

**PFF Code of Ethics, Code of Conduct & Discipline**

**PART – I: PFF Code of Ethics**

PFF Code of Ethics-Conduct Reputations  
Preamble

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PFF Code of Ethics-Procedural Reputations  
Annex (to the Procedural Regulations)

PFF Code of Ethics  
Conduct regulations

PREAMBLE (introduction/Opening)

PFF bears a special responsibility to uphold the integrity and reputation of football countrywide. PFF is constantly striving to protect the image of football and especially that of PFF, from jeopardy of harm as a result of immoral or unethical methods and practices. In this connection, the following Code has been passed. Additional organizational and procedural regulations in connection with sanction procedures as a result of any violation of the rules of conduct of this Code are given below.

**1. SCOPE AND APPLICATION**

**Article 1: Scope**

This code applies to all officials. Any other regulations regarding ethics and conduct with respect to officials, players and players’ agents remain unchanged provided they do not conflict with the following provisions.

**Article 2: Application**

Any person who accepts and assumes the function of an official is bound by this Code. Players are subject to the following provisions by Virtue of registering with an association, and players’ agents by virtue of acquiring a license.

**2. RULES OF CONDUCT**

**Article 3: Basic Rules**

Officials are expected to be aware of the importance of their function and concomitant obligations and responsibilities. Their conduct shall reflect the fact that they support and further the principles and objectives of PFF, associations, leagues and clubs in every way and refrain from anything that could be harmful to these aims and objectives. They shall respect the sanctity of their allegiance to PFF, associations, leagues and clubs.

Officials shall show commitment to an ethical attitude while fulfilling their task. They shall pledge to behave in a dignified manner. They shall behave and act with complete credibility and integrity.

Officials may not abuse their position as part of their function in any way, especially to take advantage of their function for private aims or gains.

**Article 4: Representational duties**

Officials shall represent PFF, associations, leagues and clubs honestly, worthily, respectably and with integrity.

**Article 5: Conduct towards government and private organizations**

In dealing with government institutions, regional, national and international organizations, associations and groupings, officials shall, in addition to observing the basic rules of art-3, remain politically neutral, in accordance with the principles and objectives of PFF, the associations, leagues and clubs, and generally act in a manner compatible with their function and integrity.

**Article 6: Ban on discrimination**

Officials, players and players' agent may not act in a discriminatory manner, especially with regard to ethnicity, race culture, politics, religion, gender or language.

**Article 7: Eligibility and dismissal**

Only those persons who demonstrate a high degree of ethics and integrity and pledge to observe the provisions of this Code without reservation are eligible to serve as officials. Persons with a Criminal record are not eligible if the offence is incompatible with their ability to fulfill their task. Any officials who do not comply with these conditions are either no longer eligible or shall be removed from office.

**Article 8: Ties or conflicts**

Before being elected or appointed, officials shall automatically disclose any personal interests that could be linked with their prospective function.

While fulfilling their task, officials shall avoid any situation that could lead to conflicts of interest. Conflicts of interest arise if officials have to appear to have, private or personal interests that detract from their ability to carry out their obligations as officials with integrity in an independent and purposeful manner. Private or personal interests include gaining any possible advantage for himself, his family, relatives, friends and acquaintances.

**Article 9: Protection of personal rights**

During the course of their activities, officials, player and players' agents shall ensure that the personal rights of those persons whom they contact and with whom they deal are protected, respected and safeguard.

**Article 10: Loyalty and confidentiality**

While performing their duties, officials shall remain absolutely loyal, especially to PFF, the associations, leagues and clubs.

Depending on their function, any information divulged to officials during the course of their duties shall be treated as confidential or secret as an expression of loyalty. Any information or opinions shall be passed in accordance with the principles and objectives of PFF, the associations, leagues and clubs.

**Article 11: Accepting and giving gifts and other benefits**

Officials are not permitted to accept gifts and other benefits that exceed relative value of local cultural customs from any third parties. If in doubt, gifts shall be declined. Accepting gifts of cash in any amount or form is prohibited.

While performing their duties, officials may give gifts and other benefits in accordance with the average relative value of local cultural customs to third parties, provided no dishonest advantages are gained and there is no conflict of interest.

Officials may not be accompanied to official events by family members at the expense of PFF, the associations, leagues and clubs or other organizations, unless expressly permitted to do so.

**Article 12: Bribery**

Officials may not accept bribes, in other words, any gifts or other advantages that are offered, promised or sent to them to incite breach of duty or dishonest conduct for the benefit of a third party shall be refused. Officials are forbidden from bribing third parties or from urging or inciting others to do so in order to gain an advantage for themselves or a third party.

**Article 13: Commission**

Officials are forbidden from accepting commission or promises of such commission for negotiating deals of any kind while performing their duties, unless the presiding body has expressly permitted them to do so. In the absence of such a presiding body, the body to which the official belongs shall decide.

**Article 14: Objection**

Officials may not perform their tasks in cases with an existing or potential conflict of interest. If an objection is made, it shall be reported immediately.

**Article 15: Betting**

Officials, players and players' agents are forbidden from taking part, either directly or indirectly, in betting gambling, lotteries and similar events of transactions connected with football matches. They are forbidden from having stakes, either actively or passively, in accompanies, concerns, organizations etc. that promote, broker, arrange or conduct such events or transactions.

**Article 16: Duty of disclosure and reporting**

Officials shall report any sign of violations of conduct as prescribed in this Code. The persons reported shall, upon request, make themselves available to the body responsible and, in particular, declare details of their income provided the evidence request for inspection.

**Article 16: Enforcement, revocation, transitional provision**

This conduct and procedural regulations of this Code were adopted by the PFF Executive/Congress.

**PART – II: Code of Conduct & Discipline**

**1. Aim:** To lay down procedure for the code of conduct and discipline for all officials/staff of PFF, including managers, coaches, referees, national team players etc.

**2. Misconduct or Breach of Discipline:** The following shall be deemed to constitute misconduct or breach of discipline:-

- a. Negligence, inattention or inordinate delay in the performance of the duty.
- b. Impertinence, insubordination and disorderly behavior.
- c. Willful omission or act against the interest of PFF or resulting in loss to PFF.
- d. Breach and evasion of rules, regulations, orders and instructions.
- e. Irregular, late attendance and habitual absence from duty.
- f. Conviction for a criminal offense involving immoral turpitude.
- g. Unauthorized disclosure of any confidential or handing over confidential documents or copies relating to PFF or issuing false or baseless press statement against PFF interest.
- h. Acceptance from a subordinate employee of the PFF or from any provincial federation/association affiliated to the PFF or from persons having rewards, financial benefits whatsoever directly or indirectly, on work from an officer which he is normally entitled to have in the normal performance of his duties or preventing an officer from performing his duties and functions.
- i. Withholding of any information or work from an officer which he is normally entitled to have in the normal performance of his duties or preventing an officer from performing his duties and functions.
- j. Willful tempering with theft or destruction of any record, documents and any property of the PFF.
- k. Borrowing money from or in any way placing himself under a pecuniary obligation to any employee of the PFF or any person or firm having or to have dealing with the PFF except a Bank in the normal course of its business.
- l. Favoritism, nepotism and victimization.
- m. Representation or submission whether personal or official or written or verbal to higher authority except through proper channel.
- n. No PFF official shall including referees, managers of teams or team players shall make any statement or address letter to press or deliver a speech on radio/TV etc.; concerning with affairs of the PFF unless duly authorized by the competent authority.
- o. No employee of the Federation except with the previous sanction of the competent authority own wholly or in part or conduct or participate in the editing or management of, any newspaper or other periodical publications.
- p. No employee shall approach directly a foreign mission in Pakistan or foreign aid giving agency to secure for himself invitations to visit a foreign depending upon the nature of each offence/charge will be imposed for misconduct/indiscipline.

**3. Punishment:** The following punishments can be awarded for misconduct or breach of discipline:-

- (i) **MINOR PUNISHMENTS**
  - a. Written warning.
  - b. Temporarily suspension.
  - c. Withholding of increment for a specific period.
  - d. Recovery from pay of the whole or any part of any pecuniary loss caused to Federation negligence or breach of orders.
  - e. Fines.
- (ii) **MAJOR PUNISHMENTS**
  - a. Demotions.
  - b. Removal from service.

## **Permanent suspension. PFF Code of Ethics Procedural Regulations**

### **Article 1: Reference**

The provisions in the Conduct Regulations of the PFF Code of Ethics govern the scope, application, date of enforcement, revocation and transitional provision.

### **Article 2: Basic principle**

Violations of the rules of conduct of this Code shall be sanctioned in accordance with the PFF Disciplinary Code.

### **Article 3: PFF's jurisdiction**

The Conduct of PFF officials shall be judged by PFF, regardless of their function at association, league or club level.

PFF shall also judge the conduct of officials from association, league or club as well as players and players' agents' if the case is on which the alleged violation is based has national implications (affecting various associations) and is not judged at regional/provincial or departmental cases only if proceedings have not been initiated.

### **Article 4: Methods of disclosure**

PFF accepts disclosure only from the members of PFF Executive Committee, members of PFF Congress or from the PFF General Secretary.

### **Article 5: Legal bodies, means of redress(appeal)**

The Ethics Committee shall judge cases that come under the jurisdiction of PFF. Appeal against decisions passed by the Ethics Committee can be lodged with the Appeal Committee. Decisions passed by the Appeal Committee are final.

### **Article 6: Disciplinary measures**

The Ethics Committee and the appeal Committee may pronounce any of the disciplinary measures defined in the PFF Disciplinary Code.

### **Article 7: Applications of the PFF Disciplinary Code**

Art. 85 to 93 of the PFF Disciplinary Code (Common rules for the judicial bodies) apply similarly to the Ethics Committee and directly to the Appeal Committee.

The Associations shall, as far as possible, be equitably (fairly) represented on the Ethics Committee.

Otherwise, the provisions of the PFF Disciplinary Code, in particular the procedural provisions under the Second Title, Chapter, shall apply by analogy or directly in the context of the disciplinary proceedings to be conducted by the Ethics Committee or the Appeal Committee unless this Code of Ethics contains diverging rules or the provisions of the PFF Disciplinary Code clearly cannot apply in respect of the objectives and contents of this Code.

**Article 8: Overlapping responsibilities**

Cases that come under the scope of application of this code of Ethics as well as the PFF Disciplinary Code shall be dealt with primarily by the PFF Disciplinary Committee. In any case, the chairman of the both committees shall agree on which committees is responsible beforehand.

**Article 91: Objection**

1. Members of the judicial bodies of PFF shall decline to take responsibility if there are serious grounds for questioning their impartiality.
2. This applies in the following cases:
  - a) If the member in question is directly involved in the outcome of the matter:
  - b) If he is associated with any of the parties:
  - c) If he has the same back ground as the party implicated (association, club, official, player, etc.).
  - d) If he has already dealt with the case under different circumstances.
3. Members against whom an objection might be raised shall notify the chairman immediately. Each party may also raise an objection to a member.
4. In the case of a dispute the chairman decides.
5. Proceedings that have involved someone against whom an objection has been raised will be considered null and void.

**Article 92: Confidentiality**

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

**Article 93: Exemption from liability**

Except in the case of serious misdemeanor (crime), neither the members of the judicial bodies of PFF nor the secretariat may be made liable for any deeds or omissions relating to any disciplinary procedure.

## **ANNEX (TO THE PROCEDURAL REGULATIONS)**

With reference to art. 7 par. 1 of the Procedural Regulations of the PFF Code of Ethics, art 85 to 93 of the PFF Disciplinary Code, which are to be applied by analogy (similarly by the Ethics Committee or directly by the Appeal Committee, are reproduced below:

### **Article 85: Composition**

1. The Executive Committee appoints the members of the Disciplinary Committee and the Appeal Committee for a period of 8 years. It designates the number of members deemed necessary for the committees to function properly.
2. It appoints \_\_\_\_\_ from among the members for the same period of 8 years.
3. Each Committee convoked a \_\_\_\_\_ session to designate a deputy chairman from among the members present by a simple majority for the same period of 8 years. The candidates are not entitled to vote.
4. At least one member of the chairmanship of each committee (chairman or deputy chairman) shall be domiciled in the country in which PFF's headquarters are located.
5. The chairman of each committee shall be lawyer.

### **Article 86: Meetings**

1. The committee meetings are deemed to be valid if at least three members are present.
2. At the behest of the chairman, the secretariat shall call the number of members deemed necessary to each meeting. The chairman shall, as far as possible, ensure that the associations are equitably represented among the members called to the meeting.
3. The number of members deemed necessary for each committee are called to the meetings held during the leading PFF's competitions.

### **Article 87: Chairman**

1. The chairman conducts the meetings and delivers the decisions which this code empowers him to take.
2. If the chairman is prevented from attending, the deputy chairman replaces him. If deputy chairman is prevented from attending, the member holding the most senior position replaces him.

### **Article 88: Secretariat**

1. The general secretariat of PFF provides the judicial bodies with a secretariat and the necessary staff at PFF headquarters.
2. It designates the secretary.
3. The secretary takes charge of the administrative work and writes the minutes and decisions of the meetings.
4. He takes care of filing. The decisions passed and relevant files shall be kept for at least ten years.
5. He takes charge of publishing the decisions passed by the judicial bodies of OFF in a suitable manner, such as on the internet. In exceptional circumstances, he may choose not to publish certain decisions.

### **Article 89: Incompatibility of office**

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

# Pakistan Football Federation Disciplinary Code (PFF DC)

## **Article 1 - Object**

This code describes infringements of the rules in PFF regulations, determines the sanctions to be enforced, regulates the organization and function of the bodies responsible for taking decisions and the procedures to be followed by these bodies.

## **Article 2 – Scope of application: material law**

This code applies to every match and competition organized by PFF. Beyond this scope, it also applies if a match official is harmed and, more generally, if the statutory objectives of PFF are breached, especially with regard to forgery, corruption and doping.

## **Article 3 – Scope of application: Natural and Legal persons**

The following are subject to this code:

- a) PFF Member Associations;
- b) members of these associations, in particular the clubs;
- c) officials;
- d) players;
- e) match officials;
- f) anyone with an authorization from PFF, in particular with regard to a match, competition or other event organized by PFF;
- g) spectators.

## **Article 4 – Scope of application: time**

1. The first title of this code (material law) applies to facts that have arisen after it has come into force. It also applies to previous fact if it is equally favorable or more favorable for the perpetrator of the facts and if the judicial bodies of PFF are deciding on these facts after the code have come into force.
2. The second title (organization and procedure) applies as soon as the code has come into force.

## **Article 5 - definitions**

- 1 Post match; the time between the final whistle from the referee and the team's departure from the confines of the stadium.
- 2 Pre match; the time between the teams arrival in the confines of the stadium and whistle for kick off from the referee
- 3 International match; a match between teams belonging to different associations ( two clubs one club and one representative team or two representative team)
- 4 Friendly match; a match organized by a football organization club or other person between teams chosen for the occasion and possibly belonging to different spheres of operation; the score has an effect only on the match or competition in question and in the case of representative teams on the PFF rankings
- 5 Official match; a match organized under the auspices of a football organization for all the teams or clubs in its sphere or operation , the score has an effect on the rights of the participation in other competitions unless the regulation in question stipulate otherwise
- 6 Official: anyone with the exception of players, performing an activity connected with foot ball at an association or club, regardless of his title , the type of activity

(administrative, sporting or any other) and the duration of the activity, in particular, managers, coaches and medical staff and officials.

7 Match official: the referees and assistant referees, fourth official, match commissioner. Referee inspector, the person appointed by PFF responsibility in connection with a match.

8 PFF regulation: the statutes, regulations, directives and circulars of PFF as well as the Laws of the Games by the international Football Association Board.

Preliminary title

### **Article 6 - Gender**

The provisions of this code apply to the male and female gender regardless of the choice of the words and expressions.

### **Article 7 – Member Associations’ Disciplinary Regulations**

Member Associations are required to adapt their provisions to this code so as to harmonies disciplinary regulations.

## **FIRST TITLE: MATERIAL LAW CHAPTER 1 – GENERAL PART Section 1 Conditions for sanctions**

### **Article 8 - Culpability**

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

### **Article 9 – Acts amounting to attempt**

- 1) Acts amounting to attempt are also punishable.
- 2) In the case of acts amounting to attempt, the Disciplinary Committee shall reduce the sanction envisaged for the actual infringement accordingly. It will determine the extent of mitigation as it sees fit; it shall not go below the general lower limit of the fine.(cf.art.16 , par.2)

First title     material law  
Chapter I     general part

### **Article10 - Involvement**

- 1                    any one who knowingly takes part in committing an infringement, either as instigator or accomplice, is also punishable.
- 2                    The body will take account of the degree of the guilt of the party involved but reducing the sanctions as it sees fit. It shall not go below the general lower limit of the fine (cf. art. 16, par.2).

## **Section 2 Various sanctions**

### **Article 11 – Sanctions common to natural and legal persons**

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

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

### **Article 12 – Sanctions applicable to natural persons**

The following sanctions are applicable to natural persons:

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

### **Article 13 – Sanctions applicable to legal persons**

The following sanctions are applicable only to legal persons:

- a) playing a match without spectators;
- b) playing a match on neutral territory;
- c) ban on playing in a particular stadium;
- d) annulment of the result of a match;
- e) exclusion;
- f) deduction of points;
- g) forfeiture;
- h) transfer ban;
- j) demotion to the next lower division

### **Article 14 – Warning**

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

### **Article 15 – Reprimand**

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

### **Article 16 – Fine**

- 1) The fine is issued in Pakistani Rupees (Rs). It shall be paid in the same currency.
- 2) The fine shall not be less than Rs 2000 , or in the case of competition subject to an age limit not less than Rs 1000, and not more than **Rs 2 , 00 ,000**
- 3) The body that pronounces the sanction decides the terms and time limits for payment. If the fine is added to a match suspension, it shall be paid before the suspension has ended.
- 4) Member Associations are jointly liable for fines imposed on national team players and officials. The same applies to clubs in respect of their players and officials. The fact that the natural person has left a club or national association does not cancel out joint liability.

### **Article 17 - Return of Awards**

1. The person required to return an award shall return all of the benefits received in particular sums of money and symbolic objects (medal, trophy etc.)
2. The money received shall always be returned in full. The body pronouncing the sanction decides any interest that may be due as it sees fit.

## **FIRST TITLE. MATERIAL LAW**

### **CHAPTER 1. GENERAL PART**

### **Article 18 - Caution**

1. A caution (yellow card) is a warning from the referee to a player during a match to sanction unsporting behavior of a less serious nature (i.e. Law 12 of the Laws of the Game).
2. Two cautions received during the same match incur an expulsion (indirect red card, cf. art. 52 o) and, consequently, automatic suspension from the next match (cf. art. 19 par. 4). The two cautions that incurred the red card are rescinded.
3. The following incur automatic suspension from the subsequent match
  - (a) Three cautions received in three different matches of the same competition in U-17 competitions organized by PFF.
  - (b) Two cautions received in two different matches of the same competition in other championships subject to age limits organized by PFF.
  - (c) Two cautions received in two different matches of the same competition in every other championship;
  - (d) With regard to friendly competitions, cf. c).
4. The Disciplinary Committee may extend the duration of this suspension (cf. par.3).
5. If an abandoned match is to be replayed, any caution issued during that match shall be annulled. If the match is not to be replayed, the cautions received by the team responsible for causing the match to be abandoned are upheld; if both teams are responsible, all of the cautions are upheld.
6. If a player is guilty of serious unsporting behavior as defined in law 12 of the LAWS OF THE GAME and is sent off (direct red card), any other caution he has previously received in the same match is upheld.

### **Article 19 - Expulsion**

1. An expulsion is the order given by the referee to someone to leave the field of play and its surroundings, including the substitutes' bench, during a match. The person who has been sent off may be allowed into the stands unless he is serving a stadium ban.
2. Expulsion takes the form of a red card for players. The red card is regarded as direct if it sanctions serious unsporting behavior as defined by Law12 of the

LAWS OF THE GAME; It is regarded as indirect if it is the result of an accumulation of two yellow cards (cf. art.18, par.2).

3. An official who has been sent off may give instructions to the person replacing him on the substitutes' bench. He shall, however, ensure that he does not disturb the spectators or disrupt the flow of play.
4. An expulsion automatically incurs suspension from the subsequent match, even if imposed in a match that is later abandoned and/or cancelled. The Disciplinary Committee may extend the duration of the suspension.

#### **Article 20 – Match suspension**

- 1) A suspension from a match is a ban on taking part in a future match or competition or to attend it in the area immediately surrounding the field of play.
- 2) The player who has been suspended shall not be included on the players' list for the match
- 3) The suspension is imposed in terms of matches, days or months. Unless otherwise specified, it may not exceed thirty-six (36) matches or three (3) years.
- 4) If the suspension is to be served in terms of matches, only those matches actually played count towards execution of the suspension. If a match is abandoned, cancelled or finally forfeited, suspension is only considered to have been served if the team to which the suspended player belongs is not responsible for the facts that led to abandonment, cancellation or forfeiture of the match.
- 5) If a suspension is combined with a fine, it is prolonged until the fine has been paid in full.

#### **Article 21 – Ban from dressing rooms and/or substitutes' benches.**

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

#### **Article 22 – Stadium ban**

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

#### **Article 23 – Ban on performing any football related activity**

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

#### **Article 23<sup>ff</sup> – Transfer ban**

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

#### **Article 24 – Playing a match without spectators**

The obligation to play a match behind closed doors requires Member Associations and clubs to have a certain match played without spectators.

#### **Article 25 – Playing on neutral ground**

The obligation to play a match on neutral ground requires Member Associations and clubs to have a certain match played in another country or in a different region of the same country.

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

A ban on playing in a certain stadium deprives Member Associations and clubs of the right to have their teams play in a certain stadium.

### **Article 27– Annulment of the result of a match**

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

### **Article 28 – Exclusion**

Exclusion is the deprivation of the right of Member Associations and clubs from taking part in a current and/or future PFF competitions.

### **Article 29 – Demotion to the next lower division**

A club may be demoted to the next lower division.

### **Article 30 – Deduction of points**

A national team or club may have points deducted from those already attained in any current PFF tournament.

### **Article 31 – Forfeit**

- 1) Teams sanctioned with a forfeit are considered to have lost the match by 0-3.
- 2) If the goal difference is greater, the higher score is upheld.

### **Article 32 - Combined sanctions**

1. Unless otherwise specified, the sanctions provided for in the general and special parts of this code may be combined.
2. In less serious cases, the body may only pronounce a reduced sanction or a caution or a reprimand.

### **Article 33 - Partial suspension of implementation of the sanction**

1. The body that pronounces a match suspension (cf. art.20), a ban on access to dressing rooms and/or the substitutes' bench (cf. art.21) or a ban on playing in a certain stadium (cf.art.26) shall examine whether it is possible to suspend the implementation of the sanction partially.
2. Partial suspension is permissible only if the duration of the sanction does not exceed six matches or six months and if the circumstances generally allow it, in particular the previous record of the person sanctioned.
3. The body decides which part of the sanction may be suspended. In any case, half of the sanction is definite.
4. By suspending implementation of the sanction, the body subjects the person sanctioned to a probationary period of six months to two years.

5. If the person benefiting from a suspended sanction commits another infringement during the probationary period, the suspension is automatically revoked and the sanction applied; it is added to the sanction pronounced for the new infringement.
6. These stipulations are subject to special provisions.

### **Section 3 Common rules**

#### **Article 34 – Time sanctions: calculation of time limit**

Rest periods during or between seasons are included in the duration of time sanctions.

#### **Article 35 – Limitation period of sanctions**

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

#### **Article 36 – Centralization of sanctions**

- 1) Records of cautions, expulsions and match suspensions are stored in the central system of PFF. The Disciplinary Committee secretariat confirms them in writing to the Member Association concerned or, in the case of final competitions, to the head of the delegation concerned.
- 2) This confirmation serves only as notification: sanctions (cautions, expulsions, automatic match suspensions) have an immediate effect on subsequent matches even if the letter of confirmation reaches the Member Association, club or head of delegation concerned later.

### **Section 4 Carrying over and canceling Cautions and match suspensions**

#### **Article 37 – Carrying over match suspensions**

1. Cautions received during one competition are not carried over to another competition.
2. They are, however, carried over from one round to the next in the same competition. The Disciplinary Committee may exceptionally depart from this rule before the start of a particular competition. This provision is subject to art. 38.

#### **Article 38 – Cancellation of cautions**

1. At the request of a confederation, the Disciplinary Committee may cancel cautions that have not resulted in a match suspension so as to restore the balance among several teams that have not played the same number of matches during the first round of a competition, or in other exceptional circumstances.
2. In any case, the committee may do this only once in any competition.
3. The Disciplinary Committee's decision is final.

#### **Article 39 – Carrying over match suspensions**

- 1) As a general rule, every suspension (of players and other persons) is carried over from one round to the next in the same competition.
- 2) Match suspensions resulting from several cautions issued to a player in different matches of the same competition are never carried over to another competition.

- 3) Match suspensions in relation to an expulsion pronounced on a player outside of a competition [separate match(es)] or not served during the competition for which they were intended (elimination or the last match in the competition) are carried over as follows:
  - a) PFF competitions for national teams (including age-group competition) shall be carried over to the national team's subsequent official match.
  - b) PFF club competitions shall be carried over to the club's subsequent official match in a PFF competition.
  - c) Friendly matches shall be carried over to the national team's subsequent friendly match.

## **Section 5    Determining the sanction**

### **Article 40 – General Rule**

- 1) The body pronouncing the sanction decides the scope and duration of it.
- 2) Sanctions may be limited to one or more certain categories of match and competition.
- 3) Unless otherwise specified, the duration of a sanction is always defined.
- 4) When deciding the sanction, the body will take account of all of the circumstances of the case, in particular the age of the person sanctioned, his record, personal situation, culpability (intentional or negligent), the reasons prompting him to commit the infringement and the degree of seriousness of the infringement.

### **Article 41 – Repeated infringements**

- 1) Unless otherwise specified, the body shall increase the sanction to be pronounced by half (+50%; if this is not possible, another sanction shall be imposed in the form of a fine) if an infringement has been repeated.
- 2) The sanction may be increased by half only once whenever this provision applies.
- 3) These provisions are subject to the special rules governing repeated doping infringements.

### **Article 42 – Infringements against match officials**

- 1) If the victim of an infringement is a match official, the sanction to be pronounced will be increased by half (+50%).
- 2) This rule does not apply to infringements, which by definition can only be committed against match officials (cf. Art. 56 and 57).

### **Article 43 – Concurrent infringements**

1.                    If someone incurs several fines as the result of one or several deeds, the body imposes the fine envisaged for the most serious infringement and may increase it according to circumstances but not by more than half of the maximum envisaged for this infringement.
2.                    The same applies if a person incurs several time sanctions of a similar type (two or more match suspensions, two or more stadium bans, etc) as the result of one or several deeds.
3.                    The body that applies par.1 is not obliged to adhere to the general upper limit of the fine (cf. art. 16 par.2).

## **Section 6            Limitation period on disciplinary sanctions**

### **Article 44 – Duration**

- 1) Infringements committed during a match may no longer be prosecuted after a lapse of two (2) years.
- 2) Prosecution for corruption (cf. Art. 59) is not subject to a limitation period.

#### **Article 45 – commencement of the limitation period**

The limitation period runs as follows:

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

#### **Article 46 – Interruption**

The limitation period no longer applies if the Disciplinary Committee reaches a decision before it has expired.

### **Section 1 Physical assault**

#### **Article 47 – Physical injury**

- 1) A player who deliberately assaults someone physically or damages his health will be suspended for at least four (4) matches. An official who commits such an infringement will be suspended at least eight (8) matches.
- 2) The suspension shall be imposed at PFF level unless otherwise specified.
- 3) In any case, the body shall also impose a minimum fine of Rs 20,000. In the case of tournaments with an age limit, the fine can be reduced appropriately.

#### **Article 48 – Violence**

- 1) A player who deliberately assaults someone, but without harming him physically or damaging his health, will be suspended for at least two (2) matches. An official who commits such an infringement will be suspended at least four (4) matches.
- 2) If a person assaults someone by spitting at him, he will be suspended for at least six (6) matches.
- 3) In any case, the body shall also impose a minimum fine of Rs 10,000. In the case of tournaments with an age limit, the fine can be reduced appropriately.

#### **Article 49 – Brawl**

- 1) Involvement in a brawl is sanctioned with a suspension for at least six (6) matches to a maximum of three (3) years.
- 2) The scope of the suspension extends to all official international matches.
- 3) Anyone who has tried to prevent a fight, shield others or separate those involved in a brawl is not subject to punishment.

#### **Article 50 – Unidentified aggressors**

- 1) If, in the case of a group of people involved in violence, it is not possible to identify the instigator(s), the body will sanction the club or Member Association to which the aggressors belong. The person sanctioned may be reprieved by naming the guilty person(s) to the Disciplinary Committee.

- 2) If, in the case of group violence, it is impossible to establish each participant's exact share of guilt, the Disciplinary Committee shall consider every participant identified as a perpetrator of the infringements committed.

## **Section 2 Infringements of the Laws of the Game**

### **Article 51 - Minor infringements**

A player is cautioned if he commits one of the following infringements (cf. Law. 12 of the Laws of the Game and art. 18 above).

- (a) Unsporting behavior such as foul play, dangerous play or holding on to an opponent's shirt or any part of his body.
- (b) Showing disapproval of the match official by word or action (criticizing, decisions, protesting);
- (c) Violation of THE LAWS OF THE GAME;
- (d) Delaying the restart of the play;
- (e) Failing to comply with the required distance during corner kicks or free kicks;
- (f) Entering or re-entering the field of play without prior permission from the referee;
- (g) Leaving the field of play without prior permission from the referee;
- (h) Play acting (diving, feigning injury, etc.).

### **Article 52 - Serious infringements**

A player is sent off if he commits one of the following infringements (cf. Law 12 of the Laws of the Game and art. 19 above).

- i) Serious foul play such as excessive or brute conduct.
- j) Brutal action such as violent or aggressive conduct.
- k) Spitting at an opponent or anyone else.
- l) Denying the opposing team a goal or an obvious goal scoring opportunity by deliberately handling the ball;
- m) Denying an obvious goal-scoring opportunity to an opponent moving towards the opposite goal by committing an infringement punishable by a free kick;
- n) Making offensive, insulting or abusive remarks;
- o) Second caution during the same match(cf. art. 18 par.2)

### **Article 53 – Team's Misconduct**

- 1) The following constitutes misconduct by a team and are sanctioned by a maximum fine of Rs 50,000
  - a) When four (4) or more players are cautioned during one match;
  - b) When three (3) players are sent off during one match
  - c) When several players together make threats (cf. Art. 56) or show force (cf. Art. 57) against a match official.
- 2) When determining the amount of the fine, the type of competition shall be taken into account.

### **Section 3    Offensive And Racist Behaviour**

#### **Article 54 – Offensive Behaviour**

- 1) A player or official who insults someone in any way, especially by using offensive gestures or language, will be sanctioned with a match suspension. If the perpetrator is a player, he will be suspended from at least two (2) matches; if he is an official, he will be suspended from at least four (4) matches.
- 2) If the victim of the attack is PFF itself or one of its bodies, the duration of the suspension will be doubled (+100%); the sanction applies to all official matches at Asian level. A minimum fine of at least Rs 20,000 shall be pronounced.

#### **Article 55 – Racism**

1. Anyone who publicly disparages, discriminates against or denigrates someone in a defamatory manner on account of race, colour, language, religion or ethnic origin will be subject to match suspension for at least five (5) matches at every level. The body will also pronounce a ban on his entering the confines of any stadia and a fine of at least Rs 30,000. If the perpetrator is an official, the fine will be at least Rs 40,000.
2. Any spectator who commits such an infringement will be subject to a stadium ban for two (2) years.
3. If spectators display banners bearing racist slogans at a match, the body will sanction the Member Association or club, which these spectators support with a fine for at least Rs 50,000 and force it to play its next official international match without spectators

### **Section 4                    Intimidation**

#### **Article 56 – Threats**

Anyone who intimidates a match official with serious threats will be sanctioned with a fine of at least Rs 10,000 and a match suspension. These sanctions constitute a departure from Art. 32, in that they may not be combined with others.

#### **Article 57 – Force**

Anyone who uses violence or threats to pressure a match official into taking certain action or to hinder him in any other way from acting freely will be sanctioned with a fine of at least Rs 10,000 and a match suspension. These sanctions constitute a departure from Art. 32, in that they may be not combined with others.

### **Section 5    Forgery And Falsification**

#### **Article 58 - [ only ]**

- 1) Anyone who, during any football related activity, creates a false document, forges a document, makes a false claim in a document with potentially legal repercussions or uses a forge document to deceive others will be sanctioned with a suspension for at least six (6) matches.
- 2) If the perpetrator is an official, the body will impose a ban on performing any football related activity for a period of at least twelve (12) months.
- 3) The body may also impose a fine of at least Rs 10,000.

## **Section 6    Corruption**

### **Article 59 - [ only ]**

- 1) A player or official who offers, promises or grants an unjustified advantage to a body of PFF, a match official, a player or an official on behalf of himself or a third party in an attempt to incite it or him to violate PFF regulations will be sanctioned:
  - a) With a minimum fine of Rs 50,000.
  - b) With a ban on performing any football related activity; and
  - c) With a ban on entering any stadium.
- 2) Passive corruption (soliciting, being promised or accepting an unjustified advantage) will be sanctioned in the same manner.
- 3) In serious cases and in the case of repetition, sanction b) may be imposed for life.
- 4) In any case, the body will declare confiscation of the assets involved in committing the infringement. These assets will be used for the football development programme.

## **Section 7    Doping**

### **Article 60 – Definition**

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

### **Article 61 – Therapeutic Justification**

- 1) Any player who consults a doctor and is prescribed treatment of medication for therapeutic reasons shall enquire whether the prescription contains prohibited substances or methods (cf. the list in the PFF Doping Control Regulations).
- 2) If so, the player shall request alternative treatment or medication.
- 3) If there is no alternative treatment, the player shall obtain a medical certificate explaining the circumstances. This certificate shall be sent to the relevant PFF body within 48 hours of the medical consultation. If a match takes place during this period, the certificate shall reach the relevant body before the match begins or be produced at the doping test. Once this time limit has passed, no medical certificate will be accepted.
- 4) The treatment will only be justifiable if endorsed by the relevant body of PFF.
- 5) These provisions are subject to the PFF and PFF Doping Control Regulations.

### **Article 62 – Sanctions**

- 1) Sanctions for doping offences shall be commensurate with the degree of the player's guilt. A minimum suspension of 6 (six) months shall be imposed in all cases. In addition to the suspension, a fine may also be imposed.
- 2) In the case of a first doping offence, the maximum suspension shall be 2 (two) years.
- 3) The execution of the sanction may be suspended for the period in excess of 6 (six) months if the circumstances justify such a decision. Under no circumstances may probation be granted.
- 4) If a suspended sanction is imposed against a player who then commits another doping offence, he shall be made to serve the suspended sanction.
- 5) In the case of a repeated doping offence, the duration of the suspension imposed shall be increased in compliance with art. 62, par.2. Any such suspension may not be deferred.

**Article 63 – Repeat testing**

PFF may order any player sanctioned for a doping offence to undergo further doping tests while serving a suspension.

**Article 64 – Procedure**

The formal and technical aspects of the doping control procedure shall comply entirely with the Doping Control Regulations for PFF competitions and out of competition.

**Section 8 Disorderliness At Matches And Competitions****Article 65 – Inciting Hatred And Violence**

- 1) A player or official who openly incites others to hatred or violence during a match will be sanctioned with match suspension for no less than twelve (12) months and with a minimum fine of Rs 10,000.
- 2) In serious cases, in particular where the infringement is committed using the mass media (such as the press, radio or television) or if it takes place on a match day in or around a stadium, the minimum fine will be Rs 20,000.

**Article 66 – Provoking The General Public**

Anyone who provokes the general public during a match will be suspended for two (2) matches and sanctioned with a minimum fine of Rs 10,000.

**Article 67 – Abandonment**

- 1) If a club or representative team of a Member Association refuses to play a match or to continue playing one which it has begun, it will be sanctioned with a minimum fine of Rs 2,000 and a maximum of Rs 2,00,000 and will, in principle, forfeit the match (cf. Art. 31).
- 2) In serious cases, the team be also disqualified from the competition in progress and may be barred from future competitions.
- 3) If a Member Association condones such an action of a club or representative team, the Member Association shall be liable for sanctions which may include suspension.

**Section 9 Failure To Respect Disciplinary Decisions**

**FIRST TITLE.            MATERIAL LAW  
CHAPTER II.            SPECIAL PART**

**Section 9 Failure To Respect Disciplinary Decisions****Article 68 - Payment Of Sums Of Money**

1. Anyone who fails to pay another person (such as a player, a coach or a club) a sum of money in full, even though instructed to do so by a body of PFF:
  - a) will be sanctioned with a minimum fine of Rs 20,000 for failing to comply with the instructions issued by the body that imposed the payment
  - b) will be given a final time limit by the judicial bodies of PFF in which to settle the debt;

- c) If it is a club, it will be warned and threatened with deduction of points or relegation to the next lower division if it has not paid by the final time limit. Further more, a transfer ban may be imposed.
2. If the club disregards the final time limit the body will request the association concerned to implement the threat.
  3. If points are deducted, they shall be proportionate to the amount owed.
  4. A ban on any football related activity may also be imposed against natural persons.
  5. Any appeal against a decision passed in accordance with art. 68 shall immediately be lodged by to CAS.

### **Article 69 – Ineligibility**

1. If a player takes part in an official match despite being ineligible, this team will be sanctioned by forfeiting the match (cf. art. 31) and paying a minimum fine of Rs 20,000.
2. If a player takes part in a friendly match despite being ineligible, this team will be sanctioned by forfeiting the match and paying a minimum fine of Rs 10,000.

## **Section 10 Member Associations' Responsibilities**

### **Article 70 – Organization Of Matches**

- 1) Member Associations that organize matches shall:
  - a) assess the degree of risk posed by matches and notify the PFF of those that are especially high-risk;
  - b) comply with an implement existing safety rules (PFF regulations, national laws, international agreements) and take every safety precaution demanded by circumstances before, during and after the match and if incidents occur;
  - c) Ensure the safety of players and officials of the visiting team during their stay;
  - d) Keep local authorities informed and collaborate with them actively and effectively;
  - e) Ensure that law and order is maintain in the stadia and immediate surroundings and that matches are organized properly.

### **Article 70<sup>ff</sup> – Liability For Spectator Conduct**

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

## **Article 71 – Other Obligations**

Member Associations shall also:

- a) Vet the age of players shown on the passports, birth certificates and school records they produce at competitions that are subject to age limits;
- b) Ensure that no one is involved in national football management who is or has been convicted for action unworthy of such a position (especially doping, corruption, forgery etc.) during the past five years.

## **Article 72 – Failure To Comply**

- 1) Any Member Association that fails to comply with the obligations contained in the provisions of Section 10 shall be sanctioned with a fine.
- 2) In the case of serious infringement as set out in Art. 70 par.1 b) and c), the body may impose other sanctions, such as a stadium ban (cf. Art.26) or ordering a team to play on neutral ground (cf. Art. 25).
- 3) The right is reserved to impose certain sanctions for safety reasons, even if no infringement has been committed (cf. Art. 8 par.2).

## **Section 11 Manipulating Match Results**

## **Article 73 - [only]**

Anyone who conspires to distort the result of a match in a manner incompatible with sporting ethics will be sanctioned with a match suspension and a minimum fine of Rs 10,000. The body will also pronounce a ban on performing any football related activity; in serious cases this sanction will apply for life.

# **SECOND TITLE: ORGANISATION AND PROCEDURE**

## **CHAPTER 1 – ORGANISATION**

### **Section 1 Jurisdiction Of PFF, Member Associations And Other Organizations**

#### **SECOND TITLE. ORGANIZATION AND PROCEDURE CHAPTER I. ORGANIZATION**

## **Article 74 - General Rule**

1. With regard to matches and competitions not organized by PFF (cf. art. 2, second sentence), associations, confederations and sports entities that organize matches for cultural, geographical, historical or other reasons (cf. art. 39 g) are responsible for enforcing sanction imposed against infringements committed in there area of jurisdiction. The scope of their decisions may be extended to have world wide effect (cf. art. 140).
2. The judicial bodies of PFF reserve the right to sanction serious infringements of the statutory objectives of PFF (cf. the final part of Art. 2), if associations, confederations and other sports organizations failed to prosecute the infringements committed or failed to prosecute in compliance with the fundamental principles of law.

3. Associations, Confederations, and other sports organizations shall notify the judicial bodies of PFF of any serious infringements of the statutory objectives of PFF (cf. the final part of Art. 2).

### **Article 75 - Friendly Matches Between Two Representative Teams**

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

## **Section 2**

## **Authorities**

### **Article 76 - Referee**

1. During matches, disciplinary decisions are taken by the referee.
2. These decisions are final.
3. In certain circumstances, the jurisdiction bodies may apply (cf. Art. 81).

### **Article 77 - Judicial Bodies**

The judicial bodies of PFF are the disciplinary committee and the appeal committee.

### **Article 78 - Court Of Arbitration Of Sport (CAS)**

PFF shall ensure its full compliance and by that of its members, players, officials and match/players' agents with any final decision passed by FIFA/CAS.

### **Article 79 - Pff Sports Medical Committee**

The PFF sports medical committee, or other bodies under its supervision, carries out the doping tests analysis of samples and examination of medical certificates (cf. Art. 61)

## **Second title. Organization and procedure**

### **Chapter I. Organization**

#### **Section3      Disciplinary committee**

### **Article 80 - General Jurisdiction**

The disciplinary committee is authorized to sanctions any breach of PFF regulations which do not come under the jurisdiction of another body

### **Article 81 - The Disciplinary Committee Is Responsible For**

- a) Sanctioning serious infringement which have escaped the match official attention
- b) Rectifying obvious errors in the referee's disciplinary decisions;
- c) Extending the duration of a match suspension incurred automatically by an expulsion (cf art. 18, par 4 and art 19 par 4)
- d) Pronouncing additional sanctions to those imposed by the referee such as a fine

### **Article 82 - The Chairman Of The Disciplinary Committee May Take The Following Decisions Alone**

- a) Suspend a person for up to three matches or for up to two months
- b) Impose a fine of up to Rs 50,000.
- c) Rule on a request to extend a sanction (cf art 140)
- d) Settle disputes arising from objections to members of the disciplinary committee
- e) Pronounce alter and annul provisional measures (cf art 133) whenever the disciplinary committee meets on such occasions as a final competition, the chairman may decide to take the decisions mentioned under par.1 for the committee.

## **Section 4 Appeal Committee**

### **Article 83 - Jurisdiction**

The appeal committee is responsible for deciding appeals against any of the disciplinary committee decisions that the PFF regulations do not declare as final or referable to any other body.

### **Article 84 - Jurisdiction Of Chairman Ruling Alone**

- 1 The chairman of the appeal committee may take the following decisions
  - a) decide on an appeal against a decision to extend a sanction (cf. art 145):
  - b) resolve disputes arising from objections to members of the appeal committee:
  - c) rule on the appeals against provisional decisions passed by the chairman of the disciplinary committee.
  - d) Pronounce, alter and annual provisional measures (cf. art. 133).
- 2 When ever the appeal committee meets on such occasions as a final competitions, the chairman may decide to take the decisions mentioned under par. 1 for the committee.

## **Second Title. Organization And Procedure**

### **Chapter I. Organization**

### **Article 85 - Composition**

- 1 The executive committee appoints the members of the disciplinary committee and appeal committee for a period of eight years. it designates the number of members deemed necessary for the committee to function properly
- 2 It appoints the chairman of each committee from among the members for the same period of eight years.
- 3 Each committee convokes a plenary session to designate a deputy chairman from among the members present by a simple majority for a same period of eight years. The candidates are not entitled to vote.
- 4 At least one member of the chairmanship of each committee (chairman or deputy chairman) shall be domiciled in the country in which PFF's headquarters are located.

**Article 86 - Meetings**

- 1 The committee meetings are deemed to be valid if at least three members are present.
- 2 At the behest of the chairman, the secretariat shall call the number of members deemed necessary to each meeting the chairman shall, as far as possible ensure that the associations are equitably represented among the members called to the meeting
- 3 The number of members deemed necessary for each committee are called to the meeting held during the final competition and other PFF competitions.

**Article 87- Chairman**

- 1) The chairman conducts the meetings and delivers the decisions which this code empowers him to take
- 2) If the chairman is prevented from attending the deputy chairman replaces him. If the deputy chairman is prevented from attending the member holding the most senior position will replace him

**Article 88 - Secretariat**

- 1) The general secretariat of PFF headquarters
- 2) It designates the secretary
- 3) The secretary takes charge of the administrative work and writes the minutes and decisions of the meetings
- 4) He takes care of the filing the decisions passed and the relevant files shall be kept for at least ten years.
- 5) He takes charge of publishing the decisions passed by the judicial bodies of PFF in a suitable manner, such as on the internet in exceptional circumstances, he may choose not to publish certain decisions.

**Article 89 - Independence**

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

## **Second Title. Organization And Procedure**

### **Chapter 1 Organization**

**Article 90 - Incompatibility Of Office**

The members of the judicial bodies may not belong either to to the executive committee or a standing committee of the PFF

**Article 91 - Objections**

- 1 Members of the judicial body of the PFF shall decline to take responsibility if there are serious grounds of questioning their impartiality
- 2 This applies in the following cases
- 3
  - a) If the member in question is directly involved in the out come of the matter
  - b) If he is associated with any other party
  - c) If he has the same nationality as the party implicated (association, club, officials, players etc).

- d) If he has already dealt with the case under different circumstances
- 4 Members against whom an objection might be raised shall notify the chairman immediately. Each party may also raise an objection to a member.
  - 5 In the case of a dispute, the chairman decides,
  - 6 Proceedings that has involved some one to whom an objection has been raised Will be considered null and void

### **Article 92 - Credibility**

- 1 The members of the judicial body shall ensure that every thing disclosed to them during the course of their duty remains confidential(facts of the cases, contents of the deliberations and decisions taken)
- 2 Only the contents of those decisions already notified to the addresses may be made public.

### **Article 93 - Exemptions From Credibility**

Except in the case of serious misdemeanor, neither the members of the judicial bodies of PFF nor the secretariat may be made liable for any deeds or omissions relating to any disciplinary procedure.

## **Second Title. Organization And Procedure**

### **Chapter II Procedure**

#### **Section 1 General Rules**

#### **Subsection1 Time Limits**

### **Article 94 - Calculation**

- 1 Time limit to which associations shall adhere commence the day after they have received the relevant legal document.
- 2 Time limits to other persons shall adhere commence four days after the receipt of the document by the association responsible for forwarding it.
- 3 If the last day of the time limit coincides with the public holiday in the place of the domicile of the person required to comply with the document by a certain deadline, time limit will expire on the next day that is not a public holiday.
- 4 Otherwise, the provisions of the Swiss Code of Obligations apply to calculate the time limit.

### **Article 95 - Compliance**

- 1 The time limit has been met only if the action required has been carried out before the expiry of the time limit
- 2 The document is sent to the relevant authority or to its address no later than mid night on the last day of the time limit.
- 3 If the document is sent by the telefax the time limit has been met if the document reaches the authority in the last day of the time limit and the original document reaches it with in another five days.
- 4 Parties are not permitted to observe time limits by sending electronic mail.

- 5 In the case of appeals, the deposit demanded (cf. art.127) is considered to have been paid in time if the payment has irreversibly been made to PFF's account by mid night of last day of the time limit.

### **Article 96 - Interruption**

- 1 The time limits are interrupted:-
  - a) From 20 December to 5 Jan inclusive.
  - b) During the period starting two days before PFF congresses up to two days after.
  - c) During the period starting two days before the PFF final competition up to two days after except for facts arising during the final competition and facts which occurred before but which may have repercussions on the final competition.
- 2 In certain circumstances the special procedures may apply.

### **Article 97 - Extension Of Time Limits**

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

### **Subsection 2; Right To Be Heard**

#### **Article 98 - Contents**

- 1) The parties shall be heard before any decision is passed
- 2) They may in particular;
  - a) Refer to the file;
  - b) Present their argument in fact and in law;
  - c) Request production of proof;
  - d) Be involved in the production of proof;
  - e) Obtain a reasoned decision

#### **Article 99 - Restrictions**

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

### **Subsection 3. Proof**

#### **Article 100 – Various types of proof**

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

### **Article 101 – Absolute Discretion Regarding Proof**

- 1) The judicial bodies will have absolute discretion regarding proof.
- 2) They may, in particular, take account of the parties' attitudes during the proceedings, especially the manner in which they cooperate with the judicial bodies and the secretariat (cf. Art. 115).
- 3) They decide on the basis of their personal convictions.

### **Article 102 – Match Officials' Reports**

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

### **Article 103 – Burden Of Proof**

- 1) The burden of proof regarding disciplinary infringements rests on PFF.
- 2) In the doping procedure, it is the responsibility of the person who has been tested positive to prove his innocence.

## **Subsection 4. Representation And Assistance**

### **Article 104 - [ only ]**

- 1) The parties may arrange to be assisted by a third party.
- 2) They may be represented even if they are not required to appear personally.
- 3) The parties are free to choose their own assistant and representation.

## **Subsection 5. Language Used In Proceedings**

### **Article 105 - [only]**

- 1) The language used in all proceedings shall be English/Urdu.
- 2) PFF may, if necessary, use the services of an interpreter.

## **Subsection 6. Notification And Communication**

### **Article 106- Addressees**

- 1) All of the parties are notified of the decisions.
- 2) Decisions of the judicial bodies and other documents intended for players, clubs and officials are addressed to the member association concerned on condition that it forwards the documents to the parties concerned.
- 3) These documents are considered to have been notified / communicated properly to the ultimate addressee four (4) days after notification / communication of the documents to the member association (cf. Art.94)

**Article 107 – Form: General Rule**

- 1) Decisions are notified by telefax and registered letter.
- 2) Other documents are communicated only by telefax.
- 3) Electronic mail is not permitted.
- 4) In certain circumstances, the special provisions set out in Art. 108 may apply.

**Article 108 – Form: Special Cases**

- 1) If a party is present when a decision is taken, the terms of the decision shall be communicated to him orally. The reasoned decision shall then be sent to him by telefax within thirty (30) days.
- 2) Orders for provisional measures are notified only by telefax.

**Subsection 7. Various Rules****Article 109 – Obvious Errors**

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

**Article 110 – Costs and Expenses**

- 1) Costs and expenses shall be paid by the unsuccessful party.
- 2) If there is no unsuccessful party, they will be borne by PFF.
- 3) If considered unfair to do so, they may be split among several persons.
- 4) The body that rules on the substance of the matter decides how costs and expenses will be allocated. The amounts are stipulated by the chairman, against which no appeal may be made.
- 5) The chairman may exceptionally decide to curtail or dispense with costs and expenses.

**Article 111 – Enforcement Of Decisions**

Decisions shall be in force until and unless they are reversed by the Appeals Committee

**Article 112 – Closing Of The Proceedings**

Proceedings may be closed if the parties reach an agreement;

# **SECOND TITLE. ORGANISATION AND PROCEDURE**

## **CHAPTER II – PROCEDURE**

### **Section 2 Disciplinary Committee**

#### **Article 113 – Commencement Of Proceedings**

- 1) Disciplinary infringements shall be prosecuted.
- 2) Any person or authority may report conduct that he or it considers incompatible with the regulations of PFF to the judicial bodies via the PFF Secretariat. Complaints may not be made orally.
- 3) Match officials are obliged to expose infringements, which have come to their notice.

#### **Article 114 – Investigation**

The Secretariat carries out the necessary preliminary investigation

#### **Article 115 – Collaboration Among The Parties**

- 1) The parties are obliged to collaborate to establishing the facts. In particular, they shall comply with requests for information from the judicial bodies.
- 2) Whenever deemed necessary, the secretariat verifies the parties' versions of the facts.
- 3) If the parties are dilatory in responding, the judicial body may impose a fine of Rs 20 , 000 after first warning them.
- 4) If the parties fail to collaborate, especially if they ignore the stipulated time limits, the judicial bodies will decide on the case, using the file in their possession.

#### **Article 116 – Oral Statements, Principles**

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

#### **Article 117 – Oral Statements, Procedure**

- 1) The Chairman shall decide on the sequence of the oral statements.
- 2) Once the preliminary proceedings have ended, the Chairman allows the person against whom proceedings are being conducted a final opportunity to speak.
- 3) Oral statements terminate with the parties' closing statement.

#### **Article 118 – Deliberations**

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

### **Article 119 – Passing The Decisions**

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

### **Article 120 – Form And Contents Of The Decisions**

- 1) The decision contains:
  - (a) The composition of the committee;
  - (b) The designation of the parties;
  - (c) The summary of the facts;
  - (d) The provisions on which the decision was based;
  - (e) Grounds for the decision;
  - (f) The terms of the decision;
  - (g) Notice of the channels for appeal.
- 2) The decisions are signed by the General Secretary of the PFF.

### **Article 121 –[ only ]**

The rules governing the Disciplinary Committee similarly apply whenever the chairman decides alone.

### **Section 3 Appeals Committee**

#### **Article 122 – Contestable Decisions**

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

- (a) A warning;
- (b) A reprimand;
- (c) A suspension for less than three (3) matches or of up to two (2) months;
- (d) A fine of less than Rs 10,000 imposed on a Member Association or a club.

#### **Article 123 – Eligibility To Appeal**

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

#### **Article 124 – Time Limit For Appeal**

- 1) The party intending the appeal shall announce his decision in writing within fifteen (15) days of the communication of the decision.
- 2) The announcement of the intention to appeal shall be sent directly to PFF. The petition of appeal shall, however, be forwarded to PFF via the member association.
- 3) The member association receiving the petition of appeal shall forward it immediately to PFF. The decisive moment for complying with the time limit for lodging this petition is the moment it reaches the PFF.

### **Article 125 – Grounds For Complaint**

The appellant may object to insufficient representation of the facts and wrong application of the law.

### **Article 126 – Petition Of Appeal**

- a) The appellant's petition of appeal shall include the necessary arguments, reasons and means of proof and be signed by the appellant or his representative, subject to Art. 123 par.2.
- b) It should be submitted in triplicate.

### **Article 127 – Deposit**

1. Anyone wishing to lodge an appeal shall transfer the amount of Rs 5000 to PFF's bank account before expiry of the time limit of 7 days to formalize the appeal.
2. The appeal is inadmissible without this deposit.
3. This amount will be reimbursed to the appellant if he wins the case. Costs and charges payable by an appellant who loses the case are deducted from this amount. Any remaining amount is reimbursed to him. If the deposit is insufficient, the appellant will be ordered to pay the difference.
4. If the appeal is considered to be improper, costs and expenses shall be paid in addition to the deposit.

### **Article 128 – Effects Of The Appeal**

- 1) The Appeals Committee has full power in fact and in law to rule on the appeal.
- 2) The appeal does not have suspensive effect except with regard to orders to pay a sum of money.

## **SECOND TITLE. ORGANIZATION AND PROCEDURE CHAPTER II. PROCEDURE**

### **Article 129 - Sequence In Proceedings Leading Up To The Decision**

1. Art. 114 to 120 par. 1 apply similarly to the procedure to be followed.
2. The decisions are signed by the chairman.
3. Decisions may not be amended to the detriment of the party contesting them.

### **Article 130 – Conclusion To The Proceedings**

The Appeals Committee rules, in principle, as a body in the last instance.

### **Article 131 - Proceeding Before The Chairman Of The Appeal Committee**

The rules governing Appeal Committee similarly apply whenever the chairman of the committee decides alone.

**Article132 - [only]**

The PFF status stipulates which decisions passed by the judicial bodies of PFF may be taken before the Court of Arbitration for Sport.

**Section 5                      Special Procedures**  
**Subsection 1                  Provisional Measures**

**Article 133 - Principle**

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

**Article 134 - Procedure**

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

**Article 135 - Decision**

1. The chairman delivers his decision immediately.  
That decision shall be implemented immediately.

**Second title. Organization and procedure**  
**Chapter II. Procedure**

**Article136 - Duration Of Provisional Measures**

- 1 Provisional measures may not be valid for longer than t30 days.
- 2 The period may be extended only once by twenty days.
- 3 If a sanction has been pronounced provisionally, the duration shall be offset against any final sanction.

**Article 137 - Appeal**

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

**Article 138 - Approval Of Appeal**

The appeal will be admitted on the facts stated in the contested decision are obviously inaccurate of the law has been violated

## Subsection2. Deliberations And Decision-Taking Without Meeting

### **Article139 - [only]**

- 1 If the circumstances allow such an option , the secretariat may arrange the deliberations and decision-taking to be conducted via telephone conference, videoconference or any other similar method
- 2 Art.116 par.2is, in this case no longer applicable.
- 3 The secretary takes minutes as if it were chaired meetings.

Extending sanctions to have worldwide effect.

### **Article 140 - Request**

- 1 If the infringement is serious, in particular doping (cf. section 7 of the special part), corruption (cf. art 59), manipulation of match results ( ) cf art 73 of the rules governing age limits (cf. art 71a). The associations, confederation, and other organizing sports, organizations shall request PFF to extend the sanctions they have imposed so as to have world wide effect.
- 2 The request shall be submitted in writing and enclose a certified copy matching the decision. it shall show the address of the person who has been sanctioned and that of the club and the association concerned.
- 3 In the judicial bodies of the PFF discover that associations, departments and other sports organizations have not requested a decision to be extended to have world wide effect. Even though it should have been these bodies may themselves pass a decision.

## **Second Tile. Organization And Procedure Chapter II. Procedure**

### **Article 141 - Conditions**

The sanctions will be extended if:-

- a) The person sanctioned has been cited properly.
- b) He has had the opportunity to state his case.
- c) The decision has been notified properly.
- d) The decision compiles with the regulations of PFF.
- e) Extending the sanction does not conflict with public order and accepted standards of behavior.

### **Article 142 - Procedure**

- 1 The chairman makes his decisions ,in principle ,without negotiations or hearing any of the parties
- 2 He may exceptionally decide to summon the parties concerned

### **Article 143 - Decision**

- 1 The chairman is restricted to ascertaining that the conditions of art. 141 have been fulfilled. He may not review the substance of the decision.
- 2 He either grants or refuses to grant the request to have the sanction extended.

**Article 144 - Effect**

The sanctions passed by the associations and confederations requesting it to be extended has the same effect in each member association of PFF as if the sanction had been passed by any one of them.

**Article 145 - Appeal**

- 1 Both the body requesting extension of the sanction and the person affected by it may appeal against it.
- 2 A reasoned appeal shall be lodged with in four days of receipt of notification of the decision.
- 3 Any grounds for complaint may only refer to the terms set out in art 140 and 141. it is inadmissible to question the substance of the initial decision.

**Subsection4 Procedure To Be Followed In Combating Doping.****Article 146 - Tests**

- 1 The test procedure is governed by the doping control regulation for PFF Competitions and out of competitions.
- 2 Tests may be conducted in conjunctions with other sports associations.
- 3 Associations shall ensure that test and sanctions conform to the relevant PFF regulations (Doping Control Regulation and the Disciplinary Code).

**Article 147 - Player's Obligation**

- 1 Every player taking part in competition or other event organized by PFF or in training leading up to such a competition or event shall agree to under go ant tests conducted by the relevant body of PFF
- 2 He agrees to sample being taken so as to detect the presence of any prohibited substance or to establish the use of any prohibited methods.

**Article 148 - Government Criminal Sanctions**

Even if a state body imposes legal sanctions on a doping offence, the legal bodies of PFF shall still review the case and decide whether to impose a sanction in line with PFF regulations

**Article 149 - Sanctions Imposed By Other International Sports Federations**

Any legally binding sanctions imposed by another international sports federation or a national doping organization that comply with fundamental legal principles shall automatically be adopted by PFF and provided that the requirement of that article140 of the PFF Disciplinary Code are met, may extend them to have world wide effect.

**Article 150 - [only]**

- 1 A review may be requested after a legally binding decisions have been passed if a party discover facts or proofs that would have resulted in a more favorable decision and that, even will due diligence, could not have been produced sooner.
- 2 A request for review will be made for at least ten days of discovering the reasons of the review.

**Article 151 - Discovering Texts In The Disciplinary Code**

- 1 This code exists on the four languages of the PFF (English, French, Spanish, German).
- 2 In the event of any discrepancy in the four texts the original French version is authoritative.

**Article 152 - Scope Of The Code Omissions, Customs Doctrine And Jurisprudence**

This code governs every subject to which the text of the meanings of its provisions referred

If there are any omissions in the code the judicial body will decide in accordance with association customs or in the absence of the customs, in accordance with rules they would lay down if they were acting as legislators.

During their entire operations, the judicial body of PFF draw on settlements already established by sports doctrine and jurisprudence.

**Article 153 - Adoption And Enforcement**

The PFF Executive Committee and Congress adopted this code on 22 December, 2006.

This code came into force on 22 December, 2006.

PFF Secretariat,  
Football House,  
Opposite Punjab Stadium,  
Lahore, Pakistan.

For the PFF Executive Committee/Congress.

**President**

**Makhdoom Syed Faisal Saleh Hayat**

**General Secretary**

**Muhammad Arshad Khan Lodhi**