



BOTSWANA FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

DISCIPLINARY CODE (BFA DC) 2016

DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE

ISSUED BY NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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Table of Contents

PRELIMINARY TITLE	7
Article 1 Object	7
Article 2 Scope of Application: Substantive Law	7
Article 3 Scope of Application: Natural and Legal Persons	7
Article 4 Scope of Application: Time	8
Article 5 Definitions	8
Article 6 Gender and Number	9
FIRST TITLE: SUBSTANTIVE LAW	9
CHAPTER 1: GENERAL PART	9
SECTION 1: CONDITIONS FOR SANCTIONS	9
Article 7 Culpability	9
Article 8 Acts Amounting to Attempt	9
Article 9: Involvement	9
SECTION 2: VARIOUS SANCTIONS	10
Article 10 Admission, Suspension and Expulsion	10
Article 11 Sanctions Applicable to Natural Persons	10
Article 12 Sanctions Applicable to Legal Persons	10
Article 13 Warning	11
Article 14 Reprimand	11
Article 15 Fine	11
Article 16 Return of Awards	11
Article 17 Caution	12
Article 18 Expulsion	12
Article 19 Match Suspension	13
Article 20 Ban from Dressing Rooms and/or Substitutes' Bench	13
Article 21 Stadium Ban	13
Article 22 Ban on Taking Part in Any Football-related Activity	13
Article 23 Transfer Ban	14
Article 24 Playing a Match without Spectators	14
Article 25 Playing a Match on Neutral Ground	14
Article 26 Ban on Playing in a Particular Stadium	14
Article 27 Annulment of the Result of a Match	14
Article 28 Exclusion from a Competition	14
Article 29 Demotion to a Lower Division	14
Article 30 Deduction of Points	14
Article 31 Forfeit	15
SECTION 3: COMMON RULES	15
Article 32 Combined Sanctions	15
Article 33 Partial Suspension of Implementation of Sanctions	15
Article 34 Time Sanctions: Calculation of Time Limit	16
Article 35 Centralization of Sanctions	16
SECTION 4: CARRYING OVER AND CANCELLING CAUTIONS AND MATCH SUSPENSIONS	16
Article 36 Carrying over Cautions	16
Article 37 Cancellation of Cautions	16
Article 38 Carrying over Match Suspensions	17

mt 8

SECTION 5: DETERMINING THE SACTION	18
Article 39 General Rule	18
Article 40 Repeated Infringements	18
Article 41 Concurrent Infringements	19
SECTION 6: LIMITATION PERIOD	19
Article 42 Limitation Period for Prosecution	19
Article 43 Commencement of the Limitation Period.....	19
Article 44 Interpretation	20
Article 45 Limitation Period for the Enforcement of Sanctions	20
CHAPTER II: SPECIAL PART	20
SECTION 1: INFRINGEMENTS OF THE LAWS OF THE GAME	20
Article 46 Minor Infringements	20
Article 47 Serious Infringements	20
SECTION 2: DISORDERLINESS AT MATCHES AND COMPETITIONS	21
Article 48 Misconduct against Players or Persons Other than Match Officials	21
Article 49 Misconduct against Match Officials	22
Article 50 Brawl	22
Article 51 Unidentified Aggressors	22
Article 52 Marketing Committee	22
Article 53 Marketing Committee	23
Article 54 Provoking the General Public	23
Article 55 Ineligibility	23
Article 56 Abandonment	23
SECTION 3: OFFENSIVE AND RACIST BEHAVIOUR	24
Article 57 Offensive Behaviour and Fair Play	24
Article 58 Racism	24
SECTION 4: INFRINGEMENTS OF PERSONAL FREEDOM	25
Article 59 Threats	25
Article 60 Coercion	25
SECTION 5: FORGERY AND FALSIFICATION	25
Article 61	25
SECTION 6: CORRUPTION	26
Article 62	26
SECTION 7: DOPING	26
Article 63 Definition	26
Article 64 Therapeutic Justification	26
Article 65 Sanctions	27
Article 66 Repeat Testing	28
Article 67 Procedure	28
Article 68 Player's Obligations	28
Article 69 Government Sanctions Against Doping.....	29
Article 70 Sanctions Imposed by Other Sports Bodies	29

med 8

SECTION 8: FAILURE TO RESPECT DECISIONS	29
Article 71	29
SECTION 9: RESPONSIBILITIES OF CLUBS AND NATIONAL LEAGUES AND REGIONAL ASSOCIATIONS	30
Article 72 Organization of Matches	30
Article 73 Failure to Comply	30
Article 74 Liability for Spectator Conduct	31
Article 75 Other Obligations	31
SECTION 10: MANIPULATING MATCH RESULTS	31
Article 76	31
SECOND TITLE: ORGANISATION AND PROCEDURE	32
CHAPTER 1: ORGANISATION	32
SECTION 1: JURISDICTION OF FIFA, ASSOCIATIONS, CONFEDERATIONS AND OTHER ORGANISATIONS	32
Article 77 General Rule	32
Article 78 Friendly Matches between two Representative Teams	32
SECTION 2: AUTHORITIES	33
Article 79 Referee	33
Article 80 Judicial Bodies	33
Article 81 Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS)	33
Article 82 FIFA Sports Medical Committee	33
SECTION 3: DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE	33
Article 83 General Jurisdiction	33
Article 84 Specific Jurisdiction	34
Article 85 Jurisdiction of the Chairman ruling alone	34
SECTION 4: APPEAL COMMITTEE	34
Article 86 Jurisdiction	34
Article 87 Jurisdiction of the Chairman ruling alone	34
SECTION 5: COMMON RULES FOR THE JUDICIAL BODIES	35
Article 88 Composition	35
Article 89 Meetings	35
Article 90 Chairman	36
Article 91 Secretariat	36
Article 92 Independence	36
Article 93 Incompatibility of Office	36
Article 94 Withdrawal	37
Article 95 Confidentiality	37
Article 96 Exemption from Liability	37

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CHAPTER II: PROCEDURE	38
SECTION 1: GENERAL RULES	38
SUBSECTION 1: TIME LIMITS	38
Article 97 Calculation	38
Article 98 Compliance	39
Article 99 Interruption.....	39
Article 100 Extension	39
SUBSECTION 2: RIGHT TO BE HEARD	39
Article 101 Contents	40
Article 102 Restrictions.....	40
SUBSECTION 3: PROOF	40
Article 103 Various Types of Proof	40
Article 104 Evaluation of Proof	40
Article 105 Match Officials' Reports	41
Article 106 Burden of Proof	41
SUBSECTION 4: REPRESENTATION AND ASSISTANCE.....	41
Article 107	41
SUBSECTION 5: LANGUAGE USED IN PROCEEDINGS	41
Article 108	41
SUBSECTION 6: NOTIFICATION OF DECISIONS	41
Article 109 Addressees	42
Article 110 Form: General Rule	42
Article 111 Form: Special Cases	42
SUBSECTION 7: MISCELLANEOUS	42
Article 112 Obvious Errors	42
Article 113 Costs and Expenses.....	43
Article 114 Enforcement of Decisions	43
Article 115 Baseless Proceedings	43
SECTION 2: DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE	43
SUBSECTION 1: COMMENCEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS AND INVESTIGATION	43
Article 116 Commencement of Proceedings	43
Article 117 Investigation	44
Article 118 Collaboration by the Parties	44
SUBSECTION 2: ORAL STATEMENTS, DELIBERATIONS, DECISIONS	44
Article 119 Oral Statements, Principles	44
Article 120 Oral Statements, Procedure	44
Article 121 Deliberations	45
Article 122 Passing the Decision	45
Article 123 Form and Contents of the Decision	45
SUBSECTION 3: PROCEEDINGS BEFORE THE CHAIRMAN OF THE DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE	
ACTING ALONE	45
Article 124	45

mel &

SECTION 3: APPEAL COMMITTEE	46
Article 125 Contestable Decisions	46
Article 126 Eligibility to Appeal	46
Article 127 Time Limit for Appeal	46
Article 128 Grounds for Complaint	47
Article 129 Petition of Appeal	47
Article 130 Deposits	47
Article 131 Effects of the Appeal	47
Article 132 Sequence in Proceedings Leading up to the Decision	47
Article 133 Continuation of the Proceedings	48
Article 134 Proceedings before the Chairman of the Appeal Committee Acting Alone	48
 SECTION 4: COURT OF ARBITRATION FOR SPORT (CAS)	 48
Article 135	48
 SECTION 5: SPECIAL PROCEDURES	
SUBSECTION 1: PROVISIONAL MEASURES	48
Article 136 General Rule	48
Article 137 Procedure	49
Article 138 Decision	49
Article 139 Duration	49
Article 140 Appeal	49
Article 141 Approval of Appeal	49
 SUBSECTION 2: DELIBERATIONS AND DECISION TAKING WITHOUT MEETING	 49
Article 142	49
 SUBSECTION 3: EXTENDING SANCTIONS TO BE WORLDWIDE EFFECT	 50
Article 143 Request	50
Article 144 Conditions	50
Article 145 Procedure	51
Article 146 Decision	51
Article 147 Effect	51
Article 148 Appeal	51
 SUBSECTION 4: REVIEW	 51
Article 149 [ONLY]	51
 FINAL TITLE	 52
Article 150 Diverging Texts in the Disciplinary Code	52
Article 151 Scope of the Code, Omissions, Custom, Doctrine and Jurisprudence	52
Article 152 Association's Disciplinary Codes	52
Article 153 Adoption and Enforcement	53
 APPENDIX	
Confirmation Letter A	
Confirmation Letter B	
Confirmation Letter C	
Confirmation Letter D	
Confirmation Letter E	

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Botswana Football Association (BFA) Disciplinary Code (FDC)

7 November 2016

PRELIMINARY TITLE

With specific reference to Art. 55 par. 4 of the FIFA Statutes, the Executive Committee of the Botswana Football Association (BFA) enforces the following Code as adopted from Fédération Internationale de Football Association (FIFA).

Article 1: Object

This code describes infringements of the rules in BFA regulations, determines the sanctions incurred, regulates the organisation and function of the bodies responsible for taking decisions and the procedures to be followed before these bodies. The Code is derived from FIFA Regulation.

Article 2: Scope of Application: Substantive Law

This Code applies to every match and competition organised by BFA, CAF, and FIFA.

Beyond this scope, it also applies if a match official is harmed and, more generally, if the statutory objectives of BFA or FIFA are breached, especially with regard to forgery, corruption and doping. It also applies to any breach of BFA or FIFA regulations that does not fall under the jurisdiction of any other body. Where there is inconsistency with or contradiction of any other BFA Statute, the provisions in and/or interpretation from this Code shall take precedence. Where there are gaps in this Code or any other BFA Regulations or inconsistency with FIFA Disciplinary Code or any FIFA Statutes, the FIFA Code or relevant FIFA Statute and/or interpretation shall apply.

Article 3: Scope of Application: Natural and Legal Persons

The following are subject to this code:

- a) clubs
- b) regional football associations;
- c) national leagues
- d) members of associations, in particular the clubs;
- e) officials;
- f) players;
- g) match officials;
- h) BFA Associate Members

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- i) licensed match and players' agents;
- j) anyone with an authorisation from BFA or FIFA, in particular with regard to a match, competition or other event organised by BFA or FIFA;
- k) spectators.

Article 4: Scope of Application: Time

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

Article 5: Definitions

1. **Post-match:** the time between the final whistle from the referee and the teams' departure from the confines of the stadium.
2. **Pre-match:** the time between the teams' arrival in the confines of the stadium and the whistle for kick-off from the referee.
3. **International Match:** a match between two teams belonging to different associations (two clubs, one club and one representative team or two representative teams).
4. **Friendly Match:** a match organised by a football organisation, club or other person between teams chosen for the occasion and possibly belonging to different spheres of operation; the score has an effect only on the match or tournament in question and, in the case of representative teams, on the FIFA rankings.
5. **Official match:** a match organised under the auspices of a football organisation for all of the teams or clubs in its sphere of operation; the score has an effect on the rights of participation in other competitions unless the regulations in question stipulate otherwise.
6. **Officials:** anyone, with the exception of players, performing an activity connected with football at an association or club, regardless of his title, the type of activity (administrative, sporting or any other) and the duration of the activity; in particular, managers, coaches and support staff are officials.
7. **Match official:** the referee, assistant referees, fourth official, match commissioner, referee inspector, the person in charge of safety, and

any other persons appointed by FIFA to assume responsibility in connection with a match.

8. **FIFA regulations:** the statutes, regulations, directives and circulars of FIFA as well as the Laws of the Game issued by the International Football Association Board.

Article 6: Gender and Number

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

FIRST TITLE: SUBSTANTIVE LAW

CHAPTER II: GENERAL PART

SECTION 1: CONDITIONS FOR SANCTIONS

Article 7: Culpability

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

Article 8: Acts Amounting to Attempt

1. Acts amounting to attempt are also punishable.
2. In the case of acts amounting to attempt, the body may reduce the sanction envisaged for the actual infringement accordingly. It will determine the extent of the mitigation as it sees fit; it shall not go below the general lower limit of the fine (cf. Art. 15 par. 2).

Article 9: Involvement

1. Anyone who intentionally takes part in committing an infringement, either as instigator or accomplice, is also punishable.
2. The body will take account of the degree of guilt of the party involved and may reduce the sanction accordingly. It shall not go below the general lower limit of the fine (Art. 15 par. 2).

SECTION 2: VARIOUS SANCTIONS

Article 10: Sanctions Common to Natural and Legal Persons

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

- a) warning;
- b) reprimand;
- c) fine;
- d) return of awards.

Article 11: Sanctions Applicable to Natural Persons

The following sanctions are applicable only to natural persons:

- a) caution;
- b) expulsion;
- c) match suspension;
- d) ban from dressing rooms and/or substitutes' bench;
- e) ban from entering a stadium;
- f) ban on taking part in any football-related activity.

Article 12: Sanctions Applicable to Legal Persons

The following sanctions are applicable only to legal persons:

- a) transfer ban;
- b) playing a match without spectators;
- c) playing a match on neutral territory;
- d) ban on playing in a particular stadium;
- e) annulment of the result of a match;
- f) exclusion from a competition;

- g) defeat by forfeit;
- h) deduction of points;
- i) demotion to a lower division.

Article 13: Warning

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

Article 14: Reprimand

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

Article 15: Fine

1. A fine is issued in Botswana Pula (BWP). It shall be paid in the same currency.
2. The fine shall not be less than BWP300.00, or in the case of a competition subject to an age limit not less than BWP200.00, and not more than BWP1,000,000.00.
3. The body that imposes the fine decides the terms and time limits for payment.
4. National leagues and regional football associations may be jointly liable for fines imposed on representative team players and officials. The same applies to clubs in respect of their players and officials. The fact that a natural person has left a club or association does not cancel out joint liability.

Article 16: Return of Awards

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

Article 17: Caution

1. A caution (yellow card) is a warning from the referee to a player during a match to sanction unsporting behaviour of a less serious nature (cf. Law 12 of the Laws of the Game).
2. Two cautions received during the same match incur an expulsion (indirect red card) and, consequently, automatic suspension from the next match (cf. Art. 18 par. 4). The two cautions that incurred the red card are rescinded.
3. If a player receives a caution in two separate matches of the same BFA, CAF, or FIFA competition, he is automatically suspended from the next match in that competition. The Disciplinary Committee may exceptionally depart from or amend this rule before the start of a particular competition.
Any such decision reached by the Disciplinary Committee is final.
4. If an abandoned match is to be replayed, any caution issued during that match shall be annulled. If the match is not to be re-played, the cautions received by the team responsible for causing the match to be abandoned are upheld; if both teams are responsible, all of the cautions are upheld.
5. If a player is guilty of serious unsporting behaviour as defined in Law 12 of the Laws of the Game and is sent off (direct red card), any other caution he has previously received in the same match is upheld.

Article 18: Expulsion

1. An expulsion is the order given by the referee to someone to leave the field of play and its surroundings, including the substitutes' bench, during a match. The person who has been sent off may be allowed into the stands unless he is serving a stadium ban.
2. Expulsion takes the form of a red card for players. The red card is regarded as direct if it sanctions serious unsporting behaviour as defined by Law 12 of the Laws of the Game; it is regarded as indirect if it is the result of an accumulation of two yellow cards.
3. An official who has been sent off may give instructions to the person replacing him on the substitutes' bench. He shall, however, ensure that he does not disturb the spectators or disrupt the flow of play,

4. An expulsion automatically incurs suspension from the subsequent match, even if imposed in a match that is later abandoned and/or annulled. The Disciplinary Committee may extend the duration of the suspension.

Article 19: Match Suspension

1. A suspension from a match is a ban on taking part in a future match or competition and on attending it in the area immediately surrounding the field of play.
2. The suspension is imposed in terms of matches, days or months. Unless otherwise specified, it may not exceed twenty-four matches or twenty-four months.
3. If the suspension is to be served in terms of matches, only those matches actually played count towards execution of the suspension. If a match is abandoned, cancelled or forfeited, suspension is only considered to have been served if the team to which the suspended player belongs is not responsible for the facts that led to the abandonment, cancellation or forfeit of the match.
4. If a suspension is combined with a fine, the suspension may be prolonged until the fine has been paid in full.

Article 20: Ban from Dressing Rooms and/or Substitutes' Bench

A ban from dressing rooms and/or substitutes' benches deprives someone of the right to enter a team's dressing rooms and/or the area immediately surrounding the field of play, and in particular to sit on the substitutes' bench.

Article 21: Stadium Ban

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

Article 22: Ban on Taking Part in Any Football-related Activity

A person may be banned from taking part in any kind of football related activity (administrative, sports or any other).

Article 23: Transfer Ban

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

Article 24: Playing a Match without Spectators

The obligation to play a match behind closed doors requires an association or a club to have a certain match played without spectators.

Article 25: Playing a Match on Neutral Ground

The obligation to play a match on neutral ground requires a club to have a certain match played in another location or in a different town within Botswana.

Article 26: Ban on Playing in a Particular Stadium

A ban on playing in a certain stadium deprives a regional football association or a club of the right to have its team play in a certain stadium.

Article 27: Annulment of the Result of a Match

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

Article 28: Exclusion from a Competition

Exclusion is the deprivation of the right of a regional football association or a club to take part in the current and/or a future competition.

Article 29: Demotion to a Lower Division

A club may be demoted to a lower division.

Article 30: Deduction of Points

A club may have points deducted from those already attained in the current or a future championship.

Article 31: Forfeit

1. Teams sanctioned with a forfeit are considered to have lost the match by 3-0.
2. If the goal difference at the end of the match in question is greater than 3-0, the result on the pitch is upheld.

SECTION 3: COMMON RULES

Article 32: Combined Sanctions

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

Article 33: Partial Suspension of Implementation of Sanctions

1. The body that pronounces a match suspension (cf. Art. 19), a ban on access to dressing rooms and/or the substitutes' bench (cf. Art. 20), a ban on taking part in any football-related activity (cf. Art. 22), the obligation to play a match without spectators (cf. Art. 24), the obligation to play a match on neutral ground (cf. Art. 25) or a ban on playing in a certain stadium (cf. Art. 26) may examine whether it is possible to suspend the implementation of the sanction partially.
2. Partial suspension is permissible only if the duration of the sanction does not exceed six matches or six months and if the relevant circumstances allow it, in particular the previous record of the person sanctioned.
3. The body decides which part of the sanction may be suspended. In any case, half of the sanction is definite.
4. By suspending implementation of the sanction, the body subjects the person sanctioned to a probationary period of anything from six months to two years.
5. If the person benefiting from a suspended sanction commits another infringement during the probationary period, the suspension is automatically revoked and the sanction applied; it is added to the sanction pronounced for the new infringement.
6. Special provisions may apply in certain circumstances. In the case of doping offences, this article is not applicable.

Article 34: Time Sanctions: Calculation of Time Limit

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

Article 35: Centralisation of Sanctions

1. Records of cautions, expulsions and match suspensions are stored in the central computer system of FIFA. The Disciplinary Committee secretary confirms them in writing to the association or club concerned or, in the case of final competitions, to the head of the delegation concerned.
2. This communication serves only as confirmation: sanctions (cautions, expulsions, automatic match suspensions) have an immediate effect on subsequent matches even if the letter of confirmation reaches the association, club or head of delegation concerned later.
3. To ensure that the relevant records are complete, the confederations shall inform FIFA of all sanctions that have been pronounced during their own competitions and are likely to be carried over to a FIFA competition (cf. Art. 38 par. 2) or future competitions organised by the confederations.

SECTION 4: CARRYING OVER AND CANCELLING CAUTIONS AND MATCH SUSPENSIONS

Article 36: Carrying over Cautions

1. Cautions received during one competition are not carried over to another competition.
2. They are, however, carried over from one round to the next in the same competition. The Disciplinary Committee may exceptionally depart from this rule before the start of a particular competition. This provision is subject to Art. 37.

Article 37: Cancellation of Cautions

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

have not played the same number of matches during the first round of a competition, or in other exceptional circumstances.

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

Article 38: Carrying over Match Suspensions

1. As a general rule, every match suspension (of players and other persons) is carried over from one round to the next in the same competition.
2. Match suspensions in relation to an expulsion pronounced on a player outside of a competition (separate match[es]) or not served during the competition for which they were intended (elimination or the last match in the competition) are carried over as follows:
 - a) FIFA World Cup™: carried over to the representative team's subsequent official match;
 - b) competitions subject to an age limit: carried over to the representative team's subsequent official match (whether subject to age limit or not);
 - c) FIFA Confederations Cup: carried over to the representative team's subsequent official match;
 - d) BFA Club National Cup: carried over to club competitions at national level;
 - e) national league and/or regional football association club competitions leading to qualification for the BFA Club National Cup: carried over to the BFA Club National Cup;
 - f) national league and/or regional football association competitions for representative teams: carried over to the representative team's subsequent official match in a competition organised by BFA;
 - g) competitions in which teams have been chosen in accordance with certain criteria (cultural, geographical, historical etc.): if the regulations of these competitions refer to the BFA regulations for disciplinary sanctions, the suspension is carried over to the representative team's subsequent official match;

- h) friendly matches: carried over to the representative team's subsequent friendly match.
3. If a representative team is hosting a final competition and is consequently not required to participate in qualifying matches to reach the final competition of this tournament and its next official match is in that final competition, any match suspension pronounced in accordance with par. 2 of this article shall be carried over to the representative team's next friendly match.
 4. Match suspensions resulting from several cautions issued to a player in different matches of the same competition are never carried over to another competition.
 5. Paragraph 2 similarly applies to suspensions pronounced against persons other than players.

SECTION 5: DETERMINING THE SANCTION

Article 39: General Rule

1. The body pronouncing the sanction decides the scope and duration of it.
2. Sanctions may be limited to a geographical area or to one or more specific categories of match or competition.
3. Unless otherwise specified, the duration of a sanction is always defined.
4. The body shall take account of all relevant factors in the case and the degree of the offender's guilt when imposing the sanction.

Article 40: Repeated Infringements

1. Unless otherwise specified, the body may increase the sanction to be pronounced as deemed appropriate if an infringement has been repeated.
2. These provisions are subject to the special rules governing repeated doping infringements.

Article 41: Concurrent Infringements

1. If several fines are pronounced against someone as a result of one or more infringements, the relevant body bases the fine on the most serious offence committed and, depending on the circumstances, may increase the sanction by up to fifty per cent of the maximum sanction specified for that offence.
2. The same applies if a person incurs several time sanctions of a similar type (two or more match suspensions, two or more stadium bans etc.) as the result of one or several infringements.
3. The body that determines the fine in accordance with par. 1 is not obliged to adhere to the general upper limit of the fine (cf. Art. 15 par. 2).

SECTION 6: LIMITATION PERIOD

Article 42: Limitation Period for Prosecution

1. Infringements committed during a match may no longer be prosecuted after a lapse of two years. As a general rule, other infringements may not be prosecuted after a lapse of ten years.
2. Doping offences may not be prosecuted after eight years have elapsed.
3. Prosecution for corruption (cf. Art. 62) is not subject to a limitation period.

Article 43: Commencement of the Limitation Period

The limitation period runs as follows:

- a) from the day on which the perpetrator committed the infringement;
- b) if the infringement is recurrent, from the day on which the most recent infringement was committed;
- c) if the infringement lasted a certain period, from the day on which it ended.

Article 49 Misconduct against Match Officials

1. Including the automatic suspension incurred in accordance with Art. 18par. 4, the overall suspension imposed on any person receiving a direct red card shall be for:
 - a) at least four matches for unsporting conduct towards a match official (subject to Art. 53, 54 and 57-60);
 - b) at least six months for assaulting (elbowing, punching, kicking etc.) a match official;
 - c) at least 12 months for spitting at a match official.
2. A fine may also be imposed in all cases.
3. The right is reserved to punish an infringement in accordance with Art. 84 a).

Article 50: Brawl

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

Article 51: Unidentified Aggressors

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

Article 52: Team Misconduct

1. The following constitute misconduct by a team and are sanctioned by a maximum fine of BWP 15,000.00:
 - a) when four players are cautioned during one match;
 - b) when three players are sent off during one match;
 - c) when several players together make threats (cf. art. 59) or show force (cf. art. 60) against a match official.

2. When determining the amount of the fine, the type of competition shall be taken into account.

Article 53: Inciting Hatred and Violence

1. A player or official who publicly incites others to hatred or violence will be sanctioned with match suspension for no less than twelve months and with a minimum fine of BWP 5,000.00.
2. In serious cases, in particular when the infringement is committed using the mass media (such as the press, radio or television) or if it takes place on a match day in or around a stadium, the minimum fine will be BWP 20,000.00.

Article 54: Provoking the General Public

Anyone who provokes the general public during a match will be suspended for two matches and sanctioned with a minimum fine of BWP 5,000.00.

Article 55: Ineligibility

1. If a player takes part in an official match despite being ineligible, his team will be sanctioned by forfeiting the match (cf. Art. 31) and paying a minimum fine of BWP 6,000.00.
2. If a player takes part in a friendly match despite being ineligible, his team will be sanctioned by forfeiting the match and paying a minimum fine of BWP 4,000.00.

Article 56: Abandonment

1. If a team refuses to play a match or to continue playing one which it has begun, it will be sanctioned with a minimum fine of BWP 10,000.00 and will, in principle, forfeit the match (cf. Art. 31).
2. In serious cases, the team will also be disqualified from the competition in progress.

SECTION 3: OFFENSIVE AND RACIST BEHAVIOUR

Article 57: Offensive Behaviour and Fair Play

Anyone who insults someone in any way, especially by using offensive gestures or language, or who violates the principles of fair play or whose behaviour is unsporting in any other way may be subject to sanctions in accordance with Art. 10 ff.

Article 58: Racism

1. Anyone who publicly disparages, discriminates against or denigrates someone in a defamatory manner on account of race, colour, language, religion or ethnic origin, or perpetrates any other racist and/or contemptuous deed, will be subject to match suspension for at least five matches at every level. Furthermore, a stadium ban and a fine of at least BWP 20,000.00 will be imposed on the perpetrator. If the perpetrator is an official, the fine will be at least BWP 30,000.00.
2. If spectators display banners bearing racist slogans, or are guilty of any other racist and/or contemptuous behaviour at a match, the appropriate body will impose a sanction of at least CHF 30,000 on the association or club that the spectators concerned support and force it to play its next official match without spectators. If the spectators cannot be identified as supporters of one or the other association or club, the host association or club will be sanctioned accordingly.
3. Any spectator who is guilty of any of the offences specified under par.1 and/or 2 of this article will be banned from entering any stadium for at least two years.
4. If any player, official of a club or of an association, or spectator perpetrates any kind of racist or contemptuous deed as described by par.1 and/or 2 of this article, three points will automatically be deducted from the team concerned, if identifiable, after the first offence. In the case of a second offence, six points will automatically be deducted, and for a further offence, the team will be relegated. In the case of matches without points, the team concerned, if identifiable, will be disqualified.
5. Sanctions imposed on the basis of this article may be reduced or even disregarded if the player, team, club or association concerned proves that it was not or was only minimally at fault for the offences in question or if other major reasons justify it, particularly if the offences were provoked intentionally to cause a player, team, club or association to

be sanctioned in accordance with this article. The procedure for assessing mitigating circumstances shall be governed by this code or, in cases where this code is not applicable, by the disciplinary regulations of BFA or the relevant confederation or association.

6. The confederations and associations are required to incorporate the provisions of this article into their disciplinary code and to enforce the sanctions stipulated. If any association infringes this article, it will be excluded from international football for two years.

SECTION 4: INFRINGEMENTS OF PERSONAL FREEDOM

Article 59: Threats

Anyone who intimidates a match official with serious threats will be sanctioned with a fine of at least BWP 3,000.00 and a match suspension. These sanctions constitute a departure from Art. 32, in that they may not be combined with others.

Article 60: Coercion

Anyone who uses violence or threats to pressurise a match official into taking certain action or to hinder him in any other way from acting freely will be sanctioned with a fine of at least BWP 3,000.00 and a match suspension. These sanctions constitute a departure from Art. 32, in that they may not be combined with others.

SECTION 5: FORGERY AND FALSIFICATION

Article 61: [only]

1. Anyone who, in football-related activities, forges a document or falsifies an authentic document or uses a forged or falsified document to deceive in legal relations will be sanctioned with a suspension of at least six matches.
2. If the perpetrator is an official, the body will pronounce a ban on taking part in any football-related activity for a period of at least twelve months.
3. A minimum fine of BWP 5,000.00 may also be pronounced.

SECTION 6: CORRUPTION

Article 62: [only]

1. Anyone who offers, promises or grants an unjustified advantage to a body of FIFA, a match official, a player or an official on behalf of himself or a third party in an attempt to incite it or him to violate the regulations of FIFA will be sanctioned:
 - a) with a fine of at least BWP 10,000.00,
 - b) with a ban on taking part in any football-related activity, and
 - c) with a ban on entering any stadium.
2. Passive corruption (soliciting, being promised or accepting an unjustified advantage) will be sanctioned in the same manner.
3. In serious cases and in the case of repetition, sanction 1b) may be pronounced for life.
4. In any case, the body will order the confiscation of the assets involved in committing the infringement. These assets will be used for football development programmes.

SECTION 7: DOPING

Article 63: Definition

1. Doping and doping offences are defined in the Doping Control Regulations for FIFA Competitions and Out of Competition.
2. These acts constitute doping whether detected during or out of a competition.

Article 64: Therapeutic justification

1. Any player who consults a doctor and is prescribed treatment or medication for therapeutic reasons shall enquire whether the prescription contains prohibited substances or methods (cf. the list in the FIFA Doping Control Regulations for FIFA Competitions and Out of Competition).
2. If so, the player shall request alternative treatment or medication.

3. If there is no alternative treatment, the player shall obtain a medical certificate explaining the circumstances. This certificate shall be sent to the relevant body of FIFA within 48 hours of the medical consultation. If a match takes place during this period, the certificate shall reach the relevant body before the match begins or be produced at the doping test. Once this time limit has passed, no medical certificate will be accepted.
4. The prohibited substance or treatment will be considered justifiable only if endorsed by the relevant body of FIFA.
5. These provisions are subject to the FIFA Doping Control Regulations for FIFA Competitions and Out of Competition.

Article 65: Sanctions

1. The following sanctions will, in principle, apply to doping offences in accordance with Chapter II of the Doping Control Regulations for FIFA Competitions and Out of Competition:
 - a) Any violation of Chapter II.1 (The presence of a prohibited substance or its metabolites or markers), Chapter II.2 (Use or attempted use of a prohibited substance or a prohibited method), Chapter II.3 (Refusing, or failing without compelling justification, to submit to sample collection), Chapter II.5 (Tampering or attempting to tamper with any part of a doping control test) and Chapter II.6 (Possession of prohibited substances and methods) shall incur a two-year suspension for the first offence and a lifelong ban in the case of repetition.
 - b) If any specified substances contained in the list of prohibited substances and methods (cf. appendix A of the Doping Control Regulations for FIFA Competitions and Out of Competition) are detected, for which proof can be produced that the specific substances were not intended to enhance sporting performance, at least a caution shall be given for the first offence and a two-year suspension in the case of repetition. A third offence shall incur a lifelong ban.
 - c) Any violation of Chapter II.7 (Trafficking in any prohibited substance or prohibited method) or Chapter II.8 (Administration of a prohibited substance or method) shall incur a suspension of at least four years. If any of the players concerned are under the age of 21 and the offence does not involve a specified substance, a lifelong ban shall be imposed on the perpetrator.

- d) Any violation of Chapter II.4 (Failure to provide the required information on the whereabouts of players or their availability for testing) shall incur a suspension of at least three months and no more than two years.
2. If the suspect can prove in each individual case that he bears no significant fault or negligence, the sanction may be reduced, but only by up to half of the sanction applicable under par. 1; a lifelong ban may not be reduced to less than eight years.
 3. If the suspect can prove in an individual case that he bears no fault or negligence, the sanction otherwise applicable under the terms of par.1 becomes irrelevant.
 4. If help given by a suspect leads to the exposure or proof of a doping offence by another person, the sanction may be reduced, but only by up to half of the sanction applicable under the terms of par. 1;a lifelong ban may not be reduced to less than eight years.
 5. If more than one player from the same team is sanctioned for doping offences, the team may also be sanctioned. The team may have points deducted and in a final competition the team may be excluded from the final standings. The association or club of the team concerned may also be subject to disciplinary sanctions.
 6. A fine may also be imposed in all cases.

Article 66: Repeat Testing

BFA, CAF, or FIFA may order any player sanctioned for a doping offence to undergo further doping tests while serving a suspension.

Article 67: Procedure

The formal and technical aspects of the doping control procedure comply entirely with the Doping Control Regulations for FIFA Competitions and Out of Competition.

Article 68: Players' Obligations

1. Every player taking part in a competition or other event organised by BFA, COSAFA, CAF, or FIFA, or in training leading up to such a competition or event, shall agree to undergo any tests conducted by the relevant bodies of BFA, COSAFA, CAF, or FIFA.

2. He agrees to samples being taken so as to detect the presence of any prohibited substances or to establish the use of any prohibited methods.

Article 69: Government Sanctions against Doping

Even if a state body imposes sanctions for a doping offence, the legal bodies of FIFA shall still review the case and decide whether to impose a sanction in line with this Code or FIFA Code.

Article 70: Sanctions Imposed by Other Sports Bodies

Any legally binding sanctions imposed by another international sports association or national doping organisations that comply with fundamental legal principles shall automatically be adopted by BFA and, provided that the requirements of Article 143ff. of this Code and the FIFA Disciplinary Code are met, may in principle extend them to have worldwide effect.

SECTION 8: FAILURE TO RESPECT DECISIONS

Article 71: [only]

1. Anyone who fails to pay another person (such as a player, a coach or a club), BFA, or FIFA a sum of money in full or part, even though instructed to do so by a body, a committee or an instance of FIFA or CAS (financial decision), or anyone who fails to comply with another decision (nonfinancial decision) passed by a body, a committee or an instance of BFA, FIFA or CAS:
 - a) will be fined at least BWP 5,000.00 for failing to comply with a decision;
 - b) will be granted a final deadline by the judicial bodies of BFA or FIFA in which to pay the amount due or to comply with the (non-financial) decision;
 - c) (only for clubs:) will be warned and notified that, in the case of default or failure to comply with a decision within the period stipulated, points will be deducted or demotion to a lower division ordered. A transfer ban may also be pronounced.

2. If the club disregards the final time limit, the relevant national league or regional football association shall be requested to implement the sanctions threatened.
3. If points are deducted, they shall be proportionate to the amount owed.
4. A ban on any football-related activity may also be imposed against natural persons.
5. Any appeal against a decision passed in accordance with this articleshall immediately be lodged with CAS.

SECTION 9: RESPONSIBILITIES OF CLUBS AND NATIONAL LEAGUES AND REGIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

Article 72: Organisation of matches

National Leagues and Regional Associations that organise matches shall:

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

Article 73: Failure to Comply

1. Any association that fails to fulfil its obligations in accordance with Art. 72 shall be fined.
2. In the case of a serious infringement of Art. 72, additional sanctions may be imposed, such as a stadium ban (cf. Art. 26) or ordering a team to play on neutral ground. (cf. Art. 25).

3. The right is reserved to pronounce certain sanctions for safety reasons, even if no infringement has been committed (cf. Art. 7, par. 2).

Article 74: Liability for Spectator Conduct

1. The home club is liable for improper conduct among spectators, regardless of the question of culpable conduct or culpable oversight, and, depending on the situation, may be fined. Further sanctions may be imposed in the case of serious disturbances.
2. The visiting club is liable for improper conduct among its own group of spectators, regardless of the question of culpable conduct or culpable oversight, and, depending on the situation, may be fined. Further sanctions may be imposed in the case of serious disturbances. Supporters occupying the away sector of a stadium are regarded as the visiting association's supporters, unless proven to the contrary.
3. Improper conduct includes violence towards persons or objects, letting off incendiary devices, throwing missiles, displaying insulting or political slogans in any form, uttering insulting words or sounds, or invading the pitch.
4. The liability described in par. 1 and 2 also includes matches played on neutral ground, especially during final competitions.

Article 75: Other Obligations

National Leagues and Regional Football Associations shall also:

- a) actively vet the age of players shown on the identity cards they produce at competitions that are subject to age limits;
- b) ensure that no-one is involved in the management of clubs, national league, or the regional football association itself who is under prosecution for action unworthy of such a position (especially doping, corruption, forgery etc.) or who has been convicted of a criminal offence in the past five years.

SECTION 10: MANIPULATING MATCH RESULTS

Article 76: [only]

Anyone who conspires to influence the result of a match in a manner incompatible with sporting ethics will be sanctioned with a match

suspension and a minimum fine of BWP15,000. The body will also pronounce a ban on taking part in any football-related activity; in serious cases this sanction will apply for life.

SECOND TITLE: ORGANISATION AND PROCEDURE

CHAPTER I: ORGANISATION

SECTION 1: JURISDICTION OF FIFA, ASSOCIATIONS, CONFEDERATIONS AND OTHER ORGANISATIONS

Article 77: General Rule

1. With regard to matches and competitions not organised by FIFA (cf. Art. 2), associations, confederations and sports organisations that organise matches for cultural, geographical, historical or other reasons (cf. Art 38 g) are responsible for enforcing sanctions imposed against infringements committed in their area of jurisdiction. If requested, the sanctions passed may be extended to have worldwide effect (cf. Art.143 ff.).
2. The judicial bodies of BFA and/or FIFA reserve the right to sanction serious infringements of the statutory objectives of FIFA (cf. final part of Art. 2) if associations, confederations and other sports organisations fail to prosecute serious infringements or fail to prosecute in compliance with the fundamental principles of law.
3. Clubs, associations, confederations and other sports organisations shall notify the judicial bodies of BFA and/or FIFA of any serious infringements of the statutory objectives of FIFA (cf. final part of Art. 2).

Article 78: Friendly Matches between two Representative Teams

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

SECTION 2: AUTHORITIES

Article 79: Referee

1. During matches, disciplinary decisions are taken by the referee.
2. These decisions are final.
3. In certain circumstances, the jurisdiction of the judicial bodies may apply (cf. Art. 84).

Article 80: Judicial Bodies

The judicial bodies of FIFA are the Disciplinary Committee, the Appeal Committee and the Ethics Committee.

Article 81: Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS)

Certain decisions passed by the Appeal Committee may be appealed against before the Court of Arbitration for Sport (cf. Art. 61 of the FIFA Statutes and Art. 135 of this code).

Article 82: FIFA Sports Medical Committee

The BFA Sports Medical Committee, or other bodies under its supervision, carries out the doping test, analyses of samples and examination of medical certificates (cf. Art. 64).

The BFA Sports Medical Committee also advises BFA on all technical issues pertaining health and sports.

SECTION 3 DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE

Article 83: General Jurisdiction

The BFA Disciplinary Committee is authorised to sanction any breach of BFA Regulations which does not come under the jurisdiction of another body

Article 84: Specific Jurisdiction

The Disciplinary Committee is responsible for:

- a) sanctioning serious infringements which have escaped the match officials' attention;
- b) rectifying obvious errors in the referee's disciplinary decisions;
- c) extending the duration of a match suspension incurred automatically by an expulsion (cf. Art 18, par. 4);
- d) pronouncing additional sanctions, such as a fine.

Article 85: Jurisdiction of the Chairman ruling Alone

1. The Chairman of the Disciplinary Committee may take the following decisions alone:
 - a) suspend a person for up to three matches or for up to two months;
 - b) pronounce a fine of up to BWP 10,000.00;
 - c) rule on a request to extend a sanction (Art. 143);
 - d) settle disputes arising from objections to members of the Disciplinary Committee; e) pronounce, alter and annul provisional measures (cf. Art. 136).
2. Whenever the Disciplinary Committee meets on such occasions as a final competition, the chairman may decide that the decisions mentioned under par. 1 be taken by the committee.

SECTION 4: APPEAL COMMITTEE

Article 86: Jurisdiction

The Appeal Committee is responsible for deciding appeals against any of the Disciplinary Committee's decisions that FIFA regulations do not declare as final or referable to another body.

Article 87: Jurisdiction of the Chairman ruling alone

1. The Chairman of the Appeal Committee may take the following decisions alone:
 - a) decide on an appeal against a decision to extend a sanction (Art. 148);

- b) resolve disputes arising from objections to members of the Appeal Committee;
 - c) rule on appeals against provisional decisions passed by the chairman of the Disciplinary Committee;
 - d) pronounce, alter and annul provisional measures (cf. Art. 136).
2. Whenever the Appeal Committee meets on such occasions as a final competition, the Chairman may decide that the decisions mentioned under par. 1 be taken by the committee.

SECTION 5: COMMON RULES FOR THE JUDICIAL BODIES

Article 88: Composition

1. The Executive Committee recommends to the General Assembly the appointments of the members of the Disciplinary Committee and the Appeal Committee for a period of four years. It designates the number of members deemed necessary for the committees to function properly.
2. The Executive Committee appoints the Chairman of each committee from among the members for the same period of four years.
3. Each committee convokes a plenary session to designate two deputy chairmen from among the members present by a simple majority for the same period of eight years. The candidates are not entitled to vote.
4. Ideally, at least one member of the chairmanship of each committee (Chairman or Deputy Chairman) shall be domiciled in the country in which BFA's Headquarters are located.
5. The Chairman of each committee shall have legal qualifications.

Article 89: Meetings

1. The committee meetings are deemed to be valid if at least three members are present.
2. At the behest of the Chairman, the Secretariat shall call the number of members deemed necessary to each meeting. The Chairman shall, as far as possible, ensure that the confederations are equitably represented among the members called to the meeting.

3. The number of members deemed necessary for each committee are called to the meetings held during the final competitions of the BFA Leagues and other BFA competitions.

Article 90: Chairman

1. The Chairman conducts the meetings and delivers the decisions which this Code empowers him to take.
2. If the Chairman is prevented from attending, the Deputy Chairman replaces him. If the Deputy Chairman is prevented from attending, the longest-serving member replaces him.

Article 91: Secretariat

1. The General Secretariat of BFA provides the judicial bodies with a secretariat and the necessary staff at BFA Headquarters.
2. The General Secretariat of BFA designates the Secretary.
3. The Secretary takes charge of the administrative work and writes the minutes and decisions of the meetings.
4. The Secretary takes care of the filing. The decisions passed and the relevant files shall be kept for at least ten years.

Article 92: Independence

1. The judicial bodies of BFA pass their decisions entirely independently; in particular, they shall not receive instructions from any other body.
2. A member of another BFA body may not stay in the meeting room during the judicial bodies' deliberations unless they have explicitly summoned him to attend.

Article 93: Incompatibility of Office

The members of the judicial bodies may not belong either to the Executive Committee or a standing committee of BFA.

Article 94: Withdrawal

1. Members of the judicial bodies of BFA must decline to participate in any meeting concerning a matter where there are serious grounds for questioning their impartiality.
2. This applies in the following cases (among others):
 - a) if the member in question has a direct interest in the outcome of the matter;
 - b) if he is associated with any of the parties;
 - c) if he has the same nationality as the party implicated (the association, club, official, player etc.);
 - d) if he has already dealt with the case under different circumstances.
3. Members who decline to participate in a meeting on any of the above grounds shall notify the Chairman immediately. The parties involved may also raise an objection to a member they believe to be biased.
4. The Chairman shall decide on any such claim of bias.
5. Proceedings that have involved someone whom the Chairman has ordered not to participate will be considered null and void.

Article 95: Confidentiality

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

Article 96: Exemption from Liability

Except in the case of gross culpability, neither the members of the judicial bodies of BFA nor the Secretariat may be made liable for any deeds or omissions relating to any disciplinary procedure.

CHAPTER II: PROCEDURE
SECTION 1: GENERAL RULES
SUBSECTION 1: TIME LIMITS

Article 97: Calculation

1. Time limits to which the clubs, national leagues, and/or regional football associations shall adhere commence the day after they have received the relevant document.
2. Time limits to which other persons shall adhere commence four days after receipt of the document by the club, national league, or regional football association responsible for forwarding it, except when the document is not also or solely sent to the person concerned or his legal representative. If the document was also or solely sent to the parties or their legal representatives, the time limit commences on the day after receipt of the document in question.
3. If the last day of the time limit coincides with a public holiday in the place of domicile of the person required to comply with the document by a certain deadline, the time limit will expire on the next day that is not a public holiday.
4. In all other cases, the provisions of the Swiss Code of Obligations apply to calculate the time limits.

Article 98: Compliance

1. The time limit has been met only if the action required has been carried out before expiry of the time limit.
2. The document must be submitted to the relevant body or its address with the post office no later than midnight on the last day of the time limit.
3. If the document is sent by telefax, the time limit has been met if the document reaches the body on the last day of the time limit and the original document reaches it within another five days.
4. Parties are not permitted to observe time limits by sending electronic mail.
5. In the case of appeals, the deposit demanded (cf. Art. 130) is considered to have been paid in time if the payment has irreversibly been made to FIFA's account by midnight on the last day of the time limit.

Article 99: Interruption

1. Time limits are interrupted:
 - a) from 20 December to 5 January inclusive;
 - b) during the period starting two days before the BFA General Assembly and FIFA Congress up to two days after.
2. Special provisions may apply in certain circumstances.

Article 100: Extension

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

SUBSECTION 2: RIGHT TO BE HEARD

Article 101: Contents

1. The parties shall be heard before any decision is passed.
2. They may, in particular:
 - a) refer to the file;
 - b) present their argument in fact and in law;
 - c) request production of proof;
 - d) be involved in the production of proof;
 - e) obtain a reasoned decision.
3. Special provisions may apply in certain circumstances.

Article 102: Restrictions

1. The right to be heard may be restricted in exceptional circumstances, such as when confidential matters need to be safeguarded or the proceedings to be conducted properly.
2. Special provisions may apply in certain circumstances.

SUBSECTION 3: PROOF

Article 103: Various Types of Proof

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

Article 104: Evaluation of Proof

1. The bodies will have absolute discretion regarding proof.
2. They may, in particular, take account of the parties' attitudes during proceedings, especially the manner in which they cooperate with the judicial bodies and the secretariat (cf. Art. 118).
3. They decide on the basis of their personal convictions.

Article 105: Match Officials' Reports

1. Facts contained in match officials' reports are presumed to be accurate.
2. Proof of the inaccuracy of the contents of these reports may be provided.
3. If there is any discrepancy in the reports from the various match officials and there are no means of resolving the different versions of the facts, the referee's report is considered authoritative regarding incidents that occurred on the field of play; the match commissioner's report is considered authoritative regarding incidents that took place outside the field of play.