



دوري الدرجة الثانية
2nd DIVISION LEAGUE
2024-2025

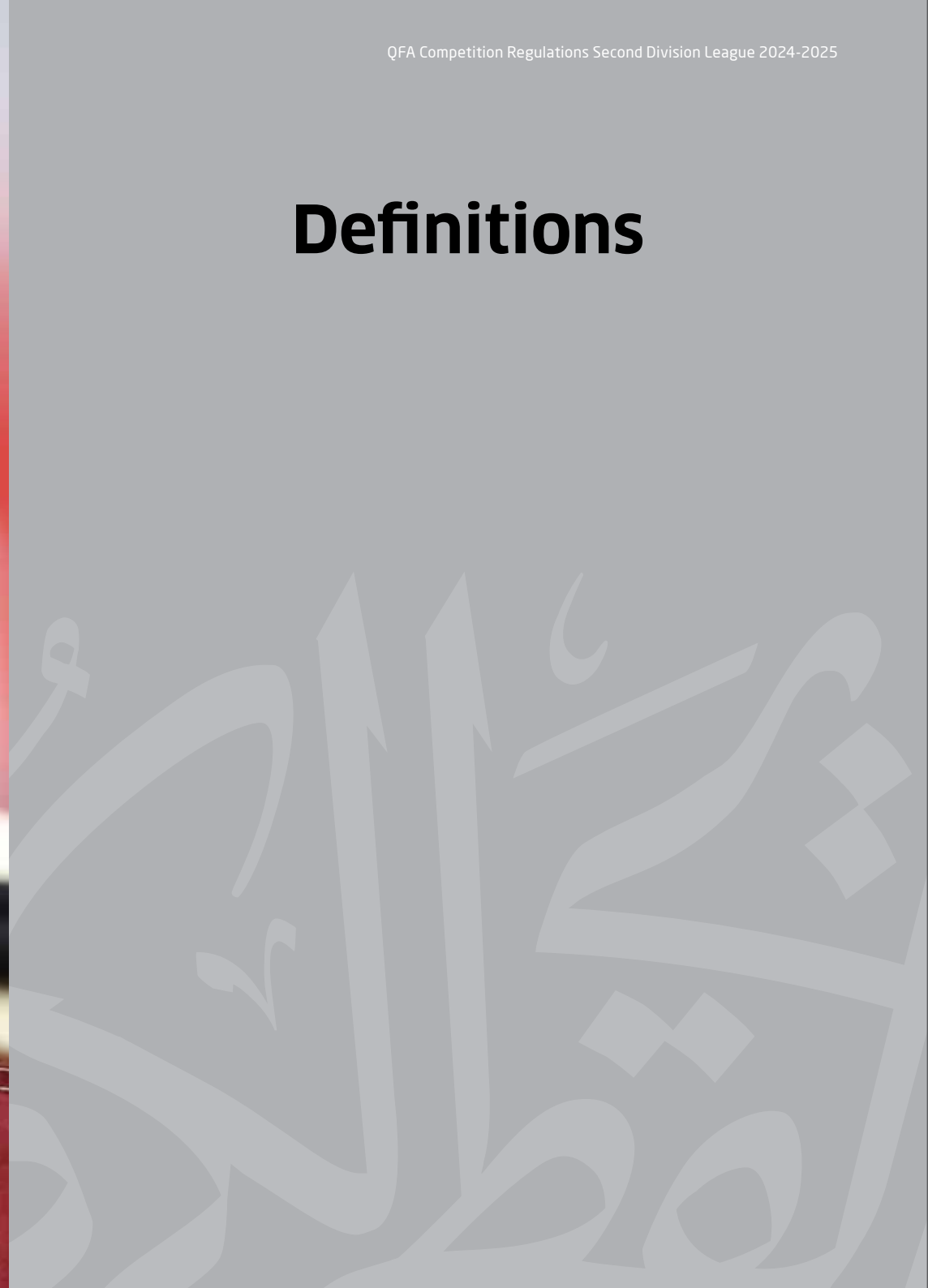
QFA Competition Regulations Second Division League

2024-2025

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Definitions



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

Term	Definition
QFA	Means the Qatar Football Association.
FIFA	Means the Fédération Internationale de Football Association.
IFAB	Means the International Football Association Board.
AFC	Means the Asian Football Confederation.
QADC	Means the Qatar Anti-Doping Commission established by the Qatar Olympic Committee to carry out the anti-doping functions as the independent Anti-Doping Organisation for Qatar.
ASPETAR	Means the Orthopedic and Sports Medicine Hospital officially accredited as a FIFA Medical Centre of Excellence.
Executive Committee	Means QFA Executive Committee.
WADA	Means the World Anti- Doping Agency.
Competition Committee	Is one of QFA's committees responsible for ensuring a smooth organization of all competitions.
Ethics Committee	Means the first instance judicial bodies for Ethics matters.
Disciplinary Committee	Means the first instance judicial body.
Appeals Committee	Means the appeal instance judicial body of the QFA responsible for hearing appeals against decisions from the Disciplinary Committee and the Ethics Committee that are not declared final.
Court of Arbitration for Sport	Means the Court of Arbitration for Sport in Lausanne, Switzerland.
QSAT	Qatar Sports Arbitration Tribunal.

Term	Definition
Financial Control Committee	It is the authority concerned with the necessary controls to ensure the good financial performance of sports clubs and focus on protecting the creditor.
Referees Department	Is one of QFA's standing departments formed to look into all matters regarding referees, in accordance with QFA's development strategy.
Second Division Competition	Means the official second division clubs competition in the State of Qatar, defined herein as "Competition".
Qatar Stars League Competition	Means the main official tournament in the State of Qatar, defined herein as "Competition or QSL".
Olympic League Competition	Means the official competition for the under 22 first division clubs competition in the State of Qatar, defined herein as "Competition".
Competition Management	Means the committee formed by QSLM to oversee the competition.
Competition Steering Committee	Is directly responsible for monitoring all organizational and management matters related to the competition affairs.
Regulations	Means the statutes, regulations, codes, circulars and other directives issued by the QFA or QSLM as well as the Laws of the Game.
Circulars	Means the circulars that are issued by QFA and that include alterations applied to the Regulations, following the issuance of these Regulations, during the sport season, as deemed necessary.
Annual Circular	Means the circular issued by the QFA at the commencement of the sports season and related to the number of players and the registration format.
Standards for Using Commercial Marks	Means the standards regarding ways of using the Competition commercial marks and the sponsors' logos in protection of the marketing and promotional rights of all.

Term	Definition
Disciplinary Code	Means the QFA Disciplinary Code which includes the infringements to the statutes, regulations, codes, circulars and other directives issued by the various committees and offices of QFA. The Disciplinary Code also includes the appropriate disciplinary measures that are applicable to such infringements and the mechanism for operation of the Appeals and Disciplinary Committees.
Code of Ethics	Means the QFA rules and regulations regarding the code of conduct.
FIFA RSTP	Means the relevant FIFA regulations on the status and transfer of players.
QFA RSTP	Means the relevant QFA regulations on the status and transfer of players.
Club	Means a football club member of the QFA.
Sports Season	Means the period starting with the first official match in July and ending with the last official match in May.
Official Match	Means a match organised under the auspices of the QFA or QSLM for all of the teams or Clubs under their jurisdiction; the score has an effect on the rights of participation in other competitions unless the regulations in question stipulate otherwise.
Match List	Means a list of the names of the players participating since the start of the match, in addition to the substitutes in all competition matches (list of the starting 11 and substitute players for the match).
Actual playing time	Means the player's participation at any time of the game (fielded-substitute).
Friendly Match	Means a match organised under the auspices of the QFA or any other entity in Qatar for all of the teams or Clubs under their jurisdiction; the score has no effect on the rights of participation in other competitions unless the regulations in question stipulate otherwise.

Term	Definition
Pre-Match	Means the timeframe between the arrival of both teams to the venue and the kick-off referee whistle.
Post-Match	Means the timeframe between the referee's final whistle and the departure of both teams from the match venue.
New Club	Means the club that the player is joining.
Former club	Means the club that the player is leaving before joining the new club.
Intermediary	A natural person who, for a fee or free of charge, represents players and/or clubs in negotiations with a view to concluding an employment contract or represents clubs in negotiations with a view to concluding a transfer agreement.
Intermediary Entity	Is an agency, company or any entity performing the intermediary activities.
Both Transfer Windows	Means both time periods during determined by the QFA one year ahead of the next season as per the FIFA Regulations. The first of which is for 12 weeks before the commencement of the sports season, while the second is for one month in the middle of the sports season.
Transfer Matching System (TMS)	Means a web-based data information system of FIFA with the primary objective of simplifying the process of international player transfers as well as improving transparency and the flow of information.
Organizational Procedures	Means the measures that clubs take in order to furnish all provisions required for organizing Competition matches.
Technical Meeting	Means the meeting held before any football match and attended by the organizers and the managers of the participating clubs.
Press Conferences	Are held before and after Competition matches and are attended by club associates, including officials, coaches and players.

Term	Definition
Officials	Means anyone, with the exception of players, performing an activity connected with football at the QFA, QSLM or a Club, regardless of his title, the type of activity (administrative, sporting or otherwise) and the duration of the activity. Managers, coaches and support officials in particular are all officials.
Official Accreditation	Means the accreditation cards that are issued to all officials at and during the Competition and that allow them access to the places designated on the accreditation cards.
Match Officials	Means the match commissioner, the referee assessor, the referee, assistant referees, fourth official and any other individual appointed by the QFA assuming responsibility related to the match.
Administrative Staff	Means individuals who are responsible for their Club's administrative matters with respect to any Competition match.
Technical Staff	Means individuals who are responsible for their Club's technical matters with respect to any Competition match.
Medical Staff	Consists of Club medical officials, provided they are authorized by ASPETAR.
Security Coordinator	Means the security official who is responsible for all safety and security matters at and during the football match he is appointed to oversee.
Doping Test Coordinator	Means the official who is responsible for matters concerning the selection of players and taking blood samples at any chosen Competition match.
Maintaining Order Staff	Means the members that provide logistical support to the match coordinator in order to maintain the security and safety for everyone inside the venue.
Official TV Broadcasting Representatives	Means individuals who represent the official TV broadcaster of Competition matches.

Term	Definition
Sponsors and Associates	Means the sponsors, associates and partners that QFA and QSLM enter into a contract with to sponsor a Competition.
Appellations	Means all the names and designations used to designate the relationship between sponsors and the Competition, including official sponsors, partners, official bank, official broadcaster and any other appellations agreed on in marketing the sponsorship and advertising rights in sport Competitions.
Commercial Rights	Means any and all commercial rights that are associated with the Competition and that can be invested commercially, including publicity, advertising, tickets, TV broadcasting, the Internet, and franchising and promotional rights.
Sponsorship and Media Rights	Means any and all the rights regarding the Competition, in any form and under any label; the rights of advertising in stadiums hosting Competition matches, the official Competition program, and the different print and audio media associated with the name of Competition, any commercial marks; and permission to use the Competition logo on teams, promotional gifts and products for sale.
Television Broadcasting Rights	Means any and all the rights regarding live and recorded TV broadcasting, transmission and reproduction of Competition matches and accompanying events, excluding ground stations and satellite TV coded and decoded, cable TV, the Internet, and all other forms of modern TV broadcasting and transmission in all languages.
International Broadcasting Insignia	Means the insignia used in radio/TV broadcasting of Competitions and associated events.
Competition Logos and Emblems	Means all the logos, symbols, marks and emblems associated with the Competition and approved by QFA or QSLM.

Term	Definition
Force Majeure	Means unusual and unforeseeable circumstances beyond anyone's reasonable control which result in the stoppage, ban or suspension of a Competition activity.
The Non-Force Majeure	Means any unexpected and unusual event that is caused by an act that results in the suspension, interruption or delay of any of the activities of the competition.
Prohibited Items	Means any articles that must not be brought within the Stadium. Any person in possession of such items will be refused entry to the Stadium.
Official Facilities	Include all the centres that provide services at and during Competition matches.
ACL	Means the AFC Champions League.
Natural Person	Means the person who represents himself.
Legal Person	Means the person who represents the entity which he affiliates.
Simple Majority	Means a proportion of 50% plus one at least.
Football Development Department	Is entrusted with the task of organizing all Age Category Competitions.
Players and Competitions Affairs Department	Is entrusted with the tasks of organizing football Competitions that are not within the authority of QSLM and players' registration.
National Teams Department	Is entrusted with the tasks of organizing and handling all matters related to the different national teams.

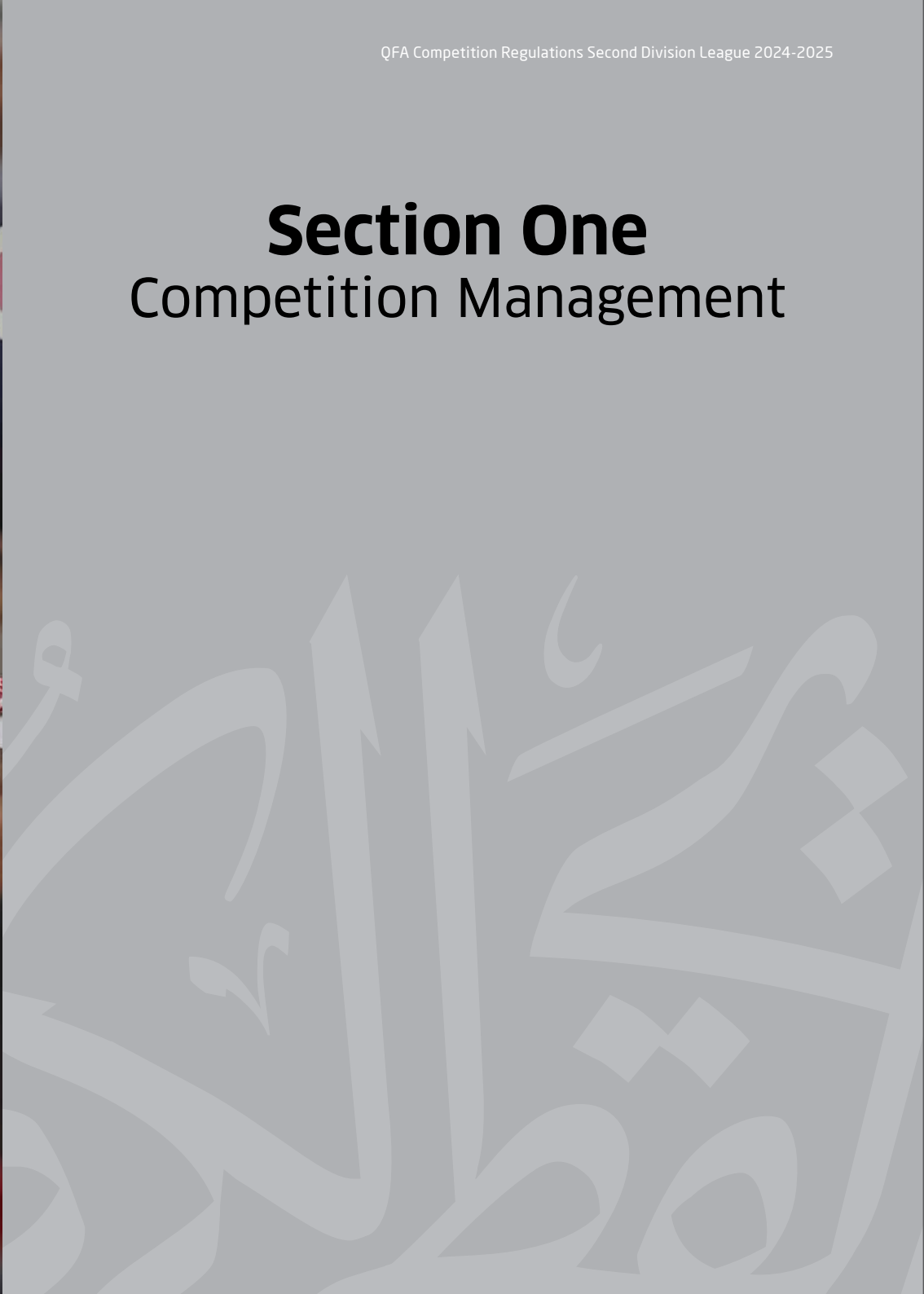
General Provisions

- The QFA is the official owner of the Competition.
- The QFA organizes and coordinates the Competition.
- The QFA is the original owner of all rights of the Competition.
- Any rights associated with the Competition which has not been granted by these Regulations and/or specific agreements to a participating club belong to the QFA.
- These regulations clarify rights and obligations of the clubs participating in the competition.
- The Regulations are binding for all members participating in organizing and hosting Competition matches to comply with the statutes, regulations, codes, circulars and other directives issued by the QFA, FIFA, IFAB and CAS.
- Any infringement of these regulations shall be subject to the proceedings of the relevant judicial bodies of QFA.
- Only the Executive Committee has the right to interpret these Regulations.
- These Regulations supersede all similar preceding regulations issued in 2023/2024.
- These Regulations come into force immediately upon the approval and sanction of the Executive Committee prior to the start of the 2024/2025 season.
- These Regulations are published in Arabic and English. In case there is any divergence in the wording of the two texts, the Arabic text is authoritative.

يا عمري قطر

Section One

Competition Management



Article (1)

The Responsibilities of the Second Division League Management shall Comprise:

- a) Organizing and managing the Competition.
- b) Preparing a schedule of all Competition matches.
- c) Changing any Competition match dates or venues, or any other organizational matter, as deemed necessary for public interest.
- d) Submitting Competition match results to the Disciplinary Committee for approval.
- e) Referring any infringement regarding organizational procedures to the Disciplinary Committee.
- f) Selecting members of the committee in charge of managing the Competition and identifying its tasks and responsibilities based on its specific Regulations.

Section Two

Participating Clubs

► Terms

Article (2)

The clubs eligible to participate in the Competition shall satisfy the following requirements:

- a) All clubs must undertake to abide by these Regulations.
- b) All participating clubs shall agree to comply with the Competition agreements and obligations signed and entered into by the various committees of QFA and any other concerned party.

► Obligations

Article (3)

Upon satisfaction of the terms of participation, clubs shall comply with the following rules and regulations:

- a) Compliance with the Competition agreements and obligations signed and entered into by the various committees of QFA and any other concerned party.
- b) Compliance with all the statutes, regulations, codes, circulars and other directives issued by the various committees of QFA.
- c) Compliance with the FIFA Laws of the Game.
- d) Compliance with the decisions of the various committees of QFA regarding administrative or disciplinary matters in accordance with the statutes and Regulations in use.
- e) Recognition of the QSAT, if established, and the CAS.

- f) Adoption of a statutory clause specifying that any dispute requiring arbitration involving itself or one of its members and relating to the statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of the QFA or QSLM, FIFA and AFC shall come solely under the jurisdiction of the QSAT, if established, or judicial body of FIFA, AFC and QFA and that any recourse to Ordinary Courts is prohibited.
- g) Commitment to include the strongest team during the season and take the game seriously, regardless of the score results and position in the ranking table.
- h) Adherence to the principle of Fair Play agreed on nationally, internationally and inter-continently.
- i) Consent to all liabilities that may result from the behavior and conduct of any Club associates, including players, coaches, administrators, spectators and any other natural or legal person, take all reasonable steps that its members and associated persons, in accordance with the relevant Regulations.
- j) Commitment of the home club to abide by the rights of other clubs when organizing football matches on its ground vis-à-vis players, technical and administrative staff and spectators.
- k) Compliance de facto with all the requirements and obligations set out in the agreement signed previously with the competition management.
- l) Commitment to attend all meetings, activities, conferences and events organized by various committees of QFA.
- m) Commitment to deal with the media before, during and after football matches, in accordance with the contents of the agreement signed and entered into by the club and QFA.

- n) Notwithstanding possession of an entry ticket issued by QFA the home club shall commit to refuse any person entry to the football stadium and all locations owned, occupied or utilised by the Club.
- o) Commitment to secure a match presentation (announcer) sound system in the stadium.
- p) Commitment to let the main stadium screen at the disposal of the Competition Committee for possible use to display commercials or live match broadcast without replaying any shots from the match.
- q) Commitment not to display the results of other matches on the screen or through a match presentation (announcer).

► Rights

Article (4)

Upon compliance with the terms and requirements of participation, the club shall be entitled to the rights listed below:

- a) The Club shall be notified of any changes, modifications, additions or omissions to the Laws of the Game following official submission of such changes, modifications, additions or omissions to FIFA.
- b) The club shall be granted the right to defend any of its affiliates before or after the passing of disciplinary sanction in accordance with the legal procedures and time limits, taking into consideration the procedures by the different judicial bodies all the way through to CAS.

- c) Taking into consideration there is no clash in the Club's participations in football matches when representing Qatar football in regional continental, and international competitions, in accordance with QFA deems appropriate.
- d) The Club shall be granted its financial rights as a participant in the Competition in a timely manner so that it can settle its financial obligations, in accordance with the plans previously agreed upon.
- e) The Club shall receive official notification ahead of the times of all meetings, activities, conferences and events organized by the various committees and of QFA.
- f) The Club shall use the match presentation (announcer) up to 30 minutes prior to the start of the football match.

Section Three

Competition Format



Article (5)

All Second Division teams shall participate in the Second Division League Competition.

Article (6)

The Competition matches shall be played according to the league (round-Robin) system of two legs.

Article (7)

In accordance with the League system, 3 points shall be awarded for a win, 1 point for a draw and 0 points for a loss.

Article (8)

The clubs participating in the Competition shall be ranked on the basis of the points accumulated by each participating team from all League matches played as follows:

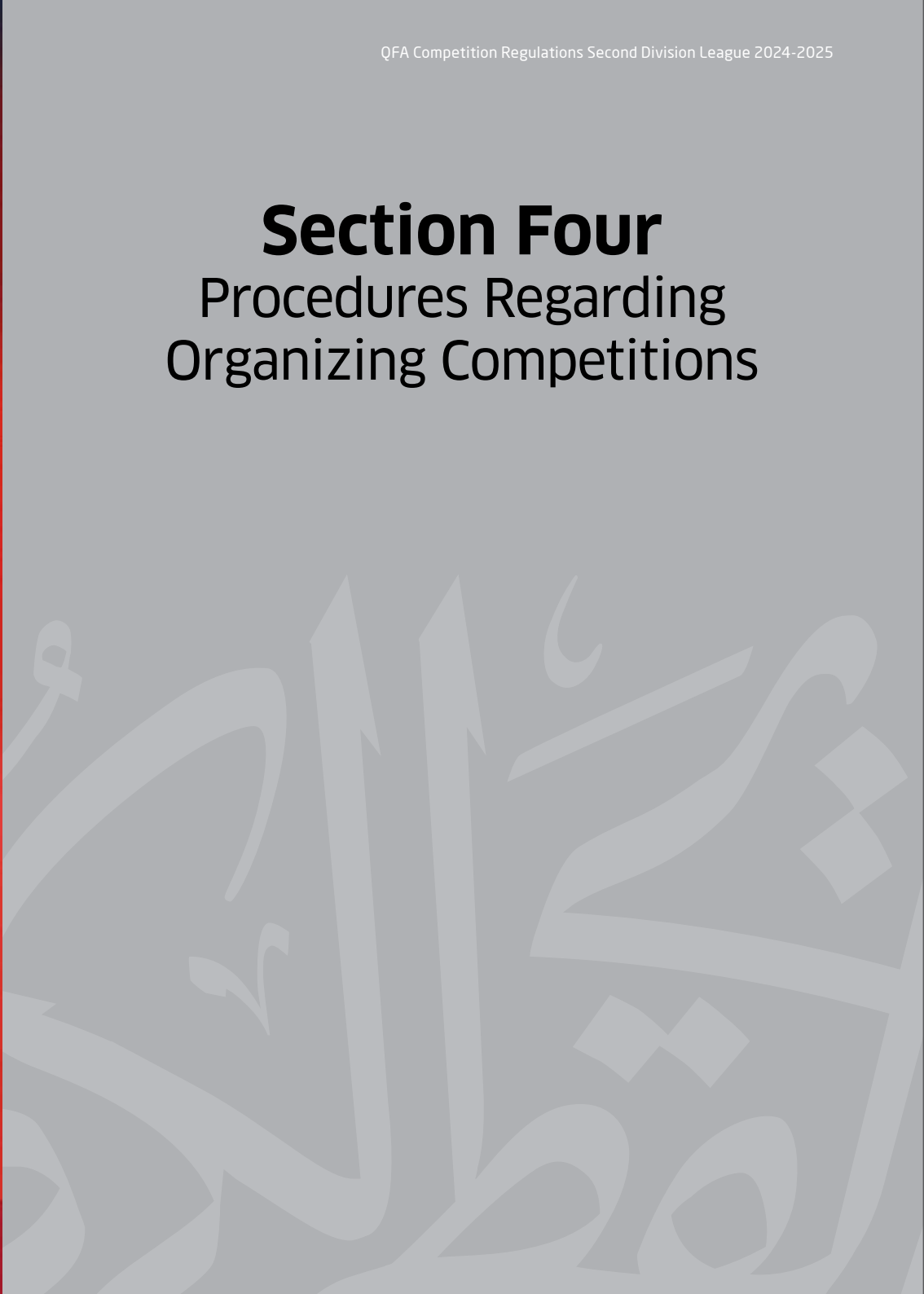
- a) The team with the greater number of points in League matches shall win Second Division League.
- b) The champion of Second Division League shall be promoted to participate in the OOREDOO STARS LEAGUE.
- c) The runners-up of Second Division League shall participate in a play-off match versus the team ranked 11th in the Ooredoo Stars League standing table.
- d) In the event of a final tie between two teams in the play-off game, the game shall continue on extra time of thirty (30) minutes with two periods of fifteen (15) minutes each. If no goals are scored in extra time, then the penalty kick procedures will apply.

- e) In the event that two teams or more accumulate an equal number of points competing for the first place, the following criteria shall be used successively to break the tie:
 1. The goal difference based on goals scored in the concerned teams matches (direct encounters).
 2. The goal difference based on all matches played.
 3. The greater number of goals scored in all matches played.
 4. Total number of wins in all Competition games.
 5. Play-off match.
- f) In the event that two teams or more accumulate an equal number of points in all other cases, the following criteria shall be used successively to break the tie:
 - 1) The goal difference based on all matches played.
 - 2) The total number of wins scored in all Competition matches played.
 - 3) The goal difference based on goals scored in the concerned teams matches (direct encounters).
 - 4) The total number of wins in all Competition games.
 - 5) The least yellow and red cards received (1 point for a single yellow card, 3 points for a direct or indirect red card. In the case of a direct red card as a result of a yellow card, both shall be counted as 4 points.
 - 6) The toss of a coin.



Section Four

Procedures Regarding Organizing Competitions



Article (9)

The Competition Management will use the following countdown schedule for all competition games:

Time before kick-off	Procedures
120 minutes	Arrival of the General Coordinator Completion of security check and inspections/ Opening of stadium gates
90 minutes	Arrival of the Match Commissioner in the field
90 minutes	Arrival of referees Arrival of the two teams Submission of the start list by the two teams Visit of the Match Commissioner and the fourth referee to the dressing rooms
60 minutes	Submission of final team sheet, signed by the coach and team manager, to the Match Commissioner Distribution of the start list
55 minutes	Watering pitch if necessary
50 minutes	Player warm up
15 minutes	Completion of player warm up and return to dressing rooms The pitch may be watered if necessary
14 minutes	Announcing the start list Ensuring flags and ball boys are available
07 minutes	Arrival of the substitutes and officials to the reserve bench
06 minutes	Inspection of players' kits by referees
04 minutes	Entrance of the Ball boys carrying the Fair Play Flag followed by the general coordinator, referees and players
03 minutes	Commencement of the opening ceremony, including players lining up in front of the VIP Tribune, players shaking hands with counterparts from the competing team, shaking hands with the referees
0 minutes	Match kicks-off
+50 minutes	The grass may be watered if necessary
The half-time interval shall last for fifteen (15) minutes only following the whistle announcing the end of the first half.	

Article (10)

The Match Commissioner shall be responsible for the preparation of the Match List after receiving the Team Sheets of the two competing teams from the concerned official.

Article (11)

Following a site visit to the home and away teams' dressing rooms, the fourth official shall ensure the names are correct.

Article (12)

The Match List shall include the names of the 11 starting players, the goalkeeper, the team captain, the substitutes, the coach and the team administrator who are allowed to sit on the substitutes' bench for each of the two competing teams.

Article (13)

The list of names of players taking part in a Competition game may be altered after submission of names and prior to the game. In such a case, the following conditions must be observed:

- a) In the event one of the eleven (11) players registered in a Match List is unable to participate for any reason, the player may be replaced by one of the substitutes. Adding the name of a new player to the list of substitute players shall not be permitted to the list. The substituted player is permitted to stay on the team bench.
- b) In the event a substitute player is unable to

participate for any reason, he may not be replaced by a player registered in his Team's Sheet approved by QFA, except if the goalkeeper is the player who is incapable of playing.

- c) It is possible to delete and change any player from the starting list of the match after it has been confirmed by the team official before the time specified in the countdown for its delivery or confirmation in the electronic system (Comet), and this is by virtue of a written letter that includes the timing of the change request. The eliminated player cannot be re-registered in the match list.
- d) In the event the player whose unable to participate is the main or substitute goalkeeper, he may be replaced by another goalkeeper registered in his Team's Sheet approved by QFA.
- e) No addition may be included after submission of the final list with the exception of the goalkeeper.

Article (14)

Fifteen (15) minutes after the match, a report shall be submitted comprising any misconduct or other incident that occurred at and during the match.

Article (15)

To enable clubs to benefit from Age Category players (under 19), the latter may be allowed to participate in Competitions, provided the following conditions are observed:

1. Utilizing Age Category players (under 19) in all Second Division Competitions, subject to the provision regarding the number of Resident Players in each match and the time interval between the two matches.

In case an Age Category player (under 19) has actually participated in a Second Division match (fielded-substitute), a period of two days, including the day of the first match, must elapse before the player can participate in any other match in any other category.

Example: If the player participated in a match on Saturday, then the next match he is eligible to participate in will be on Monday.

2. The participation of any age category player (under 19) in all Second Division competitions and his same Age Category competitions shall not exceed six (6) actual participations (fielded-substitute) during the same calendar month.
3. The participation of any Age Category player (under 19) in one half-match or less in any match played by his team shall not be considered an actual participation.
4. The participation of any Age Category player (under 19) in more than one half-match in any match played by his team shall be considered an actual participation.
5. If a player of the age category (under 17) is required to participate in the first team competition an application should be in place to promote the player to under 19 age category.



Section Five

Technical Terms

Technical Rules for the Competitions



Article (16)

- a) All Competition matches shall be played in accord with the Laws of the Game as issued by FIFA.
- b) In case there is any divergence in the conceptualization or interpretation of any article of the Law of the Game, the English text is authoritative.
- c) Each team shall consist of eleven (11) players, including the goalkeeper.
- d) A match may start if either team consists of seven players, including the goalkeeper.
- e) Up to a maximum of five substitutes may be used in any match played in an official competition, provided to perform the five substitutions during three stoppages during the match, noting that halftime is not included among the three stoppages.
- f) Each club is permitted to use an additional substitution (sixth substitution) when the match reaches extra time (regardless of the fact that the team has used the maximum number of substitutions allowed). In the event the team didn't use the maximum number of substitutions allowed, the team may use them during the extra time.
- g) The implementation of the cooling break system by stopping the match for one minute during each half, in the 30th and 75th minutes, in coordination between the referee and the match commissioner.
- h) The number of substitute players who are registered and seated in the reserve bench must not exceed twelve (12) players.

- l) A player may not participate in any official competition organized under the auspices of QFA unless a personal registration form is submitted to the referee.

Article (17)

- a) The match officially lasts 90 minutes, split into two 45-minute halves with a half-time break of 15 minutes.
- b) The two competing teams shall enter the field together after the half-time break.
- c) An extra 30 minutes shall, if applicable, be split into two fifteen (15) minute halves, with a five (5) minute interval between the normal playing time and the extra time. No break shall be given between the two halves of extra time.

Article (18)

The field pitch must meet international standards, in accordance with the requirements outlined in the Law of the Game.

Article (19)

The field pitch must be prepared in accordance with the requirements that guarantee player safety.

Article (20)

Prior to the start of the game, the Match Commissioner or his deputy shall ensure the field pitch meets all the requirements specified in the Law of the Game. In the event the field pitch does not meet these requirements, the Match Commissioner may ask the management of the home club to conduct the necessary alterations. If the home club is not able to make the alterations within the time specified before the game starts, a report may be submitted to the Disciplinary Committee.

Article (21)

Watering and cutting the football turf pitch must be approved by the head referee and the Match Commissioner, in accordance with the FIFA Regulations, with the provision that the cutting of the football turf must satisfy the requirement that the length of the turf is 20 to 22 millimeters.

Article (22)

A reserve bench shall be reserved for administrative and technical and the substitute players. The bench shall be located to the left of the home team and to the right of the away team. In the event the football match is played on neutral soil, the left side shall be reserved for the team that appears first on the match schedule.

Article (23)

A technical area shall be situated in front of each reserve bench and the two technical areas will be at the same distance from the midpoint of the pitch.

Article (24)

The substitutes bench shall consist of at least sixteen (16) comfortable seats allocated to the administrative and technical staff and substitute players.

Article (25)

The two teams shall enter the pitch from behind the Fair Play Flag with the home team to the left of the flag and the guest team to the right.

Article (26)

The colors of the uniforms worn by administrative and technical staff and substitute players must be clearly distinguishable from the colors of official players and referees.

Article (27)

The two competing teams shall be allowed to warm up in the pitch prior to the start of the match if the weather conditions permit and at the discretion of the Match Commissioner. A team may not warm up if the technical officials see otherwise.

Article (28)

Warm-up areas shall be designated for each team's substitute players at and during the match. The warm up area will be situated near the team's reserve bench. Except for the goalkeeper, the players will not be allowed to use a ball.

Article (29)

The fourth referee is entitled to ask the players to return to the substitute bench if actual warm up does not take place.

Article (30)

No more than two technical officials shall oversee the warm up.

Article (31)

Specific balls shall be approved for use in all Competition matches in coordination with the approved company.

Article (32)

The ball or balls to be used in all official matches shall comply with the requirements outlined the Laws of the Game.

Article (33)

At and during all official matches, ten (10) balls shall be available for use in each approved stadium prior to the start of the game.

Article (34)

A sufficient number of balls approved by QFA shall be made available for use in trainings to each club participating in the Competition prior to the start of the season.

Article (35)

Balls that are not approved may not be used in warm up or official Competition matches.

Article (36)

To get the required approval, the clubs participating in the Competition shall identify their official stadiums at least thirty (30) days prior to the start of the competition, provided the stadium complies with the terms and conditions specified by the Competition management. In the event a stadium is not identified, the Competition management reserves the right to determine the stadium it deems appropriate.

Article (37)

The Competition management shall receive the stadium at 8:00 a.m. the day the match is scheduled for in order to start necessary arrangements.

Section Six

Players' Equipment



► Colors

Article (38)

Each club shall choose the main color of its team's uniform and a reserve color, in addition to a third color.

Article (39)

The club must wear the uniform approved at the technical meeting throughout the match, provided all the kit items carry the same trademark.

Article (40)

Each club shall bring two colors to the stadium, a first-choice color and a reserve color, prior to the Competition game.

Article (41)

The national flag of Qatar shall not be stitched or printed on the shirts used by any team participating in the Competition.

Article (42)

Players may not wear uniforms composed of more than three (3) different colors. This rule does not apply to numbers and letters.

Article (43)

In case three (3) color uniforms are used, one of these colors must be the main color and other two secondary colors.

Article (44)

A fourth color may be used to adorn letters and numbers printed on the uniforms provided it does not take much space.

Article (45)

The main color must be clearly predominant on the front and back of the shirt.

Article (46)

1. Players' names must be printed on the backside of the shirt in a color that is different from that approved for the team.
2. A player may assign his match shirt number to one of his team players who was first registered within the team sheet, provided that it is only during approved transfer periods.

Article (47)

Players' names must appear on the upper part of the back of the shirt used. The names may be moved to the lower part in the event of an agreement with a sponsor.

Article (48)

The colors of the uniforms worn by each team's main and substitute goalkeepers must be identical, but clearly distinguishable from the colors of the two teams' players and the referees.

Article (49)

The colors of the uniforms worn by the outfield players must be clearly distinguishable from the colors of the two teams' players and the referees.

Article (50)

Sticker bands placed on the socks in colors that are clearly distinguishable must not be worn.

► Numbers

Article (51)

The uniforms worn by each team's players must be numbered in consistency with the numbers designated for each player in the club's Team Sheet approved by QFA for the same season.

Article (52)

The club may discard or lend the number of an excluded player to another player.

Article (53)

The numbers must appear clearly legible on the back of the shirt, raised 25.5 centimeters high at the center.

Article (54)

The colors of the numbers shall be clearly distinguishable from the colors of the uniforms so that they appear clearly legible from a reasonable distance and on TV screens.

Article (55)

The colors used for numbering shall be the same for all players of the same team and may be adorned with an additional color.

Article (56)

Except for the Club's logo, no promotional material shall be displayed on the numbers.

Article (57)

The number must be a whole number between 1 and 99 taking into consideration the following:

- a) Any higher number shall not be permitted. Number 1 may only be worn by a goalkeeper.
- b) Players registered in the first team category shall commit to their assigned numbers throughout the season.

Section Seven

Match Officials



► Referees

Article (58)

Referees shall be appointed for each match by the Referees Committee.

Article (59)

Licensed local referees shall officiate the Competition matches. The assistance of referees outside the State of Qatar may be sought if necessary. No club shall be allowed to dispute or request the appointment of a certain referee. All clubs shall comply with the decisions of the Referees Committee.

Article (60)

At the end of each match, the head referee shall submit an official report to the Match Commissioner, the Referees Committee and the officials of the two competing teams.

Article (61)

In the event of exceptional incidents the head referee shall submit an official report on the match to the Match Commissioner and the Refereeing Department within twenty four (24) hours after the end of the match, excluding official holidays. The report shall include details of the occurring incidents.

Article (62)

In the event that a referee is unavailable to officiate the match during or prior to the start of the game, he shall be replaced with a fourth referee. In the event the fourth referee or an assistant referee is injured, the match shall be cancelled and a new date will be determined for the match.

Article (63)

The referee has the absolute authority in terms of stopping the match, abandoning it, cancelling it or not playing it for any reason, after consulting with the match commissioner, the referees' assessor, the facility manager and the security coordinator. In the event of exceptional incidents, the referee shall submit an official report on the match to the Refereeing Department within twenty four (24) hours after the end of the match explaining the incidents details, excluding official holidays. The report shall include details of the occurring incidents.

► Match Commissioner

Article (64)

For each match, the Competition Management shall nominate a Match Commissioner as its main representative responsible for the smooth running and organization of the match in accordance with the standards previously established. The Match Official shall submit a comprehensive report on the match to the Competition Management after receiving the referee's report.

Article (65)

A suitable place shall be reserved for the Match Commissioner to have a clear view of and easy access to the field and any other place where exceptional incidents may occur at and during the match.

Article (66)

A TV surveillance screen shall be provided in the designated area to enable the Match Observer to enable him to clearly view any occurring incidents in detail.

► General Coordinator

Article (67)

For each Competition match a General Co-ordinator shall be nominated to be in charge of overseeing the match team and to lead technical meetings.

► Referee Assessor

Article (68)

For each Competition match a Referee Assessor shall be appointed by the Referees Committee. The Assessor shall be in charge of overseeing referees officiate the Competition matches and will record any observations he deems worth including in the report to be submitted to the Referees Committee at the end of the match.

Article (69)

A suitable place shall be reserved for the Referee Assessor to have a clear view of and easy access to the field and any other place in the event he is required to be positioned there. A TV screen shall be placed in the place allocated to the Referee Assessor to use to check any cases he may have noted during the match through his personal viewing of the game on the ground or by following the game on the TV screen in order write precise report.

Article (70)

The Referee Assessor may use a recorded match once the game is over to check any cases he may have noted during the match through his personal viewing of the game on the ground or by following the game on a TV screen.

► Security Coordinator

Article (71)

Security Officials shall be appointed by the Competition Management. The main responsibility of the Security Official is to verify everyone enters the areas designated on their tickets and sit in their ticketed seats, whether they are officials or spectators, in collaboration with the game organizers. Security officials shall also ensure everyone exits the stadium safely and is not subject to any risks for any reason.

Article (72)

Security Officials shall coordinate, directly and fully, with security forces entrusted with the tasks of ensuring the safety and security at and during the match.

► Media Coordinator

Article (73)

A Media Co-ordinator shall be appointed by the Competition Management for each match to ensure all media standards associated with the match are met, including provision of all ground facilities for the representatives of the press and photographers covering the match who – in coordination and collaboration with the competing clubs' Media Coordinators – shall be granted access during play to the area designated for the media, behind ground advertisement boards, spectators' area or press conference room. The Media Co-ordinator shall also be responsible for preserving the commercial rights of stakeholders and providing necessary assistance to the team of the official TV broadcaster of the match.

► Marketing Coordinator

Article (74)

A Marketing Co-ordinator shall be appointed by the Competition Management for each match to ensure all marketing standards associated with the match are met, including provision of all commercial matters inside the stadiums, including advertisement boards/overseeing fixed advertisement boards and any other commercial matters related to the stadium.

► Doping Test Coordinator

Article (75)

A Doping Test Co-ordinator shall be appointed by QADC in coordination with the Competition Management to conduct the necessary tests according to an estimated schedule set and followed in strict confidentiality and without prior notice.

Article (76)

The Doping Test Co-ordinator shall bear full responsibility for providing all anti-doping test requisites and for ensuring blood samples are taken and stored in an adequate manner before they are sent to the authorized lab for final testing.

► Competition Management Team

Article (77)

The Competition Management shall appoint a team that consists of Management and Home Club members presided over by the General Coordinator. The tasks of the team shall include provision of assistance and the necessary support, at all levels, to all officials in matters related to organizing matches and ensuring the Competition Regulations are fully observed.

The team shall consist of the following members of staff:

- Venue Official
- Spectators Marketing Official
- Media Official
- Finance Official
- Ticketing Official
- IT Official
- Ball Boys Official
- Match presentation (announcer)
- Match secretariat

► **Administrative and Technical Staff members (officials) from each team**

Article (78)

Only nine (9) Officials and Technical Staff members shall be permitted to sit on the substitutes bench designated for each of the two competing teams as follows:

- Team Manager/Official (Compulsory)
- Team Coach (Compulsory)
- Team Doctor (Compulsory)
- Selecting (6) individuals who are entitled to sit on the bench, provided that they are members of the technical and medical staff only and Translator if needed (should acquire a QFA registration card designated as Translator).

Article (79)

Only one (1) Official or Technical Staff member shall be authorised to give instructions to their players at and during the match within the technical area designated for his team.

Article (80)

All Officials and Technical Staff members shall have to carry official accreditation cards produced by QFA and no person without an accreditation card shall be allowed to sit on the substitutes bench.

Article (81)

Prior to the start of the sport season, each club shall nominate its Officials and Technical Staff members who are then approved and included in QFA records for each club participating in the Competition, and their official accreditation cards are issued.

Article (82)

In case a club decides to change an Official and/or Technical Staff member, the Competition Management must be notified so the dispensed individual accreditation card is cancelled and a new one is issued to the new person.

Article (83)

The team's Technical Manager shall satisfy the requirements set forth by AFC which stipulate acquisition of an A category coaching license or having at least 5 years' experience of coaching professional teams as approved by AFC.

Article (84)

The assistant coach, goalkeepers' Coach and the fitness coach shall satisfy the requirements set forth by AFC which stipulate acquisition of a B category coaching license approved by AFC or approval of QFA prior to starting their coaching career.

Article (85)

Medical staff shall be licensed by the Orthopedic and Sports Medicine Hospital (ASPETAR) prior to joining the team officially.

Section Eight Players

Article (86)

The QFA RSTP shall be applicable to all the players registered or intended for registration with the clubs registered for the Competition.

Article (87)

Each player's data shall contain the information entered in the payer's registration form.

Section Nine

Interruption or Cancellation of a Match

Article (88)

A match may be terminated or suspended for the following reasons:

1. Force majeure; or
2. Non-Force majeure

Article (89)

1. In the event a match is not played or abandoned as a result of force majeure, the Competition Management shall decide a new match replay date as it deems suitable.
2. In the event a match is interrupted before the end of the regular time as a result of a force majeure, the Competition Management shall decide a new date to commence the match from where it ended.
 - a. In case a match is interrupted prior to minute 30, the match is resumed the next day.
 - b. In case a match is interrupted after minute 30, the match is resumed two days later.
 - c. In both above cases, the match is resumed with the same lineup of players in the match start list (the starting 11 and substitute players) for both teams participating in the match before it is interrupted.

Article (90)

In the event a Competition match is interrupted or abandoned as a result of another reason than force majeure, the Competition Management shall forward the incident to the Disciplinary Committee.

Article (91)

In the event a Competition match is interrupted or abandoned as a result of force majeure or another reason than force majeure, The referee shall notify both teams of a waiting period as follows:

- a) Suspension for up to (15) minutes: In this case, both teams must remain on the field of play.
- b) Suspension for (15 to 30) minutes: In this case, both teams must go to their respective changing rooms and be allowed to warm up for ten (10) minutes before resuming the match.
- c) Suspension for more than (30) minutes: In this case, both teams must go to their respective changing rooms and be allowed to warm up for twenty (20) minutes before resuming the match.
- d) Suspension for more than 60 minutes: In this case, canceling the match is considered appropriate and is subject to the referee's decision in consultation with the match commissioner or any of the officials concerned with the case, and both teams must be notified of this before any other parties and a special report must be submitted by the concerned parties to the Competitions Management and the Disciplinary Committee.

Article (92)

In the event a Competition match is interrupted or abandoned for whatever reason, no sanctions remain applicable previously imposed on any of the players or members of the official or technical staff. Any red or yellow cards received during the interrupted or abandoned game shall be dealt with pursuant to the Disciplinary Code.



Section Ten

Code of Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures



Article (93)

All players shall respect the rules and embrace the spirit of fair play. In the event these values are contravened, the Disciplinary Committee shall have the full authority to take appropriate disciplinary action.

Article (94)

Suspensions and fines shall be imposed on players who receive a caution or an expulsion at or during a match, in accordance with the Disciplinary Code.

Article (95)

Officials shall be penalized in the event of contravening any statutes or regulations, in accordance with the Disciplinary Code.

Article (96)

Officials may dispute penalties imposed on them. Such disputes can be appealed against, in accordance with the Disciplinary Code.

Section Eleven

Cautions and Expulsions

Article (97)

Concerning cautions and expulsions, the principles contained in the Disciplinary Code apply.

Section Twelve

Commercial Rights and TV Broadcast



Article (98)

QFA statutes, rules and regulations in force shall apply to all commercial and TV broadcasting rights, in accordance with the agreements signed and entered into by QFA and the concerned parties.

Section Thirteen

Awards



Article (99)

1. The teams that qualify to the Competition finals shall be presented with the following awards:
 - a) First place: League trophy (shield), fifty (50) gold medals and prize money.
 - b) Second place: Fifty (50) silver medals and prize money.
 - c) Third place: Fifty (50) bronze medals and prize money.
2. During final matches and league fixtures, which are immediately followed by a coronation ceremony:
 - a) any player was expelled (red card) for disciplinary reasons.
 - b) Any of the technical staff members, team officials or medical staff were expelled during the match.
 - c) In the event of violating the above provision, Articles 8 and 9 of the QFA Disciplinary Code shall be applicable.

Article (100)

The winner of the Second Division League shall be held responsible for the safe custody of the league's trophy and shall pledge to return it to the Competition Management two months prior to the end of the next edition of the Competition or upon request. In case of any loss of or damage to the trophy, a fine will be imposed, as determined by the Disciplinary Committee in addition to the expenses of repairing or replacing it.

Article (101)

Any matters not stipulated in these regulations and in cases of force majeure must be decided by the QFA Executive Committee, whose decisions are final and binding. In addition to these regulations, the QFA has the right to issue separate regulations pertaining to, for example, but not limited to, age groups and / or amateur football.

Article (102)

These Regulations have been approved by the QFA Executive Committee on 01/07/2024. These Regulations came into force from the date of issuance unless being annulled or amended by the QFA Executive Committee.





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