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FIFA Disciplinary Code



100 YEARS FIFA 1904 - 2004

Fédération Internationale de Football Association



FIFA Disciplinary Code (FDC)

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PRELIMINARY TITLE

FIFA Disciplinary Code (FDC)

27 May 2007

With specific reference to art. 55 par. 4 of the FIFA Statutes, the Executive Committee of the Fédération Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) enforces the following code.

Article 1 **Object**

This code describes infringements of the rules in FIFA 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.

Article 2 **Scope of application: substantive law**

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

Article 3 **Scope of application: natural and legal persons**

The following are subject to this code:

- a) associations;
- b) members of associations, in particular the clubs;
- c) officials;
- d) players;
- e) match officials;
- f) licensed match and players' agents;
- g) anyone with an authorisation from FIFA, in particular with regard to a match, competition or other event organised by FIFA;
- h) 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 FIFA 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.

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 Swiss francs (CHF) or US dollars (USD). It shall be paid in the same currency.
2. The fine shall not be less than CHF 300, or in the case of a competition subject to an age limit not less than CHF 200, and not more than CHF 1,000,000.
3. The body that imposes the fine decides the terms and time limits for payment.
4. Associations are jointly liable for fines imposed on representative team players and officials. The same applies to clubs in respect of their players and officials. The fact that 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 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 an association or a club to have a certain match played in another country or in a different region of the same country.

Article **26** **Ban on playing in a particular stadium**

A ban on playing in a certain stadium deprives an 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 an 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 confederation, 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) FIFA Club World Cup: carried over to club competitions at confederation level;
 - e) confederation club competitions leading to qualification for the FIFA Club World Cup: carried over to the FIFA Club World Cup;
 - f) confederation competitions for representative teams: carried over to the representative team's subsequent official match in a competition organised by FIFA;
 - 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 FIFA 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 **44** **Interruption**

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

Article **45** **Limitation period for the enforcement of sanctions**

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

Section 1. **Infringements of the Laws of the Game**

Article **46** **Minor infringements**

A player is cautioned if he commits any of the following offences (cf. Law 12 of the Laws of the Game and art. 17 of this code):

- a) unsporting behaviour such as minor foul play, dangerous play or holding on to an opponent's shirt or any part of his body;
- b) showing dissent towards match officials by word or action (criticising decisions, protesting);
- c) persistently infringing the Laws of the Game;
- d) delaying the restart of play;
- e) failing to respect the required distance when play is restarted with a corner or free kick;
- f) entering or re-entering the field of play without the referee's permission;
- g) deliberately leaving the field of play without the referee's permission;
- h) simulation.

Article **47** **Serious infringements**

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

- i) serious foul play such as excessive or brute force;
- j) violent conduct such as brutal or aggressive actions;
- k) spitting at an opponent or any other person;
- l) denying the opposing team a goal or an obvious goal-scoring opportunity by deliberately handling the ball;
- m) denying an obvious goal-scoring opportunity to an opponent moving towards the player's goal by committing an offence punishable by a free kick or a penalty kick;
- n) using offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures;
- o) second caution during the same match (cf. art. 17 par. 2).

Section 2. Disorderliness at matches and competitions

Article 48 Misconduct against players or persons other than match officials

1. Including the automatic suspension incurred in accordance with art. 18 par. 4, the overall suspension imposed on any person receiving a direct red card shall be for:
 - a) at least one match for denying the opposing team a clear goal-scoring opportunity (particularly by deliberately handling the ball);
 - b) at least two matches for serious foul play (particularly in the case of excessive or brute force);
 - c) at least two matches for unsporting conduct towards an opponent or a person other than a match official (subject to art. 53, 54 and 57-60);
 - d) at least two matches for assaulting (elbowing, punching, kicking etc.) an opponent or a person other than a match official;
 - e) at least six matches for spitting at an opponent or a person other than 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 49 **Misconduct against match officials**

1. Including the automatic suspension incurred in accordance with art. 18 par. 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 CHF 15,000:
 - 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 CHF 5,000.

2. In serious cases, in particular when the infringement is committed using the mass media (such as the press, radio or television) or if it takes place on a match day in or around a stadium, the minimum fine will be CHF 20,000.

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 CHF 5,000.

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 CHF 6,000.
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 CHF 4,000.

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 CHF 10,000 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 CHF 20,000 will be imposed on the perpetrator. If the perpetrator is an official, the fine will be at least CHF 30,000.
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 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 CHF 3,000 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 CHF 3,000 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 CHF 5,000 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 CHF 10,000,
 - b) with a ban on taking part in any football-related activity, and
 - c) with a ban on entering any stadium.
2. Passive corruption (soliciting, being promised or accepting an unjustified advantage) will be sanctioned in the same manner.
3. In serious cases and in the case of repetition, sanction 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

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 FIFA, or in training leading up to such a competition or event, shall agree to undergo any tests conducted by the relevant bodies of 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.

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 FIFA and, provided that the requirements of article 143ff. of 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) 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 (non-financial decision) passed by a body, a committee or an instance of FIFA or CAS:
 - a) will be fined at least CHF 5,000 for failing to comply with a decision;
 - b) will be granted a final deadline by the judicial bodies of 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 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 article shall immediately be lodged with CAS.

Section 9. Responsibilities of clubs and associations

Article 72 Organisation of matches

Associations that organise matches shall:

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

Article 75 Other obligations

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 or the 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 CHF 15,000. The body will also pronounce a ban on taking part in any football-related activity; in serious cases this sanction will apply for life.

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 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. Associations, confederations and other sports organisations shall notify the judicial bodies of 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 FIFA 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).

Section 3. **Disciplinary Committee**

Article **83** **General jurisdiction**

The FIFA Disciplinary Committee is authorised to sanction any breach of FIFA 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 CHF 10,000;
 - 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.

SECOND TITLE. ORGANISATION AND PROCEDURE

CHAPTER I. ORGANISATION

Section 5. Common rules for the judicial bodies

Article 88 Composition

1. The Executive Committee appoints the members of the Disciplinary Committee and the Appeal Committee for a period of eight 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 eight 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 FIFA'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 FIFA World Cup™ and other FIFA 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 FIFA provides the judicial bodies with a secretariat and the necessary staff at FIFA headquarters.
2. The general secretariat of FIFA 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 FIFA pass their decisions entirely independently; in particular, they shall not receive instructions from any other body.
2. A member of another FIFA 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 FIFA.

Article 94 **Withdrawal**

1. Members of the judicial bodies of FIFA 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 FIFA nor the secretariat may be made liable for any deeds or omissions relating to any disciplinary procedure.

Section 1. **General rules**

Subsection 1. Time limits

Article **97** **Calculation**

1. Time limits to which the 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 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 Swiss 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 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.

Article 106 Burden of proof

1. The burden of proof regarding disciplinary infringements rests on FIFA.
2. In the case of a doping offence, it is incumbent upon the suspect to produce the proof necessary to reduce or cancel a sanction. For sanctions to be reduced, the suspect must also prove how the prohibited substance entered his body.

Subsection 4. Representation and assistance

Article 107 [only]

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

Subsection 5. Language used in proceedings

Article 108 [only]

1. The languages used in proceedings are the four official languages of FIFA (English, French, German and Spanish). The body and parties may choose any of these languages.
2. FIFA may, if necessary, use the services of an interpreter.
3. Decisions are passed in one of the languages used by the association concerned or the association to which the person concerned belongs. Efforts will be made to use the association's first language, wherever possible.
4. If the language used in a decision is not the mother tongue of the person concerned, the association to which the person belongs will be responsible for translating it.

Subsection 6. Notification of decisions

Article 109 Addressees

1. All of the parties are notified of the decisions.
2. Decisions and other documents intended for players, clubs and officials are addressed to the association concerned on condition that it forwards the documents to the parties concerned. In the event that the documents were not also or solely sent to the party concerned, these documents are considered to have been communicated properly to the ultimate addressee four days after communication of the documents to the association (cf. art. 97).

SECOND TITLE. ORGANISATION AND PROCEDURE

CHAPTER II. PROCEDURE

3. If an appeal has not been lodged by the specified deadline, doping decisions passed by the Disciplinary Committee shall be notified to the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA). Doping decisions passed by the Appeal Committee shall be notified simultaneously to the parties and the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA). FIFA will announce infringements of doping regulations within 30 days.

Article 110 Form: general rule

1. Decisions communicated by telefax shall be legally binding. Alternatively, decisions may be communicated by registered letter, which shall also be legally binding.
2. The communication of decisions by electronic mail is not permitted.
3. In certain circumstances, the special provisions set out in art. 111 may apply.

Article 111 Form: special cases

If justified by the circumstances, the parties may be informed solely of the outline of the decision. The reasoned decision shall then be sent within 30 days. The legal time limits do not begin until the reasoned decision has been delivered. A party may choose not to be sent a reasoned decision.

Subsection 7. Miscellaneous

Article **112** Obvious errors

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

Article **113** Costs and expenses

1. Costs and expenses shall be paid by the unsuccessful party.
2. If there is no unsuccessful party, they shall be borne by FIFA.
3. If considered fair to do so, they may be split among several parties.
4. The body that rules on the substance of the matter decides how costs and expenses shall be allocated and the relevant amounts are stipulated by the chairman. These rulings are not subject to appeal.
5. The chairman may exceptionally decide to curtail or dispense with costs and expenses.

Article **114** Enforcement of decisions

Decisions come into force as soon as they are communicated.

Article **115** Baseless proceedings

Proceedings may be closed if:

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

Section 2. **Disciplinary Committee**

Subsection 1. Commencement of proceedings and investigation

Article **116** **Commencement of proceedings**

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

Article **117** **Investigation**

The secretariat carries out the necessary preliminary investigation ex officio under the chairman's guidance.

Article **118** **Collaboration by the parties**

1. The parties are obliged to collaborate to establish the facts. In particular, they shall comply with requests for information from the judicial bodies.
2. Whenever deemed necessary, the secretariat verifies the parties' versions of the facts.
3. If the parties are dilatory in responding, the chairman of the judicial body may, after warning them, impose a fine of up to CHF 10,000.
4. If the parties fail to collaborate, especially if they ignore the stipulated time limits, the judicial bodies will reach a decision on the case using the file in their possession.

Subsection 2. Oral statements, deliberations, decision

Article 119 Oral statements, principles

1. As a general rule, there are no oral statements and the Disciplinary Committee decides on the basis of the file.
2. At the request of one of the parties, the body may arrange for oral statements to be heard, to which all the parties shall be summoned.
3. Oral statements are always heard behind closed doors.

Article 120 Oral statements, procedure

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

Article 121 Deliberations

1. The Disciplinary Committee deliberates behind closed doors.
2. If any oral statements have been heard, they will immediately be followed by deliberations.
3. Deliberations are conducted without interruption, unless there are exceptional circumstances.
4. The chairman decides in which order the various questions will be submitted for deliberation.
5. The members present express their opinions in the order set out by the chairman, who always speaks last.
6. The committee secretary has consultative powers only.

Article 122 Passing the decision

1. Decisions are passed by a simple majority of the members present.
2. Every member present shall vote.
3. If votes are equal, the chair has the casting vote.

Article 123 Form and contents of the decision

1. The decision contains:
 - a) the composition of the committee;
 - b) the names of the parties;
 - c) a summary of the facts;
 - d) the legal reasons for the decision;
 - e) the provisions on which the decision was based;
 - f) the terms of the decision;
 - g) notice of the channels for appeal.

2. The decisions are signed by the committee secretary.

Subsection 3. Proceedings before the chairman of the Disciplinary Committee acting alone

Article 124 [only]

The rules governing the Disciplinary Committee apply in the same way whenever the chairman decides alone.

Section 3. **Appeal Committee**

Article **125** **Contestable decisions**

An appeal may be lodged to the Appeal Committee against any decision passed by the Disciplinary Committee, unless the sanction pronounced is:

- a) a warning;
- b) a reprimand;
- c) a suspension for less than three matches or of up to two months;
- d) a fine of less than CHF 15,000 imposed on an association or a club or of less than CHF 7,500 in other cases.
- e) decisions passed in compliance with art. 71 of this code.

Article **126** **Eligibility to appeal**

1. Anyone who is affected by a decision and has an interest justifying amendment or cancellation of the decision may submit it to the Appeal Committee.
2. Associations may appeal against decisions sanctioning their players, officials or members. They shall have the written agreement of the person concerned.

Article 127 Time limit for appeal

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

Article 128 Grounds for appeal

The appellant may object to inaccurate representation of the facts and/or wrong application of the law.

Article 129 Petition of appeal

1. The appellant shall submit his petition of appeal in triplicate.
2. The petition shall include the claim as well as the reasons and means of proof and be signed by the appellant or his representative, subject to art. 126 par. 2.

SECOND TITLE. ORGANISATION AND PROCEDURE

CHAPTER II. PROCEDURE

Article 130 Deposit

1. Anyone wishing to lodge an appeal shall transfer an appeal fee of CHF 3,000 to FIFA's bank account before expiry of the time limit of seven days to formalise the appeal.
2. If this requirement has not been complied with, the appeal is not admitted.
3. This amount will be reimbursed to the appellant if he wins the case. Costs and expenses payable by an appellant who loses the case are deducted from this amount. Any remaining amount is re-imbursed to him. If the deposit is insufficient, the appellant will be ordered to pay the difference.
4. If the appeal is considered to be improper, costs and expenses shall be paid in addition to the deposit.

Article 131 Effects of appeal

1. An appeal results in the case being reviewed by the Appeal Committee.
2. The appeal does not have a suspensive effect except with regard to orders to pay a sum of money.

Article 132 Sequence in proceedings leading up to the decision

1. The sequence in proceedings is determined as described in this code.
2. The decisions are signed by the secretary.
3. Decisions may not be amended to the detriment of the party contesting them.

Article **133** **Continuation of the proceedings**

1. The Appeal Committee rules, in principle, as a body in the last instance.
2. The right is reserved for an appeal to be made to the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) as set out in art. 135.

Article **134** **Proceedings before the chairman of the Appeal Committee acting alone**

The rules governing the Appeal Committee apply in the same way whenever the chairman of the committee decides alone.

Section 4. **Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS)**

Article **135** **[only]**

The FIFA Statutes stipulate which decisions passed by the judicial bodies of FIFA may be taken before the Court of Arbitration for Sport.

Section 5. **Special procedures**

Subsection 1. Provisional measures

Article **136** **General rule**

1. If an infringement appears to have been committed and a decision on the main issue cannot be taken early enough, the chairman of the judicial body may, in emergencies, provisionally pronounce, alter or revoke a sanction.
2. In similar circumstances, he may take other provisional measures at his discretion, especially to ensure compliance with a sanction already in force.
3. He will take action upon request or ex officio.

Article **137** **Procedure**

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

Article **138** **Decision**

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

Article 139 Duration

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

Article 140 Appeal

1. An appeal against a decision regarding provisional measures may be lodged before the chairman of the Appeal Committee.
2. The time limit for lodging the appeal is two days commencing from the communication of the decision.
3. The petition of appeal shall be sent direct to FIFA by telefax within the same time limit.
4. The appeal shall not have a suspensive effect.

Article 141 Approval of appeal

The appeal will be admitted if the facts stated in the contested decision are inaccurate or if the law has been violated.

SECOND TITLE. ORGANISATION AND PROCEDURE

CHAPTER II. PROCEDURE

Subsection 2. Deliberations and decision-taking without meeting

Article 142 [only]

1. If the circumstances so require, the secretariat may arrange the deliberations and decision-taking to be conducted via telephone conference, videoconference or any other similar method.
2. Art. 119 par. 2 is, in this case, not applicable.
3. The secretary takes minutes as if it were an ordinary meeting.

Subsection 3. Extending sanctions to have worldwide effect

Article 143 Request

1. If the infringement is serious, in particular doping (cf. section 7 of the special part of this code), corruption (cf. art. 62), manipulation of match results (cf. art. 76), misconduct against match officials (cf. art. 49), forgery (cf. art. 61) or violation of the rules governing age limits (cf. art. 75 a), the associations, confederations, and other organising sports bodies shall request FIFA to extend the sanctions they have imposed so as to have worldwide effect.
2. The request shall be submitted in writing and enclose a certified copy matching the decision. It shall show the name and address of the person who has been sanctioned and that of the club and the association concerned.
3. If the judicial bodies of FIFA discover that associations, confederations and other sports organisations have not requested a decision to be extended to have worldwide effect, even though it should have been, these bodies may themselves pass a decision.

Article 144 Conditions

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

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

Article 145 Procedure

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

Article 146 Decision

1. The chairman is restricted to ascertaining that the conditions of art. 144 have been fulfilled. He may not review the substance of the decision.
2. He either grants or refuses to grant the request to have the sanction extended.

Article 147 Effect

1. The sanction passed by the association or confederation requesting it to be extended has the same effect in each member association of FIFA as if the sanction had been passed by any one of them.
2. If a decision that has not come into force in a legal sense is extended to have worldwide effect, any decision regarding extension shall always be based on the content of the association's decision that is already applicable.

Article 148 Appeal

1. The provisions of art. 126ff. shall apply, subject to par. 2 of this article, to any appeal lodged against a decision passed in accordance with art. 146.
2. Any grounds for complaint may only refer to the terms set out in art. 143 and 144. It is inadmissible to question the substance of the initial decision.

Subsection 4. Review

Article 149 [only]

1. A review may be requested after a legally binding decision has been passed if a party discovers facts or proof that would have resulted in a more favourable decision and that, even with due diligence, could not have been produced sooner.
2. A request for review shall be made within ten days of discovering the reasons for review.
3. The limitation period for submitting a request for review is one year after the enforcement of the decision.

Article 150 Diverging texts in the Disciplinary Code

1. The code exists in the four official languages of FIFA (English, French, German, Spanish).
2. In the event of any discrepancy between the four texts, the English version is authoritative.

Article 151 Scope of the code, omissions, custom, doctrine and jurisprudence

1. This code governs every subject to which the text or the meaning of its provisions refers.
2. If there are any omissions in this code, the judicial bodies will decide in accordance with the association's custom or, in the absence of custom, in accordance with rules they would lay down if they were acting as legislators.
3. During all their operations, the judicial bodies of FIFA draw on settlements already established by sports doctrine and jurisprudence.

Article 152 Associations' disciplinary codes

1. The associations are obliged to adapt their own provisions to comply with this code for the purpose of harmonising disciplinary measures.
2. The associations shall, without exception, incorporate the following mandatory provisions of this code into their own regulations in accordance with their internal association structure: art. 33 par. 6, art. 42 par. 2, art. 58, art. 63-70, art. 106 par. 2 and art. 109 par. 3. Pursuant to art. 152 par. 3, the associations do, however, have some freedom with regard to the fines stipulated in art. 58.

FINAL TITLE

3. The associations shall also incorporate the following provisions of this code to achieve the objective of harmonising disciplinary measures but, in doing so, they are at liberty to choose the means and wording of the provisions: art. 1-34, art. 39-57, art. 59-62, art. 71-79, art. 82-84, art. 92-97, art. 101-105, art. 106 par. 1, art. 107, art. 109 par. 1 and 2, art. 110-116, art. 118, art. 123, art. 136-139, art. 143-144, art. 149 and art. 151. The associations are obliged to ensure especially that the infringements mentioned in these provisions and the appropriate sanctions are strictly incorporated and that the general principles are adhered to.
4. It is not mandatory for the associations to incorporate the articles not listed under par. 2 and par. 3 of this article but it is advisable insofar as they are necessary.
5. Any association that infringes this article shall be fined. In the event of more serious infringements, further sanctions may be pronounced in accordance with this code, including exclusion from current or future competitions (cf. art. 28).

Article 153 Adoption and enforcement

1. The FIFA Executive Committee adopted this code on 27 May 2007.
2. This code comes into force on 1 September 2007.

Zurich, May 2007

For the FIFA Executive Committee:

President:
Joseph S. Blatter

General Secretary:
Jérôme Valcke



1/2

FIFA Disciplinary Committee

Confirmation Letter **A**
for disciplinary measures (art. 35 and 79 par. 1 FDC*)

IMPORTANT: We should be grateful if you would check this confirmation letter and notify us of any discrepancy within 2 days of receipt.

Association:
Attn. of the General Secretary/
Head of delegation

Confederation:

Competition:

Match:

Date:

Referee:

Dear Sir or Madam,

We confirm the disciplinary measure(s) taken against player(s) of your representative team at the above-mentioned match.

The referee of the above-mentioned match has reported to FIFA that the following player(s) was (were) cautioned.

Name	no.	Offence (cf. abbreviations p.2)
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Please note that the sanction(s) has(have) been registered by the FIFA Disciplinary Committee (art. 35 FDC).

Yours faithfully,

FIFA

Secretary to the Disciplinary Committee

Communication without signature.

cc:

Confederation
FIFA publications

TELEFAX

Place and date:

ABBREVIATIONS (cf. articles 46 and 47 FDC)

- A** = unsporting behaviour such as minor foul play, dangerous play or holding on to an opponent's shirt or any part of his body;
- B** = showing dissent towards match officials by word or action (criticising decisions, protesting);
- C** = persistently infringing the Laws of the Game;
- D** = delaying the restart of play;
- E** = failing to respect the required distance when play is restarted with a corner or free kick;
- F** = entering or re-entering the field of play without the referee's permission;
- G** = leaving the field of play without the referee's permission ;
- H** = simulation;
- I** = serious foul play such as excessive or brute force;
- J** = violent conduct such as brutal or aggressive actions;
- K** = spitting at an opponent or any other person;
- L** = denying the opposing team a goal or an obvious goal-scoring opportunity by deliberately handling the ball;
- M** = denying an obvious goal-scoring opportunity to an opponent moving towards the opposing goal by committing an offence punishable by a free kick or a penalty kick;
- N** = using offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures;
- O** = second caution during the same match (cf. art. 17 par. 2).

*** FIFA Disciplinary Code**

1/2

FIFA Disciplinary Committee

Confirmation Letter **B**
for disciplinary measures (art. 35 and 79 par. 1 FDC*)

IMPORTANT: We should be grateful if you would check this confirmation letter and notify us of any discrepancy within 2 days of receipt.

Association:
**Attn. of the General Secretary/
Head of delegation**

Confederation:

Competition:

Match:

Date:

Referee:

Dear Sir or Madam,

We confirm the disciplinary measure(s) taken against player(s) of your representative team at the above-mentioned match.

I. The referee of the above-mentioned match has reported to FIFA that the following player(s) was (were) cautioned.

Name	no.	Offence (cf. abbreviations p.2)
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II. For receiving 2 cautions in two different matches of this competition the following player(s) is (are) suspended from the next match (art. 17 par. 3 FDC):

X-Y, 00.00.00

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Please note that the sanction(s) has (have) been registered by the FIFA Disciplinary Committee (art. 35 FDC).

Yours faithfully,

FIFA

Secretary to the Disciplinary Committee

ad int. (Mr/Ms):

cc:

Confederation
FIFA publications

TELEFAX

Place and date:

ABBREVIATIONS (cf. articles 46 and 47 FDC)

- A** = unsporting behaviour such as minor foul play, dangerous play or holding on to an opponent's shirt or any part of his body;
- B** = showing dissent towards match officials by word or action (criticising decisions, protesting);
- C** = persistently infringing the Laws of the Game;
- D** = delaying the restart of play;
- E** = failing to respect the required distance when play is restarted with a corner or free kick;
- F** = entering or re-entering the field of play without the referee's permission;
- G** = leaving the field of play without the referee's permission ;
- H** = simulation;
- I** = serious foul play such as excessive or brute force;
- J** = violent conduct such as brutal or aggressive actions;
- K** = spitting at an opponent or any other person;
- L** = denying the opposing team a goal or an obvious goal-scoring opportunity by deliberately handling the ball;
- M** = denying an obvious goal-scoring opportunity to an opponent moving towards the opposing goal by committing an offence punishable by a free kick or a penalty kick;
- N** = using offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures;
- O** = second caution during the same match (cf. art. 17 par. 2).

*** FIFA Disciplinary Code**

1/2

FIFA Disciplinary Committee

Confirmation Letter **C**
for disciplinary measures (art. 35 and 79 par. 1 FDC*)

IMPORTANT: We should be grateful if you would check this confirmation letter and notify us of any discrepancy within 2 days of receipt.

Association:
Attn. of the General Secretary/
Head of delegation

Confederation:

Competition:

Match:

Date:

Referee:

Dear Sir or Madam,

We confirm the disciplinary measure(s) taken against player(s) of your representative team at the above-mentioned match.

The referee of the above-mentioned match has reported to FIFA that the following player(s) was (were) sent off. In conformity with the FIFA Disciplinary Code (FDC), the player(s) is (are) automatically suspended from the next match (art. 18 par. 4 FDC):

X-Y, 00.00.00

Name	no.	Offence (cf. abbreviations p.2)
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Please note that the sanction(s) has (have) been registered by the FIFA Disciplinary Committee (art. 35 FDC).

Yours faithfully,

FIFA

Secretary to the Disciplinary Committee

ad int. (Mr/Ms):

cc:

Confederation
FIFA publications

TELEFAX

Place and date:

ABBREVIATIONS (cf. articles 46 and 47 FDC)

- A** = unsporting behaviour such as minor foul play, dangerous play or holding on to an opponent's shirt or any part of his body;
- B** = showing dissent towards match officials by word or action (criticising decisions, protesting);
- C** = persistently infringing the Laws of the Game;
- D** = delaying the restart of play;
- E** = failing to respect the required distance when play is restarted with a corner or free kick;
- F** = entering or re-entering the field of play without the referee's permission;
- G** = leaving the field of play without the referee's permission ;
- H** = simulation;
- I** = serious foul play such as excessive or brute force;
- J** = violent conduct such as brutal or aggressive actions;
- K** = spitting at an opponent or any other person;
- L** = denying the opposing team a goal or an obvious goal-scoring opportunity by deliberately handling the ball;
- M** = denying an obvious goal-scoring opportunity to an opponent moving towards the opposing goal by committing an offence punishable by a free kick or a penalty kick;
- N** = using offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures;
- O** = second caution during the same match (cf. art. 17 par. 2).

*** FIFA Disciplinary Code**

1/2

FIFA Disciplinary Committee

Confirmation Letter **D**
for disciplinary measures (art. 35 and 79 par. 1 FDC*)

IMPORTANT: We should be grateful if you would check this confirmation letter and notify us of any discrepancy within 2 days of receipt.

Association:
**Attn. of the General Secretary/
Head of delegation**

Confederation:

Competition:

Match:

Date:

Referee:

Dear Sir or Madam,

We confirm the disciplinary measure(s) taken against player(s) of your representative team at the above-mentioned match.

I. The referee of the above-mentioned match has reported to FIFA that the following player(s) was (were) sent off. In conformity with the FIFA Disciplinary Code (FDC), the player(s) is (are) automatically suspended from the next match (art. 18 par. 4 FDC):

X-Y, 00.00.00

Name	no.	Offence (cf. abbreviations p.2)
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II. The case will be submitted to the Disciplinary Committee at its next meeting.

III. So that the committee can consider the case from every perspective, you are requested to submit any comments or evidence you might have in connection with these incidents to the FIFA Disciplinary Committee within 5 days of receipt of this letter.

If we do not hear from you by then, the Disciplinary Committee will judge the case on the basis of the documents already available (art. 118 par. 4 FDC).

IV. We shall inform you accordingly if this body imposes an additional sanction.

Please note that the sanction(s) has (have) been registered by the FIFA Disciplinary Committee (art. 35 FDC).

Yours faithfully,

FIFA

Secretary to the Disciplinary Committee

ad int. (Mr/Ms):

cc:
Confederation
FIFA publications

TELEFAX
Place and date:

ABBREVIATIONS (cf. articles 46 and 47 FDC)

- A** = unsporting behaviour such as minor foul play, dangerous play or holding on to an opponent's shirt or any part of his body;
- B** = showing dissent towards match officials by word or action (criticising decisions, protesting);
- C** = persistently infringing the Laws of the Game;
- D** = delaying the restart of play;
- E** = failing to respect the required distance when play is restarted with a corner or free kick;
- F** = entering or re-entering the field of play without the referee's permission;
- G** = leaving the field of play without the referee's permission ;
- H** = simulation;
- I** = serious foul play such as excessive or brute force;
- J** = violent conduct such as brutal or aggressive actions;
- K** = spitting at an opponent or any other person;
- L** = denying the opposing team a goal or an obvious goal-scoring opportunity by deliberately handling the ball;
- M** = denying an obvious goal-scoring opportunity to an opponent moving towards the opposing goal by committing an offence punishable by a free kick or a penalty kick;
- N** = using offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures;
- O** = second caution during the same match (cf. art. 17 par. 2).

*** FIFA Disciplinary Code**

1/2

FIFA Disciplinary Committee

Confirmation Letter **E**
for disciplinary measures (art. 35 and 79 par. 1 FDC*)

IMPORTANT: We should be grateful if you would check this confirmation letter and notify us of any discrepancy within 2 days of receipt.

Association:
**Attn. of the General Secretary/
Head of delegation**

Confederation:

Competition:

Match:

Date:

Referee:

Dear Sir or Madam,

We confirm the disciplinary measure(s) taken against player(s) of your representative team at the above-mentioned match.

I. The referee of the above-mentioned match has reported to FIFA that the following player(s) was (were) sent off.

Name	no.	Offence (cf. abbreviations p.2)
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II. As your team has not qualified for the next round, the player(s) must serve this suspension as follows, in conformity with the FIFA Disciplinary Code (FDC) art. 38:

- during the next FIFA competition in which the player(s) compete(s).
- If this is not possible, the suspension must be served in your Confederation's next official competition (with the representative team).

So that the committee can consider the case from every perspective, you are requested to submit any comments or evidence you might have in connection with these incidents to the FIFA Disciplinary Committee within 5 days of receipt of this letter.

If we do not hear from you by then, the Disciplinary Committee will judge the case on the basis of the documents already available (art. 118 par. 4 FDC).

Please note that the sanction(s) has (have) been registered by the FIFA Disciplinary Committee (art. 35 FDC).

Yours faithfully,

FIFA

Secretary to the Disciplinary Committee

ad int. (Mr/Ms):

cc:

Confederation
FIFA publications

TELEFAX

Place and date:

ABBREVIATIONS (cf. articles 47 and 48 FDC)

- A** = unsporting behaviour such as minor foul play, dangerous play or holding on to an opponent's shirt or any part of his body;
- B** = showing dissent towards match officials by word or action (criticising decisions, protesting);
- C** = persistently infringing the Laws of the Game;
- D** = delaying the restart of play;
- E** = failing to respect the required distance when play is restarted with a corner or free kick;
- F** = entering or re-entering the field of play without the referee's permission;
- G** = leaving the field of play without the referee's permission ;
- H** = simulation;
- I** = serious foul play such as excessive or brute force;
- J** = violent conduct such as brutal or aggressive actions;
- K** = spitting at an opponent or any other person;
- L** = denying the opposing team a goal or an obvious goal-scoring opportunity by deliberately handling the ball;
- M** = denying an obvious goal-scoring opportunity to an opponent moving towards the opposing goal by committing an offence punishable by a free kick or a penalty kick;
- N** = using offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures;
- O** = second caution during the same match (cf. art. 17 par. 2).

*** FIFA Disciplinary Code**



Fédération Internationale de Football Association

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