



Concacaf
BEACH SOCCER
CHAMPIONSHIP

2023 REGULATIONS



ORGANIZERS

CONFEDERATION OF NORTH, CENTRAL AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL (Concacaf)

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GENERAL PROVISIONS

1. CONCACAF BEACH SOCCER CHAMPIONSHIP

- 1.1 The Concacaf Beach Soccer Championship (hereinafter: "The Competition"), is an official Concacaf National team's competition. The Competition shall be played in 2023 and shall take place in the dates and venue Concacaf determines. All Member Associations affiliated to Concacaf are invited to participate.
- 1.2 The Competition consists of two (2) stages:
 - 1.2.1 Group Stage;
 - 1.2.2 Knockout Stage;
 - 1.2.3 When referring to all stages – hereinafter: The Competition.

2. THE LOCAL ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

- 2.1 The Local Organizing Committee (hereinafter: LOC) shall work with Concacaf to organize, promote, host and stage the matches in The Competition as well as the security for the duration thereof. Including and not limited to providing a final accounting for the tournament, including payment of the percentages due to Concacaf within thirty (30) days of the final match of the tournament.
- 2.2 The LOC shall be subject to the supervision and control by Concacaf, which has the final word on all matters relevant to The Competition. The decisions of Concacaf are final and binding and not subject to appeal.
- 2.3 Working relations between the LOC and Concacaf are regulated by the Hosting Rights Agreement (HRA), the Team Participation Agreement (TPA) and the Concacaf Beach Soccer Championship Regulations ("The Regulations"). The Regulations and all directives, decisions, guidelines, and circulars issued by Concacaf shall be binding for all parties participating and involved in the preparation, organization, and hosting of The Competition.
- 2.4 Any rights that are not ceded by these regulations to any participating Member Association or any other party previously in writing or by circular shall exclusively belong to Concacaf.



- 2.5 The responsibilities of the LOC shall include but not be limited to:
 - 2.5.1 Guaranteeing, planning, and implementing law and order as well as safety and security in the stadiums and other relevant locations in conjunction with the local authorities. The FIFA and/or Concacaf Stadium Safety and Security Regulations shall apply as the minimum standards and guidelines to be used during The Competition;
 - 2.5.2 Ensuring the presence of a sufficient number of ground staff and security stewards to guarantee safety of teams, Match Officials, and spectators;
 - 2.5.3 Securing insurance policies in consultation with Concacaf to cover all risks relating to the organization of all home matches, in particular, adequate, and broad liability insurance in respect to the stadiums, members of the LOC, employees, volunteers and any other persons involved in the organization of The Competition with the exception of each of the Visiting Team's Delegation Members;
 - 2.5.4 Securing liability insurance against possible spectator accidents or deaths
- 2.6 The LOC shall discharge Concacaf from all responsibility and relinquish any claim against Concacaf and the members of its delegation for any damages resulting from any act or omission relating to the organization and course of The Competition.
- 2.7 Stadium and Training Facilities – Ensuring that both, the stadium and training pitch are in a condition suitable for a Concacaf Championship, based on discussions during site inspection, including but not limited to all of the equipment for the pitch, i.e. nets, goals, and flags, benches (if required) for the teams and third referee which should be of a professional standard.
- 2.8 Laundry – Make facilities available or recommend facilities for the teams to do their laundry. Advise teams of cost prior to the tournament.
- 2.9 Media – Appoint an individual who shall be responsible for media relations and advise Concacaf's Communications Department thirty (30) days in advance of the event, the name of the person together with his/her contact numbers (phone/cellular, phone/fax, e-mail address); before, during and after the event, the person appointed will:
 - 2.9.1 Ensure that the media facilities are in the best possible condition;
 - 2.9.2 Assist the media in their general inquiries;



- 2.9.3 Ensure that the team sheets with correct player name/number/position, etc. are available to the media in timely manner, prior to kick-off;
- 2.9.4 Distribute to the media copies of the Media Guide or any other materials that will be supplied by Concacaf;
- 2.9.5 Arrange for the installation of internet access (WiFi) for Concacaf use only;
- 2.9.6 Arrange for the installation of internet connection for the host broadcaster and the designation of radio booths for each right holder;
- 2.9.7 Assure that the stadium has wireless internet for the media throughout the stadium, including the field of play;
- 2.9.8 Arrange and provide the meals for the media and photographers as approved by Concacaf.
- 2.10 Visas for visiting teams – will request handling from the Government agency responsible for visas to expedite request for teams and delegates as much as possible.
- 2.11 The LOC shall ensure that any decision taken by Concacaf or judicial bodies relating to its duties and responsibilities are enforced immediately.
- 2.12 Guarantee any local protocols for COVID-19 are followed as well as the Concacaf COVID-19 Return to Play Guidelines (if applicable).
- 2.13 Proposed COVID-19 testing authorized laboratories for all LOC staff operating the tournament as per Concacaf requirements (if required).

3. CONCACAF

- 3.1 The responsibilities of Concacaf include but are not limited to:
 - 3.1.1 Supervising general preparations and deciding on the structure and format of The Competition;
 - 3.1.2 Setting the dates and approving the venues of the matches during The Competition.
 - 3.1.3 Determining the match schedule and kick-off times for The Competition;



- 3.1.4 Choosing the official football for The Competition.
 - 3.1.4.1. Only footballs abiding by the FIFA Quality Mark standard (FIFA Quality PRO, FIFA Quality, International Match Standard) will be approved;
- 3.1.5 Approving the choice of the WADA-accredited laboratory that will conduct the doping analyses as proposed by the FIFA Anti-Doping Unit;
- 3.1.6 Deciding which matches will be subject to doping test;
- 3.1.7 Appointing Venue Coordinators, Match Coordinators, Match Commissioners, Referees, Referee Assessors, Disciplinary Committee Members, and any other delegates (hereinafter: Match Officials) for The Competition;
- 3.1.8 Daily allowance and international traveling expenses for the Concacaf Match Officials;
- 3.1.9 Assessing protests and taking appropriate steps to verify their admissibility, with the exception of protests concerning the eligibility of players, which are dealt with by the Concacaf Disciplinary Committee;
- 3.1.10 Collecting of team information (i.e., team lists, rooming lists, menus, travel itineraries, visa information, uniform colors, etc.)
- 3.1.11 Deciding cases of participating Member Associations failing to adhere to the time limits and/or the formal requirements for submitting the necessary documents;
- 3.1.12 Dealing with cases of abandoned matches (as per the FIFA Beach Soccer Laws of the Game) in accordance with these Regulations;
- 3.1.13 Deciding on the rescheduling of matches due to extraordinary circumstances or force majeure;
- 3.1.14 Disciplinary measures and communication of actions taken;
- 3.1.15 Daily assignment of officials for the matches;
- 3.1.16 Providing practice balls to the teams upon arrival and match balls to the venue;



- 3.1.17 Work with the Local Organizing Committee to produce a stage to be used for the post-final match award presentation;
 - 3.1.18 Provide the trophy, medals, and awards;
 - 3.1.19 Replacing Associations (as seen fit by Concacaf) that have withdrawn from The Competition;
 - 3.1.20 Settling cases of force majeure;
 - 3.1.21 Dealing with any other aspect of The Competition that is not the responsibility of any other body under the terms of these Regulations.
 - 3.1.22 Conduct COVID-19 testing for all Match Officials and Concacaf Staff per established requirements (if required).
- 3.2 Team Hospitality
- 3.2.1 Local Transportation
 - 3.2.1.1. One coach bus with air conditioning for the official delegation for official Tournament movements (service to and from airport, hotel to and from stadium, hotel to and from training venue and any other official activity of The Competition);
 - 3.2.1.2. Equipment truck service airport-hotel-airport, and hotel-stadium-hotel on match days (if requested by the PMA).
- 3.3 The decisions taken by Concacaf are final and binding and not subject to appeal.

4. PARTICIPATING MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS

- 4.1 Each Participating Member Association (hereinafter: PMA) shall be responsible throughout The Competition for:
 - 4.1.1 The conduct of all players, coaches, managers, officials, media officers, representatives, and guests of its delegation (hereinafter: Team Delegation Members), and of any person carrying out duties on its behalf throughout The Competition;
 - 4.1.2 Ensuring the provision of adequate insurance to cover its Team Delegation Members and any other persons carrying out duties on its behalf against all risks, including but not limited to health, injury,



- accident, disease, and travel in consideration of the relevant rules or regulations;
- 4.1.3 Covering all travel related expenses incurred by its Team Delegation Members to and from the host country, any cost in obtaining visas for their delegation and all tips for services rendered as appropriate at the hotels, airports, taxis, etc.
 - 4.1.4 Covering all expenses incurred during the competition by its Team Delegation Members including but not limited to accommodations, medical/equipment room, meeting room and meals.
 - 4.1.5 Applying in a timely manner for any required visas to the consulate or embassy of the Host Countries where their matches will be played and covering any costs associated with these visas; for this process, the assistance of the LOC is to be sought out as early as possible;
 - 4.1.6 Attending media conferences and other official media activities organized by Concacaf and/or by the LOC in accordance with the applicable regulations;
 - 4.1.7 Ensuring that every member of its delegation or, where applicable, a duly appointed representative, completes the Concacaf Team Participation Agreement and signs the required documents;
 - 4.1.8 Ensuring that every member of its delegation complies with all applicable regulations (including The Regulations), directives, guidelines and circulars, decisions made by Concacaf and its Council, Referees Committee, Disciplinary Committee, Ethics Committee and Appeal Committee;
 - 4.1.9 Providing Concacaf with all the information and/or documentation requested within the stipulated deadlines. Member Associations that fail to provide Concacaf with all requested information and/or documentation within the stipulated deadlines shall be imposed a fine, except in unforeseen circumstances and cases of force majeure as determined by the Concacaf General Secretariat.
 - 4.1.10 Allowing Concacaf to use its Association Marks for the promotion of The Competition as stipulated in the Commercial Regulations governing each phase of The Competition, for the sole purpose of promoting The Competition.
- 4.2 Member Associations and their players and officials participating in The Competition shall agree to fully respect and comply with:



- 4.2.1 The FIFA Beach Soccer Laws of the Game and the principles of Fair Play;
- 4.2.2 The Concacaf Statutes and all Concacaf regulations, rules, codes, protocols, circulars, directives, guidelines, and decisions (including The Regulations);
- 4.2.3 All decisions and directives of the Concacaf Council;
- 4.2.4 The FIFA Disciplinary Code and, upon its entry into force, the Concacaf Disciplinary Code;
- 4.2.5 The Concacaf Code of Ethics and the Concacaf Code of Conduct;
- 4.2.6 The FIFA Doping Control Regulations;
- 4.2.7 All Concacaf protocols during matches and fully cooperate in their enforcement (e.g., Concacaf protocol for racist incidents during matches);
- 4.2.8 All Concacaf anti-match manipulation and anti-racism stipulations;
- 4.2.9 All Concacaf media and commercial requirements, as stipulated in the Media and Commercial Regulations, including but not limited to, the Team Media Day in which individual and group photos and video will be taken of each team upon their arrival at the venue of their first match.
- 4.2.10 FIFA Regulations in relation to the eligibility of players.
- 4.2.11 Concacaf COVID-19 Return to Play Guidelines (if applicable).
- 4.3 Member Associations shall take all necessary actions for their players and officials to be bound by and comply with all the aforementioned statutes, regulations, rules, codes, protocols, circulars, directives, decisions, stipulations, and requirements.
- 4.4 All PMA's shall indemnify, defend and hold Concacaf, the LOC, and all of their officers, directors, employees, representatives, agents, and all other auxiliary persons free and harmless against any and all liabilities, obligations, losses, damages, penalties, claims, actions, fines and expenses (including reasonable legal expenses) of whatsoever kind or nature resulting from, arising out of, or attributable to, any non-compliance with these Regulations by the PMA's, their Team Delegation Members, their affiliates and any third parties contracted to the PMA.



- 4.5 Conduct COVID-19 testing for all members of the delegation as per Concacaf requirements (if required).

5. ENTRIES FOR THE “COMPETITION”

- 5.1 The Beach Soccer National Team of all Member Associations affiliated to Concacaf have the right to participate.
- 5.2 The Competition will serve to qualify Member Associations affiliated to Concacaf two (2) slots in the 2023 FIFA Beach Soccer World Cup and shall be completed in the year of the FIFA Tournament.
- 5.3 Notwithstanding the aforementioned, only Member Associations affiliated to FIFA are eligible to compete in the FIFA Beach Soccer World Cup 2023 shall be permitted to advance from this Competition.
- 5.4 Each PMA is required to have in their Official Delegation the following roles: Head Coach, Team Manager, and Duly Licensed Medical Professional. All three of them mandatory.
- 5.5 On entering The Competition; the PMA and their Team Delegation Members automatically undertake to:
 - 5.5.1 Participate and refer to their team as the best available team in all matches of The Competition in which their team is scheduled to take part;
 - 5.5.2 Accept Concacaf's right to use and/or Concacaf's right to sub-license the right to use on a non-exclusive basis, in perpetuity and free of any charge, any of their records, names, photographs and images (including any still and moving representation thereof), which may appear or be generated in connection with the participation of the Team Delegation Members of all PMA in The Competition in accordance with the relevant terms of the Concacaf Media and Commercial Regulations for The Competition (as applicable). To the extent that Concacaf's right to use and/or Concacaf's right to sub-license the right to use any of the records, names, photographs and images may fall in the ownership and/or control of a third party, the PMA's and their Team Delegation Members shall ensure that such third party waives, pledges and unconditionally assigns and/or transfers to Concacaf's with immediate effect, with full title guarantee in perpetuity and without any restriction, any such rights to ensure Concacaf's unfettered use as set out above;
 - 5.5.3 Observe the principles of fair play. Subject to any other decision by



the Concacaf Council, the Member Associations shall complete and send the official Team Participation Agreement to the Concacaf General Secretariat in accordance with the deadline stipulated in the relevant Concacaf circular. Only the Team Participating Agreements sent to the Concacaf General Secretariat by the deadline set shall be valid and taken into consideration unless approved in writing by Concacaf.

6. LAWS OF THE GAME

- 6.1 All matches shall be played in accordance with the FIFA Beach Soccer Laws of the Game in force at the time of The Competition and as laid down by the International Football Association Board. In the case of any discrepancy in the interpretation of the FIFA Beach Soccer Laws of the Game, the English version shall be authoritative.
- 6.2 Each match lasts three equal periods of 12 minutes each. There is a three-minute interval between each period of play. The duration of each period may be prolonged to enable a penalty kick or a direct kick to be taken.
- 6.3 If the score is level after normal playing time, three minutes of extra time will be played. If the score is level after extra time, penalty kicks are taken from the imaginary penalty mark in accordance with the FIFA Beach Soccer Laws of the Game.

COMPETITION

7. WITHDRAWAL, UNPLAYED MATCHES AND ABANDONED MATCHES

- 7.1 After the participation agreement is signed, all PMA's have the obligation to play all of their matches until eliminated from The Competition.
- 7.2 Any PMA that withdraws up to 30 days prior to the start of the Concacaf Beach Soccer Championship is liable to a fine of at least fifteen thousand dollars (USD 15,000). Any PMA that withdraws within 30 days before the start of the Concacaf Beach Soccer Championship, or during the Concacaf Beach Soccer Championship itself, shall be fined at least twenty thousand dollars (USD 20,000).
- 7.3 Depending on the circumstances of the withdrawal, the Concacaf Disciplinary Committee may impose sanctions in addition to those provided for in par. 7.2 above, including the expulsion of the Member Association concerned from subsequent Concacaf competitions.



- 7.4 Any match which is not played, or which is abandoned – except in cases of force majeure recognized by Concacaf – may lead to the imposition of sanctions against the relevant Member Associations by the Concacaf Disciplinary Committee in accordance with the FIFA Disciplinary Code and upon its entry into force, the Concacaf Disciplinary Code. In such cases, the Concacaf Disciplinary Committee may also order that the match be replayed.
- 7.5 Any PMA that withdraws or whose behavior is liable for a match not being played or being abandoned may be ordered to reimburse Concacaf, the opposing team, or any other PMA involved, any expenses incurred as a result of its behavior. In such cases, the Member Association concerned may also be ordered by Concacaf to pay compensation for any damages incurred by Concacaf or any other Member Association. The PMA in question will also forfeit any claim to financial remuneration from Concacaf.
- 7.6 If a PMA withdraws or a match cannot be played or is abandoned as a result of force majeure, Concacaf shall decide on the matter at its sole discretion and take whatever action is deemed necessary. If a match is not played or is abandoned as a result of force majeure, Concacaf may in particular, order a replay. If the circumstances of withdrawal are sufficiently serious, the Concacaf Disciplinary Committee may also take additional actions if necessary.
- 7.7 If a team does not report for a match, except in cases of force majeure, or refuses to continue to play, or leaves the pitch before the end of the match, the mentioned team shall be considered to have lost the match 10-0 and three points shall be awarded to its opponent. If in the case of an abandoned match, the winning team had already reached a higher score at the time the team in question left the pitch, then the higher score shall remain. The Concacaf Disciplinary Committee will decide if a team that has withdrawn will be excluded from further participation in The Competition and the results of those matches shall be considered to have lost them by a result of 10-0 and three points shall be awarded to those opponents. The results of any matches played before by the team in question, those results will remain as the final result of the match.
- 7.8 In addition to the above, the team in question shall pay compensation for any damages or losses suffered by Concacaf, the LOC and/or the other PMAs, and shall forfeit any claim to financial remuneration from Concacaf.
- 7.9 No appeals can be lodged against these decisions.
- 7.10 Further to the above provision, in the case of a match being abandoned as a result of force majeure after it has already kicked off, the following



principles will apply:

- 7.10.1 The match shall recommence at the minute at which play was interrupted rather than being replayed in full and with the same score line;
- 7.10.2 The match shall recommence with the same players on the pitch and substitutes available as when the match was abandoned;
- 7.10.3 No additional substitutes may be added to the list of players on the team sheet;
- 7.10.4 Players sent off during the abandoned match cannot be replaced;
- 7.10.5 Any sanctions imposed before the match was abandoned remain valid for the remainder of the match;
- 7.10.6 The match shall restart at the place where play was stopped when the match was abandoned (i.e., with a free kick, throw-in, goal kick, corner kick, penalty kick, etc.). If the match was abandoned while the ball was still in play, it shall restart with a dropped ball from the position of the ball when play was stopped.
- 7.10.7 The kick-off time, date (which shall be foreseen for the following day), and location shall be decided by Concacaf.
- 7.10.8 Any matters requiring a further decision shall be handled by Concacaf.

8. REPLACEMENTS

- 8.1 If any PMA withdraws or is excluded from The Competition, the Concacaf Council shall decide whether to replace the Member Association in question with another Member Association.
 - 8.1.1 Once the official draw has been concluded for the Championship, in the case that a PMA withdraws or is unable to compete due to medical reasons, unforeseen circumstances or force majeure approved by Concacaf, Concacaf reserves the right to reallocate the next best ranked PMA (based on the latest Concacaf Beach Soccer rankings) in order to preserve the fairness and equality throughout the Competition.



9. ELIGIBILITY OF PLAYERS

- 9.1 Each PMA must ensure the following, when selecting its representative team, for The Competition:
 - 9.1.1 All players shall hold the nationality of its country and be subject to its jurisdiction;
 - 9.1.2 All players shall be eligible for selection in accordance with the FIFA Statutes, the Regulations Governing the Application of the FIFA Statutes and other relevant FIFA rules and regulations.
- 9.2 Protests regarding the eligibility of players shall be decided by the Concacaf Disciplinary Committee in accordance with the FIFA Disciplinary Code and upon its entry into force, the Concacaf Disciplinary Code.
- 9.3 The Member Associations shall be responsible for fielding only eligible players. Failure to do so shall lead to the consequences stipulated in the FIFA Disciplinary Code and upon its entry into force the Concacaf Disciplinary Code.
- 9.4 If Concacaf believes a player's eligibility is in question, Concacaf reserves the right to consider the said player ineligible to participate in any stage of The Competition until the player's eligibility status is confirmed by Concacaf in accordance with the applicable regulations.

10. PLAYERS' LISTS

- 10.1 Each Member Association participating in Concacaf Beach Soccer Championship must provide Concacaf with a provisional list up to 30 players (at least 3 must be goalkeepers) no later than 30 days prior to the start of the opening match, which Concacaf will provide specifics by way of a circular. This list shall reflect each player's last name, first name, date of birth and passport number as specifically noted in their International Passport, in addition to any other information requested by Concacaf. This information must be submitted through the COMET platform as it will be time stamped.
- 10.2 Each PMA participating in the Concacaf Beach Soccer Championship shall submit to Concacaf its final list of up to 12 players (2 must be goalkeepers), no later than 10 days prior to the opening match, which Concacaf will provide specifics by way of a circular. The Final List of Players must come from the latest submitted Provisional List which becomes binding 10 days prior to the opening match. This information must be submitted through the COMET platform.



- 10.3 A player listed on the final list may only be replaced from The Competition in the event of serious injury up until 24 hours before the kick-off of his team's first match and must come from the provisional list. Such replacements must be approved in writing by Concacaf or the Medical Committee upon receipt and acceptance of a written detailed medical assessment with doctor's stamp or valid letterhead in one of the four official Concacaf languages. Concacaf or the Medical Committee shall approve the request if the injury is sufficiently serious to prevent the player from taking part in The Competition. Upon approval, the association shall immediately nominate a replacement and inform the Concacaf General Secretariat accordingly. The replacement player must be assigned the shirt number of the injured player being replaced.
- 10.4 The only document considered to be valid proof of a player's identity and nationality shall be a passport that explicitly states the player's day, month, and year of birth. Passport cards, identity cards or other supporting official documents shall not be accepted as a valid means of identification. The PMAs shall present each player's valid national passport for the country of the PMA to the Venue Coordinator on the day before the match. A player without a valid passport shall not be entitled to play.
- 10.4.1 Concacaf reserves the right to request additional information from the player to confirm eligibility, such as birth certificate from the player, his parents, or grandparents.

11. START LIST AND SUBSTITUTES ON THE BENCH

- 11.1 Up to twelve (12) players may be entered on the start list (5 starters and 7 substitutes). The start list shall be signed by the head coach upon arrival to the stadium on match day.
- 11.2 The numbers on the players' shirts must correspond with the numbers indicated on the start list (numbers 1-12 only). All goalkeepers and the captain must be identified as such, number 1 shirt must be reserved for one of the goalkeepers.
- 11.3 Teams must arrive to the stadium at latest 75 minutes prior to kick-off and return their start list to the Venue Coordinator at the latest 75 minutes prior to kick-off. Both teams will receive a copy of the start list 65 minutes prior to kick off.
- 11.4 After the start lists have been completed, signed by the head coach, and returned to the Venue Coordinator and if the match has not yet kicked off, the following instructions apply:
- 11.4.1 If any of the starting 5 players listed on the start list are not able to start



the match for any reason, they may be replaced by any of the 7 substitutes. The replaced player(s) may no longer take part in the match, and the quota of substitute players shall be reduced accordingly.

- 11.4.2 If any of the seven (7) substitutes listed on the start list are not able to be fielded for any reason, the player(s) concerned may not be replaced on the bench by an additional player, which means that the quota of substitutes shall be reduced accordingly.
- 11.5 Although no longer eligible to play as a substitute, the injured or ill player who was removed from the start list may be seated on the substitutes' bench, and if so, would then also be eligible for doping control selection.
- 11.6 No more than 12 people (5 officials and 7 substitutes) shall be allowed to sit on the substitutes' bench. The names of these officials must be indicated on the "Officials on the Substitutes' Bench" form to be provided to the Concacaf Match Coordinator. A suspended player or official will not be allowed in The Competitions area (i.e., locker room and/or tunnel), pitch or sit on the substitutes' bench.
- 11.7 Team Officials and substitutes shall remain within the technical area during the match except in special circumstances, e.g., a physiotherapist/doctor entering the field of play, with referee's permission, to assess an injured player. Team officials and substitutes who fail to abide by the aforementioned provision can be sanctioned and reported to the Disciplinary Committee.
- 11.8 The Local Organizing Committee (LOC) shall issue each of the official Team Delegation Members with an accreditation during The Competition.
- 11.9 Injured players who are replaced up until 24 hours before the kick-off of their team's first match must return their accreditation to Concacaf. Accordingly, players who have returned their accreditation shall no longer be considered members of the Official Team Delegation list.
- 11.10 The PMAs shall ensure that all accreditation data required by Concacaf is submitted by the deadline stipulated by Concacaf. Further details including accreditations and other particular items will be outlined in the relevant Concacaf circular letter.

12. FORMAT AND STRUCTURE OF THE COMPETITION

- 12.1 Concacaf retains the right to determine the structure, format of play and match calendar for The Competition.



12.2 The Concacaf Beach Soccer Championship will be played in a format which features four (4) groups among no more than sixteen (16) teams (4 groups of 4 teams per group). The MA's that participate in the Concacaf Beach Soccer Championship would include all eligible Concacaf Member Associations. The decisions of the Concacaf Council are final and not subject to appeal.

Group A	Group B	Group C	Group D
A1	B1	C1	D1
A2	B2	C2	D2
A3	B3	C3	D3
A4	B4	C4	D4

12.3 Only eligible Member Associations affiliated to FIFA can qualify for the FIFA Beach Soccer World Cup.

12.4 The matches in the groups shall be played in a round robin format, each team playing one match against each of the other teams in the same group, with three (3) points for a win at the end of regulation, two (2) points for a win in extra time and one (1) point for a win following kicks from the imaginary penalty mark.

12.5 At the conclusion of each group in the Concacaf Beach Soccer Championship, PMAs shall be ranked according to the following criteria:

12.5.1 Greatest number of points obtained in all matches;

12.5.2 Superior goal difference in all group matches;

12.5.3 Greatest number of goals scored in all group matches.

If two (2) or more teams are equal on the basis of the above criteria, their rankings shall be determined as follows:

12.5.4 Greater number of points obtained in the group matches between the teams concerned;

12.5.5 Greater goal difference resulting from the group matches between the teams concerned;

12.5.6 Greater number of goals scored in the matches between the teams concerned;

12.5.7 Greater goal difference in all the group matches;

12.5.8 The lowest number of points based on the number of yellow and red cards in all group matches is considered according to the following





additions:

- first yellow card: plus 1 point
- second yellow card/indirect red card: plus 3 points
- direct red card: plus 4 points
- yellow card and direct red card: plus 5 points;

12.5.9 Drawing of lots by Concacaf

- 12.6 After Round Robin play, the top two (2) teams from each group shall advance to the Knockout Stage consisting of Quarterfinals, Semifinals, Third Place match and the Final match. The eight (8) teams that qualify from the Group Stage will contest in the Quarterfinals as follow:

Quarterfinals

- 1st place in Group A v 2nd place in Group D (1A v 2D) = Winner QF #1
- 1st place in Group B v 2nd place in Group C (1B v 2C) = Winner QF # 2
- 1st place in Group C v 2nd place in Group B (1C v 2B) = Winner QF # 3
- 1st place in Group D v 2nd place in Group A (1D v 2A) = Winner QF #4

The four (4) teams that qualify from the Quarterfinals will contest the Semifinals as follows:

Semifinals

- Winner QF #1 v Winner QF #3 = SF # 1
- Winner QF #2 v Winner QF #4 = SF # 2

The two semifinal runners-ups will play the third-place match to determine the third-place team, as follows:

Third-Place Match

- Runner-up SF #1 v Runner-up of SF #2

The winner of SF1 will play against the winner of SF2 in the Final match, as follows:

Final

- Winner of SF #1 v Winner of SF #2

- 12.7 The two Finalists will automatically qualify for the FIFA Beach Soccer World Cup 2023. Should any team already qualified for the FIFA Beach Soccer World Cup or ineligible to participate in FIFA competitions finish first or second place in the Championship, such team shall be replaced by the next highest placed team that is eligible to participate in FIFA competitions.

- 12.8 The dates of matches shall be fixed by Concacaf.

- 12.9 The decisions of Concacaf on the structure and format of The Competition



are final. In the event of any withdrawals, Concacaf may change the structure and format in accordance with the provisions.

13. FRIENDLY INTERNATIONAL MATCHES

- 13.1 In accordance with the Concacaf Regulations Governing International Matches, a request for permission must be submitted to Concacaf in advance by a Member Association(s) concerned with an indication of the venue and date of the planned match, the name of the opposing team and the financial arrangements. In those cases, where such special permission is granted, financial conditions and provisions (as per FIFA and Concacaf) with respect to international matches will apply.
- 13.2 Unless Concacaf gives special permission, the teams participating in The Competition shall not have the right to play friendly and/or official matches in the venues of The Competition in a period commencing sixty (60) days before the start and ending one (1) month after the conclusion of The Competition. In those cases, where such special permission is granted, financial conditions and provisions (as per FIFA and Concacaf) with respect to international matches will apply.
- 13.3 Once the groups for The Competition have been announced, teams in the same group may not play a friendly match.
- 13.4 In all cases, the Member Association concerned shall be responsible for all consequences which may result from failure to observe the regulations mentioned above.

14. VENUES, KICK-OFF TIMES AND TRAINING SESSIONS

- 14.1 The venues of the matches shall be submitted to Concacaf by the Local Organizing Committee concerned and the matches may only be played in stadiums that have been inspected and approved by Concacaf.
- 14.2 The venue of the match shall have sufficient high-standard hotels to accommodate the home team, the visiting teams and Concacaf delegation.
- 14.3 Two days before the first match of The Competition and weather permitting, teams are entitled to have one training session, 45 minutes where the match is due to take place. In the event of severe adverse weather conditions or in order to preserve the pitch conditions, the Concacaf Venue and Match Coordinator may cancel the training session. In this case, the teams shall be



allowed to inspect the pitch.

- 14.3.1 Drones may only be used during practice for technical purposes. Concacaf reserves the right to approve or disapprove the use of such devices. The inappropriate use of drones and/or recording devices to scout and/or observe other teams' training sessions may lead to disciplinary sanctions..
- 14.3.2 Concacaf will determine the time and date of the official training at the stadium according to the Match Schedule.
- 14.4 If there is any doubt regarding the condition of the pitch once the visiting association has already left to play the match, the referee shall decide whether the pitch is playable or not. If the referee declares the pitch unplayable, the procedure to be followed is described in the FIFA Beach Soccer Laws of the Game.
- 14.5 The matches may be played in daylight or under floodlight. Matches played at night may be played only at venues where the floodlighting installations meet the minimum lighting requirements laid down by Concacaf, i.e., that the whole pitch shall be evenly lit, with a recommended lighting level of at least 1,000 vertical EV lux. Additionally, the uniformity gradient of light on the field of play should be 1.4:1. An emergency power generator must also be available which, in the event of a power failure, guarantees at least two-thirds of the aforementioned intensity of light for the whole pitch. Concacaf is entitled to grant exceptions.
- 14.6 All matches in The Competition must be identified, promoted, and advertised matches in accordance with Concacaf's relevant Commercial, Media and Marketing Regulations and qualifying competition branding guidelines.
- 14.7 On matchdays, the teams must be entitled to warm up on the pitch before the match; time, weather and pitch condition permitting. If the pitch is not in good condition or the warm-up would negatively affect the state of the pitch for the match, Concacaf may designate a new practice area or limit the area on the pitch for the warm-up, shorten or cancel the warm-up session.

15. DATES, ARRIVALS AT THE VENUES AND OFFICIAL TEAM HOTELS

- 15.1 Concacaf retains the right to set the match dates and confirm the venues of all matches in The Competition.
- 15.2 The PMA shall arrange for their representative teams to arrive at the venue no later than two (2) days before the PMA's first match of The Competition



and depart the day after the last game of their respective group. After the group stage, teams must book their return flight to depart the day after the match in which they are eliminated from the competition. Concacaf and the Local Organizing Committee shall be informed of the travel itinerary of the PMAs no later than 30 days prior to the start of the competition.

- 15.3 During The Competition, only official team hotels under contract with Concacaf or Concacaf's designated service company shall be used for the official teams' accommodation. Concacaf will provide further details about accommodation policies, and in particular about the use of venue-specific team hotels, in a circular letter.

16. STADIUM INFRASTRUCTURE AND EQUIPMENT

- 16.1 The LOC organizing matches in The Competition must ensure that the stadiums and facilities in which the matches take place fulfill the requirements described in the Football Stadiums Technical Recommendations and Requirements publication and comply with the safety and security standards and other Concacaf and FIFA regulations, guidelines and instructions for international matches. The pitch, accessory equipment and facilities must be in optimum condition and comply with the FIFA Beach Soccer Laws of the Game and all other relevant regulations (including the international dimensions of the pitch per FIFA Beach Soccer Laws of the Game). Each stadium must be equipped with a minimum of 2 yellow goal posts and white goal nets with dark-colored support posts and a minimum of 2 spare goals, 2 spare nets, 1 spare set of boundary lines, and 10 spare flags located in close proximity to the pitch for contingency purposes.
- 16.2 Periodic safety checks for the benefit of spectators, players and officials must be carried out on the stadiums selected for matches in The Competition by the authorities responsible. If requested, the associations shall provide Concacaf with a copy of the relevant safety certificate, which shall not be more than one year old.
- 16.3 Only stadiums that have been inspected and approved by Concacaf may be selected for The Competition. Should a stadium no longer comply with Concacaf standards, Concacaf may reject the selection of the stadium concerned. Brand-new stadiums are to be inspected prior to use; the application for the final inspection and subsequent use of the facilities must be filed with the confederation at least six (6) months prior to the match concerned. Refurbished or renovated stadiums are to be inspected prior to use; the application for the final inspection and the subsequent use of the facilities shall be filed with Concacaf at least four (4) months prior to the match concerned.
- 16.4 As a general rule, matches may only be played in all-seater stadiums. If only



stadiums with both seating and standing areas are available, the standing space shall remain vacant. Regarding the spectator areas, the FIFA Stadium Safety and Security Regulations apply.

- 16.5 The pitch, accessory equipment, and all facilities for each match of The Competition shall be in optimum condition and comply with the FIFA Beach Soccer Laws of the Game and all other relevant regulations.
- 16.6 If a stadium has a retractable roof, in consultation with the Match Coordinator referee and the two teams' officials, must decide before the match whether the roof must be open or closed during the match. This decision must be announced at the Match Coordination Meeting, although it may subsequently be modified prior to kick-off in the event of sudden and significant weather condition changes. If the match starts with the roof closed, it must remain closed for the entire match. If the match starts with the roof open and there is a serious deterioration in the weather conditions, the Match Coordinator and the referee have the authority to order its closure during the match, provided that the safety and security of all spectators, players and other stakeholders remain fully guaranteed by the host association. In such an event, the roof shall remain closed until the end of the match.
- 16.7 The surface is composed of sand, and is level and free of pebbles, shells and any other objects which could injure the players. For international competitions, the sand must be fine and at least 40cm deep. It must be sifted until suitable for play, must not be rough or contain pebbles or any dangerous elements; however, it must not be so fine as to cause dust that sticks to the skin.
- 16.8 Each stadium shall have sufficient space for warm-up during the match, ideally beside their substitute bench. In this case, the maximum number of players will be determined by the Match Coordinator and the Referees and communicated in the Match Coordination Meeting.
- 16.9 Clocks in the stadium showing the length of time played may run during the match, provided that they are stopped at the end of normal playing time in each period. The intervals between periods of play must not exceed three (3) minutes.
- 16.10 The use of giant screens must be in compliance with the relevant Concacaf instructions.
- 16.11 Smoking is not permitted in the technical area or in the vicinity of the pitch or within competition areas such as the dressing rooms.
- 16.12 The stadiums must be made available to Concacaf for its exclusive use and



must be free of any and all commercial activities and identifications not previously approved by Concacaf, e.g., boards and signage other than those of Concacaf's Commercial Affiliates, from at least five (5) days prior to the match and up to two (2) days after the match.

17. TEAM EQUIPMENT

- 17.1 The PMAs shall comply with the FIFA Equipment Regulations in force. The display of political, religious or personal messages or slogans in any language or form by players and officials on their playing or team kits, equipment (including kit bags, beverage containers, medical bags, etc.) or body is prohibited. The similar display of commercial messages and slogans in any language or form by players and officials is not allowed for the duration of their time at any official activity organized by Concacaf (including in the stadiums for official matches and official training sessions, as well as during official press conferences and mixed-zone activities).
- 17.2 Each team shall provide Concacaf of a minimum of two different and contrasting colors (one predominately dark and one predominately light kit) for its official and reserve team kit (shirt, shorts, all three goalkeeper's kits, gloves, caps, wristbands, and headbands etc.). In addition, each team shall provide three contrasting colors for the goalkeepers. These three goalkeeper kits must be distinctly different and contrasting from each other as well as different and contrasting from the official and reserve team kits. Pictures of the kits must be sent to Concacaf 60 days prior to their first match of The Competition for Concacaf approval. Only these colors may be worn at the matches. Any requests to change these kits must be submitted to Concacaf for approval ten (10) days prior to the match in question.
- 17.3 Each team shall supply a set of goalkeeper shirts without names or numbers. These shirts will only be used in those special circumstances in which an outfield player must take the position of goalkeeper during a match. This extra set of goalkeeper shirts must be provided in the same colors as the regular goalkeeper shirts.
- 17.4 Concacaf strives to assign each team their full official or reserve kits. However, in some cases this may not be possible. In these situations, one team will be assigned a predominantly dark kit and the other team will be assigned a predominantly light kit. Only uniforms approved and designated by Concacaf may be used for all matches. Concacaf reserves the right to make changes to these designations based on the contrast of the uniforms, any changes will be notified by Concacaf.
- 17.5 Each player shall wear a number between 1 and 12 (number 1 being reserved exclusively for one of the goalkeepers) on the front and back of his team shirt and on his playing shorts. The color of the numbers must contrast



clearly with the main color of the shirts and shorts (light on dark or vice versa) and be legible from a distance for spectators in the stadium and television viewers in accordance with the FIFA equipment regulations. It is not compulsory for the name of the player to appear on his shirt during The Competition.

- 17.6 Concacaf shall supply each team with 24 sleeve patches (tournament patches) for the Concacaf Championship phase with the official competition logo, which shall be affixed on the right-hand sleeve of each shirt as stipulated by Concacaf before The Competition. Concacaf shall also issue the PMAs with guidelines for the use of official terminology and graphics which also contain instructions for the use of the players' sleeve badges per the commercial regulations.
- 17.7 Each player shall wear the number allotted to her on the final list in accordance with the Equipment Regulations.
- 17.8 The official and reserve team kits and all goalkeeper kits (including the goalkeeper shirts without names and numbers) shall be taken to every match.
- 17.9 Only warm-up bibs provided by Concacaf may be used during official training sessions held at the stadium/venue and for the pre-match warm-up and the warm-up of substitute players during the match.

18. FOOTBALLS

- 18.1 Concacaf must supply the footballs to be used in all matches during The Competition. Moreover, Concacaf must provide the teams with a total of twelve (12) match balls that will only be used for training purposes.
- 18.2 Concacaf must supply for each match a minimum of twelve (12) match balls in good conditions that meet FIFA Quality Mark standard (FIFA Quality PRO, FIFA Quality, International Match Standard)
- 18.3 The footballs shall be selected and supplied by Concacaf.

19. FLAGS AND ANTHEMS

- 19.1 During The Competition, the Concacaf flag, and the national flags of the PMA's shall be flown inside the stadium at every match. In addition, a ceremonial procession of flags onto the pitch will take place, followed by the entry of the teams as the Concacaf anthem is being played, according to Concacaf's pre-match protocol. The national anthems of the two PMA's (maximum 90 seconds each, no lyrics permitted) shall be played after the



teams have lined up.

20. TICKETING

- 20.1 The LOC is responsible for all match ticketing during The Competition and shall manage the ticketing operations in a manner that meets all applicable security and safety standards. It shall set aside a minimum of 20 Category A complimentary tickets – any additional tickets to be fixed by mutual agreement and in writing – of complimentary and purchasable tickets for the visiting associations. At least two (2) representatives from the visiting Associations shall be seated in the VIP tribune for their match (when applicable). The visiting Association shall inform Concacaf and the LOC in writing no later than 15 days before the match of the total number of tickets requested for the match. If there is failure to submit request before the deadline, the LOC will not be held responsible to grant additional request.
- 20.2 The LOC shall agree to provide to Concacaf, upon request and free of charge, the number of complementary tickets and suites (where applicable) as stipulated in the Commercial Regulations or Hosting Rights Agreement ten business days prior any home match.
- 20.3 All ticket designs must be pre-approved by Concacaf. The LOC must work with Concacaf to make sure their ticketing systems comply with this requirement and must inform Concacaf if there are any potential issues as soon as these are identified.
- 20.4 Field side seating is not permitted, and all non-permanently fixed seating must be approved by Concacaf.
- 20.5 Concacaf reserves the right to require terms and conditions to be included in the match tickets in addition to the terms and conditions by the LOC, during The Competition.

21. TROPHY, AWARDS AND MEDALS

- 21.1 The winner of the 2023 Concacaf Beach Soccer Championship will be presented with the Championship Trophy (hereinafter: The Trophy). The winning team will be provided with the Trophy during a ceremony immediately following the final whistle.
- 21.2 Seventeen (17) medals will be presented to each of the top teams in the Concacaf Beach Soccer Championship, i.e. gold medals to the winners and silver medals to the runners-up and bronze medals to the team ranked third (if applicable).



- 21.3 Medals will be presented to each of the officials who officiate the final.
- 21.4 A fair play contest will be held during Concacaf Beach Soccer Championship, for which Concacaf will draw up special regulations. Concacaf shall determine the ranking at the end of the Championship.
- 21.5 At the conclusion of the Championship, the following special awards will be presented:

Fair Play trophy

The team with the best Fair Play performance (Fair Play Award). The Fair Play Award shall be awarded to the team, which has shown the best sporting spirit and fair play during the tournament as determined by the Concacaf.

Top Scorer

The Top Scorer will be awarded to the player who scored the most goals throughout the Championship. If two or more players score the same number of goals, the least amount of matches played followed by the number of assists (as determined by Concacaf) shall be the decisive tie breaker

Best Goalkeeper

The Best Goalkeeper will be awarded to the best goalkeeper throughout the Championship on the basis of a ranking compiled by the Concacaf.

Best Player

The Best Player will be awarded to the best player throughout the Championship, determined by Concacaf.

- 21.6 There are no official awards other than those listed above, unless otherwise decided by Concacaf.

22. REFEREEING

- 22.1 The referees and assistant referees (hereinafter referred to collectively as Match Officials) for The Competition must be appointed for each match by the Concacaf Referee Committee and shall be neutral. The decisions of the Concacaf Referee Committee are final and not subject to appeal.
- 22.2 The Match Officials shall receive their official refereeing kit and equipment from Concacaf. They shall wear and use only this kit and equipment on match days.
- 22.3 Match Officials shall be given the opportunity to use training facilities.



- 22.4 If the referees or one of the assistant referees is prevented from carrying out his/her duties, such referee or assistant referee shall be replaced by the third referee. If a reserve assistant referee is appointed to the match, he/she may replace one of the assistant referees if prevented from carrying out their duties.
- 22.5 After each match, the referee shall complete and sign the official match report form. He/she shall hand it over to the Match Commissioner when applicable at the stadium/venue immediately after the match and to the Match Coordinator in The Championship. On the report form, the referee shall note all occurrences, such as misconduct of players leading to caution or expulsion, unsporting behavior by supporters and/or by officials or any other person acting on behalf of an Association at the match and any other incident happening before, during and after the match in as much detail as possible.

23. CONCACAF DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE

- 23.1 The Concacaf Disciplinary Committee (hereinafter: the Disciplinary Committee), will apply the Competition Regulations and the FIFA Disciplinary Code, until the Concacaf Disciplinary Code enters into force. In addition, it may apply the Concacaf Statutes as appropriate.
- 23.2 The players agree in particular to:
- 23.2.1 Respect the spirit of fair play, non-violence and the authority of the Match Officials;
 - 23.2.2 Behave accordingly;
 - 23.2.3 Refrain from doping as defined by the FIFA Anti-Doping Regulations as well as to accept all other relevant FIFA regulations, circulars and directive.
- 23.3 The PMA and their Team Delegation Members shall comply with Concacaf and FIFA Statutes, the FIFA Disciplinary Code (until the entry into force of the Concacaf Disciplinary Code) and the Concacaf Code of Ethics, in particular in matters regarding the fight against discrimination, racism and match-fixing activities.
- 23.4 In cases of infringement of these or any other Regulations, or in the event of unsporting conduct, not regulated in these Regulations or in the FIFA Disciplinary Code, by the PMAs, their players, officials and / or staff, or any type of incident, the Disciplinary Committee is authorized to apply the following sanctions and / or decisions:



- 23.4.1 Warn, caution, admonish, sanction, fine, deduct points, suspend and/or disqualify the national teams, their players and/or officials.
- 23.4.2 Take action against any person(s) or PMAs which may violate these and / or applicable Regulations, the Laws of the Game and / or the rules of Fair Play.
- 23.4.3 Prohibit violators from participating in a specific number of the Concacaf-organized tournaments in which they might otherwise have participated.
- 23.5 The Disciplinary Committee may refer to the Concacaf Council any matter relating to an infringement of these Regulations as it sees fit whether for further sanction or any other reason.
- 23.6 The Disciplinary Committee decisions may be based upon written record or videos. Additionally, hearings may be held to investigate a case.
- 23.7 When making a decision, the Concacaf Disciplinary Committee may refer to the reports made by the Match Delegates, Officials or any other Concacaf Official or staff present. Reference may also be made to additional reports including declarations from the parties and witnesses, material evidence, expert opinions, audio and / or video recordings. Such reports may be used as evidence but only in so far as the disciplinary aspects of the case being dealt with are concerned and shall not affect a referee's decision regarding facts connected with play.
- 23.8 The Disciplinary Committee may convene a personal hearing and will decide any procedures to be followed in such hearing.
- 23.9 Sessions may be held with a single member. Decisions will be made by the sole judge, or they will be adopted by a simple majority of the members present. In the event of a tie, the president will have the casting vote.
- 23.10 The following decisions of the Disciplinary Committee shall not be subject to appeal:
- 23.10.1 Cautions, warnings and censures imposed on Member Associations, players, officials and other persons.
- 23.10.2 Suspensions of up to two matches, or of up to two months, imposed on Member Associations, players, officials or any other persons.
- 23.10.3 Fines imposed on Member Associations not exceeding ten



thousand dollars (USD 10,000) or on players, officials or any other persons not exceeding three thousand five hundred dollars (USD 3,500).

23.10.4 Decisions made in compliance with Article 15 of the FIFA Disciplinary Code.

23.11 All imposed economic penalties must be paid by the appropriate Member Association no later than sixty (60) days after notification thereof.

23.12 Cautions and suspensions:

23.12.1 Cautions received during any other competition are not carried over to The Competition.

23.12.2 Pending match suspensions (in relation to the direct red card or an indirect red card) will be carried over to the Competition.

23.12.3 Single yellow cards will get eliminated at the end of the group stage.

23.12.4 Two (2) cautions received in different games during The Competition shall result in automatic suspension for the next game in The Competition.

23.12.5 Red card (direct or indirect) suspensions shall be served regardless of the stage of The Competition.

23.12.6 Unserved suspensions outstanding at the end of a team's participation in The Competition will be carried over to the representative team's next official match per the FIFA Disciplinary Code and, upon its entry into force, the Concacaf Disciplinary Code. Including the first match(es) of the FIFA Beach Soccer World Cup for the teams that qualify.

23.13 If a game is suspended due to withdrawal, the team(s) refusing to complete the match shall be ineligible to participate in the next two editions of The Competition.

23.14 Any other infringement of these Regulations, whether by players, referees, officials, coaches, or officers that are punishable by economic sanctions shall be reported to the Concacaf General Secretariat for consideration by the Concacaf Council.



24. CONCACAF APPEALS COMMITTEE

- 24.1 The Concacaf Appeals Committee (hereinafter: the Appeals Committee), will hear the appeals that meet the requirements that will be said, against the decisions made by the Disciplinary Committee.
- 24.2 The Appeals Committee will apply these Regulations and the FIFA Disciplinary Code, until the entry into force of the Concacaf Disciplinary Code.
- 24.3 The Appeals Committee shall reach its decisions on the basis of the documents and other means of evidence contained in the Disciplinary Committee's file. The Appeals Committee may additionally, at its sole discretion, also consider additional evidence, including television and video recordings, which it considers relevant.
- 24.4 The parties must notify the Appeals Committee of their intention to appeal the decision, by writing within three days, counting from the notification of the grounds for the decision. Said notification must be made via email to the Concacaf General Secretariat, to general.secretariat@concacaf.org with a copy to disciplinary@concacaf.org.
- 24.5 Once the period for communicating the intention to appeal has elapsed, the appellant will have five days to present the formal appeal letter. It should contain the appellant's requests, a statement of the facts, evidence, a list of the proposed witnesses (with a brief summary of the foreseeable testimony) and the appellant's conclusions. The latter will not be authorized to present further documentation or evidence once the deadline for submitting the appeal letter has expired.
- 24.6 Appeals are subject to the payment of a fee of USD 1,000, which must be paid, at the latest, at the time the document is delivered. The appellant must send confirmation of said transfer by email to the Concacaf General Secretariat, to general.secretariat@concacaf.org with a copy to disciplinary@concacaf.org.
- 24.7 Failure to comply with any of the aforementioned requirements will result in the appeal not being admitted.
- 24.8 Sessions may be held with a single member. Decisions will be made by the sole judge, or they will be adopted by a simple majority of the members present. In the event of a tie, the president will have the casting vote.



25. PROTESTS

- 25.1 For the purpose of these Regulations, protests are objections of any kind related to events or matters that have a direct effect on matches organized in The Competition, including but not limited to the state of and markings on the pitch, accessory match equipment, eligibility of players, stadium installations and footballs.
- 25.2 Unless otherwise stipulated in this section, protests shall be submitted in writing to the Match Coordinator or Concacaf representative in the venue no later than two (2) hours after the match in question and followed up within the next twenty four (24) hours with a full written report, including a copy of the original protest, to be sent by e-mail to the Concacaf General Secretariat at general.secretariat@concacaf.org with a copy to disciplinary@concacaf.org, otherwise they shall be disregarded. Such protests must be accompanied by a wire transfer confirmation in the amount of USD 500 payable to Concacaf.
- 25.3 Protests regarding the eligibility of players nominated for matches in The Competition shall be submitted in writing to the Concacaf General Secretariat by e-mail no later than two (2) hours after the match in question, at general.secretariat@concacaf.org with a copy to disciplinary@concacaf.org. Such protests must be accompanied by a wire transfer confirmation in the amount of USD 500 payable to Concacaf.
- 25.4 Protests regarding the state of the pitch, its surroundings, markings or accessory items (e.g. goals, flag posts or footballs) shall be made in writing to the referee before the start of the match by the head of delegation of the team lodging the protest. If the pitch's playing surface becomes unplayable during a match, the captain of the protesting team shall immediately lodge a protest with the referee in the presence of the captain of the opposing team. The protests shall be confirmed in writing to the Venue Coordinator or Concacaf representative in the venue by the head of the team delegation no later than two (2) hours after the match in question. Such protest must be accompanied by a wire transfer confirmation in the amount of USD 500 payable to Concacaf.
- 25.5 Protests against any incidents that occur during the course of a match shall be made to the referee by the team captain immediately after the disputed incident and before play has resumed, in the presence of the captain of the opposing team. The protest shall be confirmed in writing to the Venue Coordinator or Concacaf representative in the venue by the head of the team delegation no later than two (2) hours after the match in question. Such protests must be accompanied by a wire transfer confirmation in the amount of USD 500 payable to Concacaf.



- 25.6 No protests may be made about the referee's decisions regarding facts connected with play. Such decisions are final and not subject to appeal.
- 25.7 Member Associations may not bring disputes with Concacaf before a Court of Justice. They shall undertake to submit any disputes without reservation to the jurisdiction of the competent authority of Concacaf and FIFA.
- 25.8 If an unfounded or irresponsible protest is lodged, Concacaf may impose a fine.
- 25.9 The expenses, which arise from a protest, shall be charged by Concacaf, either wholly or in part, to the losing party.
- 25.10 If any of the formal conditions of a protest as set out in these Regulations are not met, such protest shall be disregarded by the competent body. Once the final match of The Competition has ended, any protests described in this article or complaints about the sports procedure followed during The Competition shall be disregarded.

26. DISCIPLINARY POLICY

26.1 The following infractions will be sanctioned as follows:

26.1.1 **Late Submission of Documentation, Uniform Kits and/or PCMA Medical Forms** – Teams which submit their administrative documentation and / or physical uniform kits after the deadlines outlined in the Regulations and / or Circulars will be fined as follows:

26.1.1.1. 1st Offense USD 500;

26.1.1.2. 2nd Offense USD 1,000;

26.1.1.3. 3rd Offense and following USD 2,000.

26.1.2 **Late Arrival at the Stadium** - Due to the team's negligence, including late departure from team hotel causing late submission of the Start List (delays the match preparation and the submission of the start list to the broadcasters & media), will be fined as follows:

26.1.2.1. 1st Offense USD 500;

26.1.2.2. 2nd Offense USD 1,000;

26.1.2.3. 3rd Offense and following USD 2,000.



26.1.3 **Late departure from the locker rooms** – Teams that delay the 1st half or the 2nd half Kick-Off, will be sanctioned, in addition to the suspension of the Coach for the next game, as follows:

26.1.3.1. 1st offense

- a) If 1 minute or less USD 500;
- b) If 2 minutes or more USD 1,000.

26.1.3.2. 2nd Offense

- a) If 1 minute or less USD 1,000;
- b) If 2 minutes or more USD 2,000.

26.1.3.3. 3rd offense

- a) If 1 minute or less USD 2,000;
- b) If 2 minutes or more USD 4,000.

26.1.4 **Lack of Security** – by the host team, will be sanctioned with fines between USD 2,000 and USD 10,000 depending on the severity of the Infraction, including but not limited to the following:

- a) Inadequate inspection of spectators and their belongings, such as bags, backpacks, wallets, and others;
- b) Inadequate reaction to the use of flares and other fireworks in the stadium by spectators;
- c) Inadequate reaction to the throwing of objects onto the field of play or in the stands by spectators;
- d) Inadequate security personnel in the stadium;
- e) Entrance of spectators to the field of play;
- f) Entry, by spectators, of flags, signs or banners not allowed.

26.1.5 **Media Regulations Violations** – Fines will be applied to the team and / or its members, between USD 1,000 and USD 6,000, depending on the severity of the offense Including but not limited to the following:

- a) Coach and/or players not attending mandatory media activities;
- b) Photographer or film crew inside the locker rooms;
- c) Non-compliance with minimum standards in accordance with the Media Regulations;
- d) Negative comments about the match officials or Concacaf.



26.1.6 **Minimum Standard Violations** - Fines will be applied to the PMA and / or its members, between USD 1,000 and USD 10,000, depending on the severity of the offense, in the following cases, including among others:

- a) Lack of compliance with the match protocol;
- b) Lack of compliance with the Competition Regulations, the Concacaf Stadium Guidelines or Concacaf Circulars.
- c) Violating the basic norms of civic conduct;
- d) Making use of a sporting event to carry out demonstrations of a different nature than sport;
- e) Adopt conduct that discredits football or Concacaf;
- f) Actively modify the age of the players in the identity documents that the latter present in competitions in which there is an age limit.

26.2 The Disciplinary and Appeals Committee have the power to impose other disciplinary measures and, at its discretion, in accordance with the provisions of these Regulations and the FIFA Disciplinary Code, until the Concacaf Disciplinary Code enters into force.

26.3 The following sanctions will not be subject to appeal:

26.3.1 Warning;

26.3.2 Reprimand;

26.3.3 Suspensions of up to two (2) matches, or of up to two (2) months, imposed on players, match officials, MAs (staff and/or officials) or other persons (with exception from decisions related to doping);

26.3.4 Fines imposed on Member Associations not exceeding ten thousand US Dollars (USD 10,000) or on players, officials or any other persons not exceeding three thousand five hundred US Dollars (USD 3,500).

26.3.5 Decisions made in compliance with Article 15 of the FIFA Disciplinary Code.

27. FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

27.1 For the matches in The Competition, the LOC is responsible for the operation and cost of:

27.1.1 Operational cost of the Stadium for the matches and official use



during The Competition;

27.1.2 Training facilities approved by Concacaf for the PMAs to use during The Competition;

27.1.3 Volunteers and staff to assist with the operations of The Competition.

27.2 Concacaf shall bear the costs of:

27.2.1 International travel and the daily allowances for the respective Concacaf delegation members, as fixed by Concacaf;

27.2.2 Board and lodging in a high-standard hotel in the host country for the Match Officials, the Match Commissioner, the Referee Assessor, any other Concacaf officials (i.e., security officer, media officer etc.)

27.2.3 Transportation for:

- Referees
- Referee Assessor
- Match Commissioner
- Venue Coordinator (when applicable)
- Match Coordinator (when applicable)
- Security Officer (when applicable)
- Bus for the Participating Member Associations (PMA) for their official movements
- Equipment truck for the PMAs for their arrival/departure and match days; (if needed)

27.2.4 Prize money for the PMAs, the amounts of which shall be determined by Concacaf (if applicable);

27.2.5 Doping expenses;

27.2.6 The costs of insurance taken out by Concacaf to cover its own risks.

27.3 The following expenditure may be deducted from the gross receipts:

27.3.1 the levy due to the Confederation in accordance with the Confederation's statutes and regulations after deduction of the taxes



mentioned under 27.3.3. The levies due to the Confederation shall be paid within 60 days of the match at the official rate of exchange on the day the payment is due;

27.3.2 The levies due to the Confederation shall be paid within 60 days of the match at the official rate of exchange on the day the payment is due;

27.3.3 State, provincial and municipal taxes as well as the hire of the ground, not exceeding 30% (cf. Regulations Governing the Application of the FIFA Statutes).

27.4 The teams shall not be permitted to stay at the same hotel or at the hotel chosen for the Concacaf delegation unless written approval by Concacaf has been provided.

27.5 If the financial outcome of a match is insufficient to cover the expenses mentioned under par. 27.1 above, the host association shall bear the deficit.

27.6 The PMAs shall be responsible for and bear the costs of the following:

27.6.1 Any expenses associated with the lodging and meals for all Team Delegation Members.

27.6.2 Adequate insurance to cover their Team Delegation Members and any other persons carrying out duties on their behalf against all risks, including but not limited to injury, accident, disease and travel in consideration of the applicable FIFA and Concacaf rules or regulations.

27.6.3 International travel, visas and the daily allowances for the respective delegation members;

27.7 Any disputes arising from financial provisions shall be resolved amongst the Associations concerned but may be submitted to Concacaf for a final decision to be taken.

27.8 Any expenses and costs incurred by a PMA other than those mentioned in these Regulations shall be borne by the PMA concerned.

28. MEDICAL/DOPING

28.1 In order to protect players' health as well as to prevent players from experiencing sudden cardiac death during matches at The Competition, each PMA shall ensure and confirm to Concacaf that its players and officials undergo a pre-competition medical assessment (PCMA) prior to the start of



The Competition. The PCMA will include a full medical assessment as well as an EKG to identify any cardiac abnormality. If the EKG is abnormal, and echocardiogram must be obtained and be normal before a player can be released to play. The medical assessment must be carried out between 270 days and 10 days prior to the start of each match during The Competition. Concacaf will provide a PCMA form to all PMA's.

- 28.2 The duly licensed medical representative of each PMA (i.e. national team doctor) will be required to sign the PCMA declaration form certifying the accuracy of the results and confirming that the players and officials have passed the pre-competition medical assessment. The medical assessment form shall also include the signatures of the President and General Secretary of the PMA and shall be received by the Concacaf General Secretariat at the latest ten (10) days prior to the start of The Competition.
- 28.3 Further to the above, each PMA is required to have a duly licensed medical professional (i.e., a doctor) as part of their official delegation. Such doctor must be fully integrated and familiar with all medical aspects of the delegation and must remain with the delegation throughout the entire official period of The Competition. The Match Officials (the Referees) will refer to such team doctor in all cases as required and necessary.
- 28.4 Concacaf shall not be held liable for any injury sustained by any participating player or official. Equally, Concacaf shall not be held liable for any incident (including death) linked to any injury or health problem(s) of any participating player or official.
- 28.5 As stated in these Regulations, each PMA shall be responsible throughout The Competition for providing health, travel and accident insurance cover for all the members of its delegation throughout The Competition. In addition, and in accordance with the FIFA Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players the PMA with which any participating player is registered shall be responsible for player's insurance coverage against illness and accident during the entire period of the player's release.
- 28.6 Failure to comply with the aforementioned provision shall be sanctioned by the Concacaf Disciplinary Committee.
- 28.7 Regarding non-traumatic loss of consciousness during a game, the referee will assume sudden cardiac failure until proven otherwise. The hand signal is the right-hand fist against the chest. Such signal will indicate to the team doctor and the medical emergency team (stretcher team) to immediately institute comprehensive resuscitation that includes the use of a defibrillator (AED) and CPR. It is the responsibility of the LOC to ensure that there is a properly functioning AED immediately at hand and that there is an ambulance with an access and egress plan.



- 28.8 During the match if there is a traumatic head injury and concussion to a player, and the player remains on the pitch, the referee shall stop play for as much as three minutes as injury time. The hand signal is the right fist on the top of the head. Such signal will indicate to the team doctor to enter the pitch to assess and manage the player. At this time, a Sideline Concussion Assessment Test (SCAT) will be administered. At the end of the three minutes, at the discretion of the team doctor, the player may be ready to return to play or immobilized appropriately and transported off the pitch using the standard protocol.
- 28.9 Further to the above, in regard to traumatic head injury and concussion, full return to play after a previous concussion must include no signs or symptoms of the previous head injury as well as an acceptable Sideline Concussion Assessment Test (SCAT) assessment.
- 28.10 Doping is the use of certain substances or methods capable of artificially enhancing the physical and/or mental performance of a player, with a view to improving athletic and/or mental performance. If there is medical need as defined by the player's doctor, then a Therapeutic Use Exemption (TUE) application must be filed 30 days prior to competition for chronic conditions and as soon as possible for acute situations. The TUE approval system includes a designated administrative and functional committee that will review applications and certify the exemption as the committee defines.
- 28.11 Doping is strictly prohibited. The FIFA Anti-Doping Regulations, the FIFA Disciplinary Code and all other relevant FIFA as well as Concacaf Regulations, circulars and directives shall apply to all Concacaf competitions.
- 28.12 Every player may be subject to in-competition testing at the matches in which he competes and to out-of-competition testing at any time and place. Furthermore, reference is made to the FIFA Anti-Doping Control Regulations and the list of prohibited substances and methods per the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA).
- 28.13 If, in accordance with the FIFA Anti-Doping Control Regulations, a player tests positive for the use of banned substances, the player shall be immediately declared ineligible from further participation in The Competition and shall be subject to further sanctions from the Concacaf Disciplinary Committee.

29. COMMERCIAL RIGHTS

- 29.1 Concacaf is the original and sole owner of all of the rights emanating from The Competition as a collective whole and any other related events coming



under its jurisdiction, without any restrictions as to content, time, place and law. These rights include, among others, all kinds of financial rights, audiovisual and radio recording, reproduction and broadcasting rights, multimedia rights, marketing and promotional rights and incorporeal rights (such as those pertaining to emblems) as well as rights arising under copyright law whether currently existing or created in the future subject to any provision as set forth in specific regulations.

- 29.2 The Competition Marks and the Composite Logo may only be used by the Participating Member Associations for the purpose of referring descriptively to their participation in the Competition. All commercial or promotional use of the Competition Marks and the Composite Logo by Participating Member Associations and/or their PMA Affiliates and/or any third party contracted to the Participating Member Associations is strictly prohibited.
- 29.3 To assist with the implementation of these Commercial Regulations, each Participating Member Association (i) must ensure that all Team Delegation Members participate in a Competition photo and video shoot (all such photographs and images to be used and/or sub-licensed by the Confederation in accordance with the remainder of this paragraph), and (ii) shall secure written confirmation from each Team Delegation Member of the Confederation's right to use and/or the Confederation's right to sub-license the right to use, in perpetuity and free of any charge, any of their records, names, photographs and images (including any still and moving representation thereof), which may appear or be generated in connection with the participation of the Team Delegation Members in both stages of the Competition (including, but not limited to photographs of Team Delegations Members taken for accreditation purposes).
- 29.4 PMAs are expressly prohibited from bringing beverage products or containers that compete with the Commercial Affiliate, as confirmed by Concacaf, into the Controlled Areas. Concacaf may provide to the winning Participating Team products from Commercial Affiliate for the post-match locker room celebration. The winning Participating Team is expressly prohibited from bringing non-commercial affiliate product and/or branded items (i.e., different from Commercial Affiliate) during the competition period in controlled areas as referenced herein.
- 29.5 At all times, Concacaf reserves all its rights to exploit, sell, create, license, sublicense, and dispose of merchandising rights for the Competition, and to authorize and license others to do so. Participating Teams are not authorized to create or sell their own co-branded merchandise without the prior written approval of Concacaf; Concacaf, however may appoint a third-party licensee to work directly with each participating Team and local licensees, if any, to establish any product offering and associated royalties from local merchandising of co-branded products, when previously authorized and



confirmed in writing by Concacaf.

- 29.6 Concacaf will issue separate Commercial Regulations for The Competitions specifying these commercial and intellectual property rights. All Concacaf members must comply with the Commercial Regulations for The Competition and must ensure that their members, officials, players, delegates and other affiliates also comply with these regulations.

30. MEDIA

- 30.1 Concacaf will issue separate Media Regulations for The Competition specifying each Associations mandatory promotional and media activities that will take place prior and during The Competition. These will include, among others, interview requests, pre and post-match press conferences and open training sessions.
- 30.2 Each Association must comply with The Competition Media Regulations and must ensure that their members, officials, players, delegates and other affiliates also comply with these regulations.
- 30.3 For more details, please refer to the Media Regulations.

FINAL PROVISIONS

31. LIABILITY

- 31.1 The Local Organizing Committee of The Competition shall be exclusively responsible for the organization of the matches and shall discharge Concacaf from all responsibility and relinquish any claim against Concacaf and the members of its delegation for any damages resulting from any claims relating to such matches.

32. SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES

- 32.1 Concacaf shall, issue any instructions necessitated by special circumstances that may arise related to The Competition. These provisions and/or instructions shall form an integral part of these Regulations.



33. MATTERS NOT PROVIDED FOR AND FORCE MAJEURE

- 33.1 Matters not provided for in these Regulations and any cases of force majeure shall be decided by Concacaf. All decisions shall be final and binding and not subject to appeal.

34. LANGUAGES

- 34.1 In the case of any discrepancy in the interpretation of the English, Spanish, French or Dutch texts of these Regulations, the English text shall be authoritative.

35. COPYRIGHT

- 35.1 The copyright of the match schedule drawn up in accordance with the provisions of these Regulations shall be the property of Concacaf.

36. NO WAIVER

- 36.1 Any waiver by Concacaf of any breach of these Regulations (including of any document referred to in these Regulations) shall not operate as, or be construed to be, a waiver of any other breach of such provision or of any breach of any other provision or a waiver of any right arising out of these Regulations or any other document. Any such waiver shall only be valid if given in writing. Failure by Concacaf to insist upon strict adherence to any provision of these Regulations, or any document referred to in these Regulations, on one or more occasions shall not be considered to be a waiver of or deprive Concacaf of the right to subsequently insist upon strict adherence to, that provision or any other provision of these Regulations, or any document referred to in these Regulations.

37. ENFORCEMENT

- 37.1 These regulations were approved by the Concacaf Council on _____ and come into force immediately thereafter.