medical room, doping control room, etc.), Host Clubs are not allowed to change this facility to another location unless otherwise approved by the Executive Department of the PLC. Request to change an approved facility to another location must be made at least one (1) week prior to the match.

#### Article (36)

##### Match Organisation

- 36.1 For each Competition Match, the Club whose name is mentioned first on the Match Schedule shall be considered as the Host Club, and shall be responsible (at its own cost) for the following, but not limited to:
- 36.1.1 Make appropriate arrangements for the staging of their matches in accordance with the Regulations;
- 36.1.2 Ensure that a Host Club General Coordinator who is registered and approved by the Executive Department of the PLC is appointed for every home match of the game;
- 36.1.3 Ensure all facilities listed in the PLC Stadia Regulations are provided for and properly equipped well in advance of each Competition Match;
- 36.1.4 Ensure proper parking and access to the stadium for all match stakeholders including but not limited to Participating Teams, match officials (those described in Chapter 6 of this regulations), Commercial Affiliates, Media and fans;
- 36.1.5 Ensure there is an ample amount of ice, water and refreshments (at a minimum, Host Club should supply, as refreshments, fruits and sandwiches) in the team dressing rooms, the Referees dressing room, the doping control room, the PLC office and the media centre;
- 36.1.6 Ensure, for each half's cooling break, there are twenty (20) new clean sponges soaked in icy water (to be provided in

cooling box), 10kg ice, twenty-two (22) bottles (500ml) for each team;

36.1.7 Ensure, for each half's cooling break, there are ten (10) new clean sponges soaked in icy water (to be provided in cooling box), 5kg ice, fourteen (14) bottles (500ml) for the referees team;

- 36.1.8 Ensure the necessary match day personnel are present at the stadium well in advance of spectator entry to perform their relevant duties (i.e. at least four hours before the start of the match);
- 36.1.9 Ensure a Ball Kid Coordinator and twelve (12) ball kids are available from two and a half hours before the match until ten (10) minutes after the match. Please refer to the PLC Youth Programme regulations for more details;
- 36.1.10 Ensure that enough and sufficient volunteers and staff members are available in order for the Host Club to fulfill its obligations as indicated in these Regulations and other PLC Regulations;
- 36.1.11 Guarantee that access to the stadium will be granted to the Match Officials, officials and players of the visiting Club, sponsors, spectators, broadcasters and the media without any discrimination of gender, race, color, religion or ancestry;
- 36.1.12 Be responsible for order and security before, during and after the match. The Host Club may be called to account for incidents of any kind and may be disciplined;
- 36.1.13 Provide the PLC officials with at least five (5) fully charged walkie-talkie that is connected to Host Club officials who are responsible for match organization.
- 36.2 PLC declines all responsibility in the event of conflicts arising from contracts between a club or any of its players, officials, employees, representatives or intermediaries and any third party (including, without limitation, their sponsors, suppliers, manufacturers, broadcasters, intermediaries and players) on account of the provisions of these regulations and/or any other PLC regulations and such persons' obligations thereunder.
- 36.3 The Host Club shall indemnify, defend and hold the PLC, its subsidiaries and all of their officers, directors, employees, representatives, agents and other auxiliary persons free and harmless against any and all liabilities, obligations, losses, damages, penalties, claims, actions, fines and expenses (including reasonable legal expenses) of whatsoever kind or nature resulting from, arising out of, or attributable to any non-compliance by the club or any of its players, officials, employees, representatives or agents with the present regulations.
- 36.4 Notwithstanding Article 36.1, with regards to the match in which the League trophy and medals will be presented to the Champion, the PLC shall assume total and sole responsibility for the seating and distribution of seats / tickets in the VVIP and VIP areas; as well as safety and security matters for the prize giving ceremony. For the avoidance of doubt, the cost of safety and security will be under the Host Club.

#### Article (37)

#### Public Address Systems, Announcers and Announcements

37.1 The stadium's public address system must be capable of being heard clearly both inside and outside the stadium, above the crowd noise, even in the case of a sudden upsurge in spectator and noise levels.

- 37.2 Trained announcer who is capable of addressing spectators in Arabic and English must be made available. The Executive Office of the PLC will provide Host Clubs with an announcer's script which must be used for each Competition Match.
- 37.3 The public address system must not be used for the dissemination of political messages, to support the home team or for any form of discrimination against the visiting team.
- 37.4 Host Clubs are entitled to play music until fifteen (15) minutes before kick-off and during half time in accordance with PLC's Official Match Countdown, but volume levels must be managed appropriately during player warm up times and specified intervals for on-field Broadcast interviews.
- 37.5 No music may be played during the Match, with the exception of after the goals, whereby the music may be played for a maximum of ten (10) seconds and must cease immediately prior to the recommencement of play.

#### Article (38)

##### Giant Screen

- 38.1 The use of the giant screen is under the sole discretion and authority of the Executive Department of the PLC. Host Clubs who wishes to utilize the giant screen on match day (example: for commercial purposes, advertising, broadcast announcements, etc.) must obtain the prior permission of the Executive Office of the PLC at least two (2) weeks in advance of the said Competition Match.
- 38.2 Host Clubs may screen a live broadcast feed of the match on a giant screen inside the stadium (if applicable), however all replays are strictly prohibited without exception.

Screening of results or video footage of other Competition Matches either on the giant screen or the public address system is strictly prohibited.Article (39)

##### Safety & Security

- 39.1 The Host team undertakes to coordinate with the concerned local authorities and the Access Control Officer to prepare, plan and implement the appropriate security measures inside and around the stadium in all Competition Matches. Those include all appointed persons including: players and officials of both teams, match officials (as specified under Chapter 6), media representatives, commercial partners, sponsors (Participating Committee and Clubs) and the public.
- 39.2 Host Clubs are responsible for ensuring that their safety and security plans address the following:

39.2.1 Each club should appoint a Safety and Security Officer responsible for a prescribed list of duties, including but not limited to organizing meetings with local police and private security companies before, during and after the season and each match to discuss procedures and issues related to match organisation;

- 39.2.2 The clubs should provide security personnel from government approved security companies as well as police personnel. The number of security and police personnel should be in proportion to the anticipated number of fans and the important of the match. In case there is no security personnel at the time of kick-off, the referee must wait for 15 minutes and if they are still not present during that period, the match will be cancelled and the host club will be the loser in match by result (3-0).
  - 39.2.3 The PLC Accreditation System and safety management plan must be in place to control its Home supporters;
  - 39.2.4 The access to/ or movement on the field of play must be restricted;
  - 39.2.5 Assembly points must be designated for emergency evacuation situations;
  - 39.2.6 Signage must be in place;
  - 39.2.7 Evacuation doors must be operational;
  - 39.2.8 An Operations Centre must be designated as the primary point for security management;
  - 39.2.9 Traffic flows must be properly determined for all stakeholder groups;
  - 39.2.10 The Match Officials are protected from the time of their arrival at the stadium until the time they depart the stadium after the match;
  - 39.2.11 Spectator access to the field of play must be prevented at all times;
  - 39.2.12 Parades and entertainment must be in compliance with national laws;
  - 39.2.13 Spectator medical services must be available;  
and
  - 39.2.14 An operation plan for lost children.
- 39.3. All reasonable security measures must be put in place, at the cost of the Host Club, to protect the commentary area, camera positions, the OB van area and the equipment of the broadcasters.
- 39.4. Spectators are strictly forbidden from entering stadiums with items listed on the Prohibited Items List.
- 39.5. Fans of Participating Clubs may bring into the stadium only one loudspeaker (no more than 45 Watt) and any other percussion instruments for purpose of cheering their team. The loudspeaker and/or the instruments may not be attached to any electronic devices and the sounds produced must not be amplified. These loudspeaker and percussion instruments may only be used in the stands for second category ticket holders only. In case of any violation, a fine will be imposed on the club in accordance with the Quality Control Procedures. Further, the Executive Office of the PLC

has the right to refuse the use of loudspeaker at a certain stadium if the hosting club provide an independent report or document that proves that the use of loudspeaker(s) will affect on the safety and security organisation of the stadium. Notwithstanding the above, PLC or the police or the security personnel have the right to unilaterally confiscate any of the loudspeaker and/or percussion instruments if the sounds or noises made are affecting referees' performance or safety and security organisation.

- 39.6. Fans who shall adhere to the spirit of fair play. Participating Clubs, its players, officials and fans are further prohibited to make any offense or use any racist or sexual words, logos, acts or language.
- 39.7. Each club is be responsible for the behavior of their fans and/ or spectators.
- 39.8. Breaches (and corresponding sanctions) in spectator conduct are listed in accordance with the Disciplinary Regulations.
- 39.9. If the Disciplinary Committee takes a decision to move the match of one of the teams in the competition, the PLC shall determine neutral stadium for the match provided that the selected venue does not contradict the decision of the Disciplinary Committee.
- 39.10. If the facilities and buildings of the Host Club are destroyed by the spectators of the Visiting Club, the affected Club shall communicate such damages and the costs thereof to the Executive Department of the PLC through a security report within 24 hours of the incident. The Executive Department of the PLC may appoint any party to inspect the damages and losses and then claim the necessary compensation from the visiting club in coordination with the Disciplinary Committee.
- 39.11. In all cases, the provisions stipulated for in the Executive Regulations of the Federal Law No.(8) of 2014 concerning the Security of Sports Facilities and Events shall prevail. In cases of any confusion or conflict with the Competition Regulations, the provisions of the Executive Regulations of Law No.(8) referred to hereinabove shall prevail .

#### Article (40)

##### Ambulances & Medical Facilities

- 40.1 For each Competition Match the Host Club, at its own cost is responsible for providing the following medial facilities and personnel which must be in place at the stadium as indicated below:
  - 40.1.1 Two ambulances supplied with all necessary equipment and devices in addition to one first-aid specialist and one driver for each ambulance, provided that the first-aid specialist is licensed and approved by the Ministry of Health or by a concerned governmental health body. There must be one ambulance available two hours before the match start till its end (and the audience leaving the stadium) whereas the other ambulance shall be at the stadium at least one hour before the match start till its end (and the players leaving the stadium). The following will apply:
    - 40.1.1.1. If the ambulances and/ or the first-aid specialists and drivers are not present at the stadium at the designated time, the Host Club will be fined according to disciplinary committee decision.
    - 40.1.1.2. If the ambulances and/ or the first-aid specialists and drivers are still not present at the stadium by

the designated kick-off, the match shall not start and will be delayed for a maximum of fifteen (15) minutes to allow ambulances to arrive.

40.1.1.3. If the ambulances and/or the first-aid specialists and drivers do not arrive by the end of the fifteen (15) minute delay period, the host club shall be considered to have forfeited the match 3-0; and

40.1.1.4. If at any time during a Competition match either of the ambulances is required to leave the stadium (for any reason other than a player or spectator injury), the host club shall immediately inform the PLC Match Officials, and in any case the Host Club shall be fined in accordance with the Quality Control Procedure (QCP) and the Disciplinary Regulations.

- 40.1.2 A medical emergency room must be provided near the dressing room and/or field of play and must be fully equipped with all emergency medical fittings pursuant to the PLC Stadia Regulations.
- 40.1.3 An air-conditioned, well-lighted and ventilated room for doping control shall be provided with all its requirements as per the PLC Stadia Regulations. This room must also be connected to the internet.
- 40.1.4 The following medical services shall be provided on the field:
- 40.1.4.1. A doctor trained to provide medical emergency services
  - 40.1.4.2. Either two (2) fully charged and operational golf carts – each cart to be operated by one (1) driver and one (1) assistant; or two (2) set of stretcher bearers - each stretcher to be operated by a minimum of four (4) persons.
  - 40.1.4.3. In case one golf cart was available, the club shall also ensure that there are be two stretchers with two (2) set of stretcher bearers - each staff consists of 4 persons in minimum in addition to the staff of golf cart. In the event that there are two (2) injured players on the field of play at the same time, the stretcher bearers shall be used instead of the golf cart.

## Article (41)

### Access Control(Accreditation)

- 41.1 An accreditation card is physical proof of access entitlements to a Controlled Access Area. It is personal and non-transferable and does not grant the pass holder access to a viewing seat. Any person using another person's accreditation card will result in both the offender and the owner of the accreditation card losing the privileges of this card throughout the season. In addition, Quality Control Procedures apply.
- 41.2 The PLC Accreditation System for the Competition will be adopted and implemented by all Clubs on match day with the full accreditation system implemented no later than 3 hours prior to the scheduled kick-off time of the match.
- 41.3 When the accreditation system is in place (no later than 3 hours prior to the scheduled kick-off time), accreditation card must be worn at all times in a manner that is clearly visible to other persons, particularly security personnel and PLC Officials.
- 41.4 The accreditation system is to remain in place until teams and Match Officials have left the Controlled Access Area and at least 1 hour after the end of any Competition Match.

41.5 The Executive Office of the PLC will be solely responsible for issuing Club and specific season accreditations as well as match day passes. All relevant personal data from each accredited party shall be retained by the Executive office of the PLC.

All players registered to play in the competitions organized by the PLC in accordance with Article 8, team officials, members of the Club and Participating Teams must apply for an accreditation to access the Controlled Access Area. Application for accreditation must be made in accordance with the provisions of the Accreditation Regulations.

- 41.8. Should any accreditation be misplaced or lost, the Club shall be required to pay a AED500 (Five Hundred Dirhams) production fee for every card lost, to replace it.

#### Article (42)

##### Protocol

- 42.1. Host Clubs shall ensure the following protocols are observed at all Competition Matches as follows:
- 42.1.1. Ensuring that the following flags are flown in a visible location at least two (2) hours prior to kickoff:
    - 42.1.1.1. National flag of United Arab Emirates (dimensions 2×3m)
    - 42.1.1.2. UAEFA Flag (dimensions 2×3m)
  - 42.1.2. The FIFA Fair Play flag shall be marched onto the pitch prior to kick-off, followed by the teams whilst the PLC Anthem is played. Procedures for FIFA Fair Play flag march-in is as per the PLC Youth Programme Regulations.
  - 42.1.3. The Match Commissioner shall be given a reserved seat in the PLC- designated area as per Article 47.5.
  - 42.1.4. The Referee Assessor shall be given a reserved seat in the PLC- designated area as per Article 48.2.

#### Article (43)

##### Insurance

- 43.1. Host Clubs are responsible for concluding and maintaining insurance coverage for the risks in connection with staging and organizing its home Competition Matches providing for appropriate guaranteed sums for damages to persons, objects and property, as well as for pure economic losses corresponding to

the specific circumstances of the Club and associations concerned. Insurance coverage must include, without limitation:

- 43.1.1. Third-party liability insurance (for all third parties participating in matches or attending the relevant venue);
  - 43.1.2. Spectator accident insurance;  
and
  - 43.1.3. Stadium insurance.
- 43.2. Host Clubs release the PLC of any liability whatsoever in regards to the insured matters in Article 43.1.
- 43.3. Clubs are responsible for the insurance coverage (including hospitalization and surgical operations) of their team, including players and officials, at their own expense, for all Competition Matches. Claims for damages against the PLC are expressly excluded, and the participating Clubs shall hold the PLC harmless against any such claims.

#### Article (44)

- 44.1. Without prejudice to the insurance coverage of the PLC provided in article (43) above, the participating clubs should bear the insurance responsibility on its own expense with a known insurance company against the following risks:
- 44.1.1. Insurance against all types of risks related to participating in the PLC competitions.
  - 44.1.2. Insurance against all risks related to shows and organizing the team matches which must include for example insurance against third party liability (for all parties participating in matches or present in field or stadium) by ensuring reasonable amounts in return for accidents occurring to individuals, tools and assets, in addition to commercial losses related to special circumstances of relative participating clubs.
- 44.2. If the participating club is not the owner of the used stadium, it must provide a proper insurance which includes insurance against third party liability and loss of assets incurred to the owner or lessee of stadium.
- 44.3. The participating club must ensure that the PLC is included in all insurance policies – as defined in this regulation and the PLC shall be released from all claims and liabilities incurred or related to shows and match organization. In all cases, the PLC may request any participating party to make a written commitment (free of charges) on liability release or protection from damage and/or warranties and/or copying relative insurance policies.

## Article (45)

### Liability & Indemnity

- 45.1 The PLC and/or the Executive Office and/ or the Executive Department may appoint a third party to work as a broker, representative or services provider in relation to carrying out the PLC's obligations set forth in the Regulations.
- 45.2 The PLC, its employees and its agents shall not be liable in case of dispute about contracts arising between the Participating Club and players, officials, employees, representatives, agents or third parties (including but not limited to guarantors, providers, manufacturers, media, agents and players) in relation to this regulation and/or any other regulations of the PLC and the other obligations of the concerned person under the same.
- 45.3 The Participating Clubs should indemnify, release and defend the PLC and its agents, guarantors and/or any third party working as a services provider and/or on behalf of the PLC and all its employees, managers, workers/representatives, agents and all persons related to the PLC for any damages, responsibilities, liabilities, losses, indemnities, penalties, lawsuits, fines, or expenses (including reasonable legal expenses) of any kind or nature whatsoever arising from or in relation to the non-compliance of the Participating Club, players, officials, workers, representatives or agents to this regulation and/or any other regulation issued by the PLC.

## Section 6

### Match Officials

#### Article (46)

##### Referees

- 46.1 The FA Referees Committee shall appoint the required number of Referees for each Competition Match.
- 46.2 Clubs may not request to appoint or not to appoint certain Referees for their matches nor shall they request to change a Referee who is already appointed.

#### Article (47)

##### Match Commissioner

- 47.1 For each Competition Matches, the Executive Department of the PLC shall appoint a Match Commissioner, whose primary role is to ensure that each Competition Match is conducted in accordance with the Competition Regulations.
- 47.2 The Match Commissioner acts as the PLC's official representative at a match and is the authority responsible for ensuring that the match is properly organized and runs smoothly.
- 47.3 The Match Commissioner shall be absolutely objective and his behaviour invariably reflects this principle. He shall constantly be alert to all incidents concerning the match itself.
- 47.4 The Match Commissioner shall submit a duly completed match report to the Executive Department of the PLC immediately after each match.

- 47.5 The Match Commissioner shall be given a seat in the stadium, as designated by the Executive Department of the PLC, with the best overall view of the entire stadium, which has quick and easy access to the field of play (he shall have a TV set before him).

#### Article (48)

##### Referees Assessor

- 48.1. The FA Referees Committee shall appoint a Referee Assessor for each Competition Match whose primary role is to evaluate the performance of all Referees (utilizing both live and video reviews) appointed to a particular Match and report back to the Referees' Committee.
- 48.2. The Referee Assessor shall be given a seat in the stadium, as designated by the Executive Department of the PLC, with the best overall view of the entire stadium, which has quick and easy access to the field of play (he shall have a TV set before him).

#### Article (49)

##### Access Control Officer

- 49.1. For each Competition Matches, the PLC shall appoint an Access Control Officer, whose primary role will be to ensure proper implementation of the PLC Accreditation Cards.
- 49.2. Additionally, the Access Control Officer shall coordinate with the Host Club and Local Emergency Services to ensure that all security and safety precautions have been taken in relation to a particular Competition Match.

#### Article (50)

##### Media Officer

- 50.1. For each Competition Match, the Executive Department of the PLC shall appoint a Media Officer, whose primary role will be to oversee the PLC Media Regulations.

#### Article (51)

##### Doping Control Officer

- 51.1. NADO (National Anti-Doping Organization), may appoint a Doping Control Officer for Competition Matches at their discretion.
- 51.2. The Host Club will be responsible for ensuring all the facilities and personal as listed in Article 40.1.3 are available in and place no later than two (2) hours prior to each Competition Match kick-off. Match Commissioner shall also perform an inspection to ensure that the said facilities are present and are ready as per the requirements of the Stadia Regulations.

## Article (52)

### Pro League Committee Officials

52.1 For each Competition Match, the Technical Committee and/ or the Executive Department of the PLC have the right to appoint additional officials, whose primary role is to supervise the match organization, as well as to support the Match Commissioner and help ensure that each Competition Match is held in accordance with the Competition Regulations.  
Section 7

### Administrative Regulations

## Article (53)

### Disciplinary Measures

- 53.1. Disciplinary measures and appeals are dealt with in compliance with the current UAE FA regulations, PLC regulations, the UAE FA Disciplinary Code, the PLC Quality Control Procedures, the relevant Competition regulations and PLC Circular(s).
- 53.2. The Executive Office of the PLC may initiate investigations should it suspect and / or is aware of any violations of the current UAE FA regulations, PLC regulations, the UAE FA Disciplinary Code, the PLC Quality Control Procedures, the relevant Competition regulations and PLC Circular(s).
- 53.3. The UAE FA Disciplinary Committee may impose the disciplinary measures for violations of the current UAE FA regulations, PLC regulations, the UAE FA Disciplinary Code, the relevant Competition regulations and PLC Circular(s).
- 53.4. The Technical Committee and/ or the Executive Department of the PLC may impose the fines for violations of the relevant Competition regulations, PLC regulations and PLC Circular(s), in accordance to the Quality Control Procedures.

## Article (54)

### Cautions (Yellow Cards)

- 54.1. Penalties to players resulting from cautions (single yellow cards) shall result in:
  - 54.1.1. Every yellow card received by a player in the Competition will result in the player being fined AED750; and
  - 54.1.2. If the player receives three (3) cautions in the Competition, he shall be suspended from participating in the next match in the Competition.
- 54.2. Yellow cards and suspensions arising out of Competition Matches shall only be served in the Competition.
- 54.3. If the result of a Competition Match is abandoned or the Match is terminated or is not completed for any reason, the Disciplinary Regulations shall apply.

- 54.4. Each Club shall be obliged to execute such penalties either by suspension or payment of any fines and shall bear the responsibility of monitoring the cautions and/or suspensions received by its players and officials to ensure that all players and officials registered and/or fielded during the competition are eligible to play, in accordance with the final report of the match as submitted on the FA Net after being approved by the match referee and match commissioner.
- 54.5. In case a player is transferred or loaned to any of the Member Clubs, the player will maintain his records of yellow card(s). The player's previous Club must inform the new Club of the yellow cards that the player have collected to date and the new Club is responsible to continue the monitoring process as per Articles 54.4 and 54.5 of these Regulations.
- 54.6. At the end of the Competition, all cautions imposed on players shall be dropped subject to the Disciplinary Regulations.

#### Article (55)

##### Expulsions (Red Cards)

- 55.1. Players who are sent off as a result of two yellow cards in a single match of the Competition shall:
- 55.1.1. Be automatically suspended in the next subsequent match in the Competition, and shall pay a fine of AED 1,500.
- 55.2. Players who are sent off for a direct red card during any Competition Match shall:
- 55.2.1. Be automatically suspended for the following next two (2) matches in the Competition. The exception to this rule is for any player who denies the opposing team of a clear goal scoring opportunity (particular by deliberately handling the ball), in which case the player shall then be automatically suspended for one (1) match in the Competition; and
- 55.2.2. Pay a fine of AED 2,000 and the amount shall be increased by AED 1,000 for each new sending off case.
- 55.3. Notwithstanding the relevant articles of the Disciplinary regulations, the Disciplinary Committee may impose additional sanctions and/or fine. The Disciplinary Committee may also determine that the suspensions be served in other competitions.
- 55.4. If a player is sent off for a direct red card offence, this shall not affect the number of cautions previously received by him.
- 55.5. If the result of any match of the Competition has been cancelled or the match has been terminated or hasn't been completed for any reason whatsoever, then the sanction shall be served in the net match in the same Competition.

55.6. In case a player is transferred or loaned to any of the Member Clubs, the player will maintain his records of yellow card(s). The player's previous Club must inform the new Club of the yellow cards that the player have collected to date and the new Club is responsible to continue the monitoring process as per Article 55 of these Regulations.

## Article (56)

### Serving of Suspension

- 56.1. Suspensions from participation in Competition Matches shall be served in the following manner:
- 56.1.1. Players shall be automatically suspended for one (1) match in the competition after obtaining three (3) single yellow cards in the Competition and this suspension shall be served in the same Competition;
  - 56.1.2. Notwithstanding the Disciplinary Regulations, a match will only be calculated within a player's suspension period if the match in question has actually started. Accordingly, matches abandoned before kick-off are not calculated within a player's suspension period.
  - 56.1.3. In the event that the suspension cannot be served in the Competition due to last match of the Competition, the suspensions shall be implemented as follows:
    - 56.1.3.1. In case the League Season has ended, the suspension shall be implemented in the first official match in which the penalized player is eligible to participate.
    - 56.1.3.2. In case the League Season has not ended, the suspension shall be implemented in the next match of the club in the first official match in which the penalized player is eligible to participate.
  - 56.1.4. If a suspended player is transferred or loaned to any of the Member Clubs, the player must serve his suspension with his new Club. The player's previous Club shall have to inform the new Club of the penalties imposed on such player in order to be fully served according to the articles herein.
  - 56.1.5. Notwithstanding Article 56.1.3, the Disciplinary Committee may determine that suspensions are to be served in the Competition and other competitions.

## Article (57)

### Violence by Players and/or Officials

- 57.1. Any player or official reported for indiscipline or violent conduct anywhere in the stadium, including but not limited to the field of play, the changing room and the surrounding areas of the Stadium, by the referee or the Match Commissioner shall be dealt with in accordance with the UAE FA Regulations, PLC Regulations, Disciplinary Code and the UAE FA Code of Ethics.

## Article (58)

## Protests and Appeals

58.1 Judicial procedures will be taken with this regard in accordance with the relevant regulations of judicial committees in the UAE FA and/or the regulations and directives of the PLC.

## Article (61)

### Trophies and Medals

- 61.1. The winner of the Competition shall be awarded the following:
- 61.1.1. The Competition trophy;
  - 61.1.2. A replica of the original trophy;
  - 61.1.3. Forty-five (45) golden medals (additional medals may not be produced); and
  - 61.1.4. Prize money, as per Article 63.1.
- 61.2. A maximum of twenty-six (26) players from the winning team are allowed to be on the stage to take part in the official prize giving ceremony. The team must ensure that at least eighteen (18) players participate in the official prize giving ceremony. A fine of AED5,000 per player will be imposed in case this minimum number of players are not provided.
- 61.3. A maximum of ten (10) team officials only 10 team officials from the winning team are allowed to be on the stage to take part in the official prize giving

ceremony. These team officials must be the same ones as the one registered as team officials on the team bench for that particular match. This article does not apply to Chairman of the Sports Club and/or Chairman of the Football Company. The team must ensure that their Head Coach participate in the official prize giving ceremony. A fine of AED30,000 will be imposed in case the Head Coach does not participate in the official prize giving ceremony.

- 61.4. The trophy shall be kept by the Champion by way of trust and should be returned to the PLC at least two (2) months before the date of the final match of the Competition. The Cup Champion shall be responsible for any loss or damage of the same and has to return the Cup in its same condition or otherwise pay a compensation estimated by the Executive Committee. In all cases the Club shall have to report to the PLC any theft, breakage or damage occurring to the Cup as soon as it takes place.
- 61.5. The Club which wins the Cup for any given season will be presented with a memorial replica of the original shield for their permanent possession. Clubs must not permit a replica trophy to be used in any context where a third party (including, without limitation, their sponsors and other commercial partners) is granted visibility or in any other way which could lead to an association between any third party and the trophy and/or the competition.
- 61.6. The trophy shall become the permanent property of the Club that wins the Competition three (3) times consecutively or four (4) times intermittently.
- 61.7. If any Club acquires the trophy in accordance with Article 61.6 above, any non-consecutive League Championships by other Clubs shall be reset and will be not considered when calculating future possession of the trophy in accordance with the same Article.

## Section 8

### Financial Regulations

#### Article (62)

##### Fines

62.1. Without prejudice to the procedures followed pursuant to article 54 & 55, all fines imposed on any club or its players or representatives should be paid and they will be automatically deducted from the money due to the Club by PLC at the end of the League Season.

#### Article (63)

##### Prize Money

63.1. The prize money to be awarded for the League shall be communicated to Participating Clubs in a circular letter from the PLC after the conclusion of the League Season.

## Section 9

### Final Provisions

#### Article (64)

##### Special Provisions

64.1. The imposition of the penalties provided for under the Quality Control Procedure (QCP) shall not prejudice the penalties provided for in other Regulations, laws and guidelines issued by the Football Association or PLC.

64.2. Any judgment set forth in a regulation or decision incompatible with this Regulation shall be deemed null and void and shall be effective as of the League Season of 2016/2017. However, in case of any conflict with the Statute of the UAE FA, the provisions set forth in the Statute of the UAE FA shall prevail.

#### Article (65)

##### Matters Not Provided for

65.1. Matters not provided for in these Regulations and cases of force majeure shall be decided by the Executive Office of the PLC, whose decision is final.

#### Article (66)

## Ratification and Approval

- 66.1 These regulations are prepared and set under the knowledge of the PLC and ratified by the UAE FA Board on 12<sup>th</sup> of July 2016.