



FECAFOOT GENERAL REGULATIONS

PART I – GENERAL PROVISIONS

Chapter I – The Federation

Section I – Generalities

Article 1: The Federation shall manage football throughout the national territory.

Article 2 :

1) The Federation shall have far-reaching judicial powers not only over players in all age categories but also over all licensed persons, clubs and their salaried or other employees and over the officials of provincial, divisional, sub-divisional and district leagues and members of Committees.

2) Any individual or corporate body or member of the Federation that challenges a decision shall be obliged to comply with the Regulations of FECAFOOT and, especially not refer the matter before ordinary or administrative law courts; otherwise, he shall be sanctioned.

Article 3:

1) The sports season shall commence before the end of the month of March of one year and end latest on 30 December of the same year.

2) However, the Executive Committee may take any measure warranted by the higher interests of Cameroon football to modify or waive this provision. It shall give account of its decisions to the next General Assembly.

Article 4 : These regulations shall be binding on provincial, divisional, sub-divisional and district leagues as well as on clubs, members and licensed persons of the Cameroon Football

Federation and on recognized associations, which shall be obliged to comply with the decisions of FECAFOOT.

Article 5 :

1) The Federation shall publish an Official Bulletin which shall contain the minutes of the General Assembly and Executive Committee and those of the deliberating and management bodies of specialized Committees as well as the decisions of the judicial bodies and the management acts of the President or Secretary General of FECAFOOT.

2) Subscription to the Official Bulletin (whose fees shall be paid at the time of the club's affiliation to competitions) shall be compulsory for all affiliated clubs and leagues; failing which, the sanctions outlined in Article 80 below shall be applied.

Article 6 :

1) Relations between recognized associations and the Federation shall be handled by their policy-making bodies.

2) The associations referred to in par. 1 above shall forward the list of the members of their steering committee, with an indication of their head office and contact person with FECAFOOT as well as their statutes and internal rules and regulations.

Section II – Committees

Article 7 :

1) The Committees and judicial bodies involved in the organization and conduct of competitions are:

a) Judicial bodies:

- the Homologation and Disciplinary Committee;
- the Appeals Committee;
- the Court of Arbitration for Football in Cameroon ;
- provincial, divisional, sub-divisional and district homologation and disciplinary committees.

b) Standing Committees:

- the National Championships Organizing Committee;
- the Cup of Cameroon Organizing Committee;
- the Central Referees Committee;
- the Players' Status Committee;
- the Ethics and Fair-Play Committee;
- the Sports Medicine Committee;
- the Security Committee;
- the Committee for Infrastructure and Facilities;
- the Club Management Control Committee;

a) Specialized Committees:

- the Women's Football Committee ;
- the Youth Football Committee;
- the Beach Soccer Committee;
- the Futsal Committee;

- the Corporate and Veteran Football Committee.

2) The Secretary General of FECAFOOT shall be *ex officio* member of all Committees. He may be represented therein by any person of his choice having the necessary competence on matters to be discussed.

Section III – National Elite Football League

Article 8 : Management of elite football may be delegated to a national league.

Article 9 : Separate instruments shall define relations between FECAFOOT and the national elite football league.

Section IV – Provincial, divisional, sub-divisional and district leagues

Article 10 :

1) Officials of provincial, divisional, sub-divisional and district leagues shall be under the control and supervision of the Secretary General of FECAFOOT insofar as the organization and conduct of competitions is concerned.

2) In this regard, they shall be subject to the obligation of obedience to hierarchy; failing which, the Executive Committee shall mete out any of the sanctions provided for in article 80 of the Statutes.

Article 11 : The bureaus of leagues referred to in article 10 above shall be in constant touch with the Executive Committee and forward to the latter the official minutes of their meetings within one week of holding of same; otherwise, the Executive Committee shall punish their officers with one of the sanctions under article 80 of the Statutes.

Chapter II – Clubs

Section I – Affiliation

Article 12 :

1) Any civil sports association hereinafter referred to as "**CLUB**", wishing to be affiliated to the Cameroon Football Association, shall fulfil the conditions stipulated by Law No. 96/9 of 5 August 1996 instituting the charter of sports and physical activities in Cameroon.

2) Any civil sports association affiliated to FECAFOOT may, for the purpose of managing its activities, set up internally a limited company with a sports object, pursuant to section 12 of the above-mentioned law.

Article 13:

1) Any club wishing to affiliate to the Federation must comply with the provisions of articles 11(3) and 12 of the FECAFOOT Statutes. In addition, the application must be submitted along with a statement in duplicate indicating:

- a) the composition of its steering committee (names and addresses), the latter being responsible before the Federation and its League. Members of the committee must have reached the age of majority;

- b) the address of its headquarters and pitch, which must be situated in the territory of the League in which is found the local council of the club;
- c) the description of the club's colours.

2) The secretariat of the relevant League shall forward to the General Secretariat, the complete file for provisional affiliation of the club by the Executive Committee at its next meeting.

3) When provisional affiliation is thus decided, the FECAFOOT General Secretariat shall return to the concerned League the duplicate of the statute and composition of the committee.

4) Final affiliation shall be decided by the General Assembly. An affiliation number shall be given to the club.

5) The affiliation fee is specified in the financial regulations.

Section II – Affiliation in competitions

Article 14 :

1) Any club wishing to take part in various competitions organized by FECAFOOT during a sports season must forward to the FECAFOOT General Secretariat or the secretary of the relevant League the following:

- a duly filled, signed and stamped affiliation form issued by FECAFOOT;
- licence fees ;
- affiliation fees to the various competitions ;
- the minutes of its annual General Assembly;
- the composition of its steering committee (names and addresses of members). Members of the committee must have reached the age of majority;
- the certificate of ownership or the lease contract of the head office of the club;
- a document showing that all mail box charges have been paid in the name of the club;
- a document showing that all fax charges have been paid in the name of the club.

2) The licence and affiliation fees referred to in par. 1 above are fixed in the financial regulations.

3) Affiliation shall only become effective after payment of the sums mentioned in par. 1 above to the finance officer at the FECAFOOT General Secretariat or the relevant Bureau, at least 15 (fifteen) days before the start of the sports season.

4) Payment by cheque shall be accepted, on condition that the cheque is certified and deposited within the time-limit indicated in paragraph 3 above.

5). Applications submitted by clubs after this date shall be rejected.

6) Applications which do not include at least 15 (fifteen) licences, excluding upgraded under-20 players, shall equally be rejected.

Article 15 :

1) Any club in the First Division Championship shall have a head office, post box, telephone line in working order and fax belonging to the club whose addresses and numbers must appear on all correspondence. Declaration thereof shall be made to the FECAFOOT General Secretariat before each sports season.

2) Clubs other than those mentioned in par. 1 above shall be required to have at least a post box which must be mentioned on all their correspondence. Declaration thereof must be made to the secretariat of the relevant League before each sports season.

3) The Secretary General of FECAFOOT or, where applicable, the Secretary of the League concerned shall cross-check the accuracy of the declarations referred to in par. 1 and 2 above.

4) If the obligations mentioned in par. 1 and 2 above are breached, the application for affiliation shall be rejected.

Article 16 :

1) Any club wishing to take part in competitions organized by FECAFOOT must hold a General Assembly before the start of the sports season.

2) The minutes of this General Assembly must be included in the application file for affiliation; otherwise, the file shall be rejected.

Article 17 :

1) Clubs affiliated to competitions organized by FECAFOOT shall receive a share of:

- advertising revenue ;
- gate-takings at stadiums;
- royalties from radio, television or any other broadcasts;
- proceeds from the sale of subscription cards;
- revenue earned from the participation of national selections in international tournaments.

2) The revenues referred to in par. 1 above shall be shared based on a formula established by a Committee composed of representatives of clubs and those of the Executive Committee of the Federation.

Section III – Obligations of clubs and managers

Article 18 : Any club participating in various official competitions organized by the Cameroon Football Federation shall bear the full cost of transport fare and accommodation linked to its travels.

Article 19 :

1) Clubs shall be obliged, at the start of each sports season, to provide the members of their administration bodies with the special licence issued by the Federation stamped “*Manager*”.

2) The club manager’s licence shall be valid for one year and must be established and renewed each year at cost fixed in the financial regulations.

3) Each club shall be entitled to at least 5 (five) and at most 10 (ten) manager’s licences. In case of non compliance with this minimum number, the sanction stipulated in article 78 of the Disciplinary Code shall be applied.

4) Clubs must declare to FECAFOOT their licensed members who shall be authorized to correspond with the Federation and sign documents in the name of the club. Such members must forward to the General Secretariat a specimen of their signatures.

5) The holder of a manager’s licence may not have any dealings with a club not affiliated to or an association not recognized by FECAFOOT; otherwise, the Executive Committee shall mete out one of the sanctions provided for in article 80 of the Statutes.

Article 20 :

1) A compulsory insurance scheme for clubs, players and managers shall be attached to the signing of licences.

2) Clubs shall take out an insurance policy to cover the professional liabilities of their contracted players; otherwise, the Executive Committee shall punish their managers with one of the sanctions provided for in article 80 of the Statutes.

Article 21 :

1) Any club governed by the Federation shall be answerable to it for the actions of its licensed personnel and its spectators. It must take all necessary measures to ensure proper conduct before, during and after matches.

2) Any club subordinate to the Federation, which habitually accepts direct or indirect benefits from groups of supporters, friends or third parties shall be answerable to the Federation for all acts committed by these groups and which are contrary to FECAFOOT instruments, unless it can prove that it objected to such acts and did not in any way benefit therefrom.

Article 22 : Clubs engaged in a national competition shall comply with all compulsory provisions laid down by the Federation regarding its administration and management; otherwise, they shall be sanctioned in accordance with article 80 of the Statutes.

Article 23:

1) Any change in the composition of the bureau or the constitution of a club shall be notified to its League of origin within fifteen days, which shall in turn inform the General Secretariat within eight days.

2) Any breach of these obligations shall lead the Executive Committee to punish the officials of the club or League in question with the sanctions stipulated under article 80 of the Statutes.

Article 24:

1) During the inter-season, clubs and players shall be entitled to a period of rest of at least 30 (thirty) consecutive days as from the last day of the Championship.

2) The inter-season shall be the period between the last match of one sports season and the first day of the next season.

3) Any breach of the obligations referred to in par. 1 above shall expose their authors to the disciplinary sanctions stipulated in article 80 of the Statutes.

Section IV – Structural amendments

Paragraph I – Change of name

Article 25 :

1) Any club wishing to change its name shall forward the following to the competent divisional, sub-divisional or district league:

- an application for change of name;
- the minutes of the General Assembly that decided the change.

2) The secretariat of the League concerned shall forward it to the General Secretariat for authorization of change of name by the Executive Committee.

3) The application for change of name shall be submitted before 1 November in order to come into effect at the start of the following season.

4) Silence on the part of the Federation for a period of 2 (two) months regarding an application for change of name shall be construed as tacit approval.

5) The Federation's rejection of an application for change of name must be substantiated.

Article 26 :

1) Any request by a club to an assumed or borrowed name shall be drafted in duplicate and addressed to the General Secretariat care of the League concerned which shall give its opinion within 15 (fifteen) days.

2) Such use without prior authorization shall be punished with one of the sanctions stipulated in article 80 of the Statutes.

Paragraph 2 – Change of headquarters

Article 27 :

1) Any change of headquarters shall be notified by registered mail to the FECAFOOT General Secretariat and the Minister in charge of sports within 15 (fifteen) days following such change.

2) A club's belonging to a district, sub-divisional or divisional league shall in no way be altered by a mere change of its headquarters.

3) However, a club may, by decision of the Executive Committee exclusively, be authorized to play its matches outside the territory of the divisional league to which it belongs.

Article 28 :

1) The merger between two or more clubs shall necessitate the prior dissolution of the merging associations and the creation of a new entity whose affiliation shall be decided by the Executive Committee.

2) A merger can be realized only:

- between two or more clubs coming from the same divisional League;
- between friendly clubs of the same division or of different divisions but playing in the same type of championship;
- during the inter-season.

3) The new club arising from the merger shall be free to choose its name if the merged clubs were playing in the same football division.

4) In case one of the clubs concerned by the merger is relegated to a lower football division at the end of the sports season, the new club shall not bear the name of the relegated club.

5) In case of merger of clubs from different football divisions, the new club arising therefrom cannot bear the name of the club in the lower division.

Article 29 :

1) Final approval of the merger by the Executive Committee shall be subject to the production before 1 December through the instrumentality of the league concerned of the following documents in duplicate on unstamped paper:

- the minutes of duly convened General Assemblies of the clubs that decided their dissolution ;
- the minutes of the duly convened constituent General Assembly of the new association;
- the constitution of the new association ;
- the composition of its steering committee (names and addresses). Members of the committee must have reached the age of majority.

2) In addition, the new club must conform to the provisions of article 13 of these regulations.

3) Clubs wishing to merge must have settled any possible liabilities towards the Federation.

4) The situation of players of the merged clubs shall be specified in article 77 of these regulations.

5) Under no circumstances shall the ulterior dissolution or simple disappearance of a club born of a merger lead to a fresh recognition of the clubs dissolved during the merger.

Paragraph 4 – Sponsorship, partnership, transfer of a club and transfer of shares.

Article 30 :

1) Any civil sports association may sign sponsorship or partnership contracts with a Cameroonian or foreign club, under conditions laid down by the laws and regulations in force in Cameroon.

2) Partnership or sponsorship shall be possible at local level only among clubs of different football divisions or specialized committees.

3) Such contract must, prior to performance, be transmitted within 15 (fifteen) days to the Secretary General of FECAFOOT for endorsement.

4) Application for endorsement shall be submitted by the Cameroonian club in case of partnership or sponsorship with a foreign club, and by the applicant club in case of partnership or sponsorship between Cameroon-based clubs.

5) If endorsement is denied, the contract shall automatically be null and void. If the Secretary General fails to make known his decision within 2 (two) months of receipt of the application, endorsement shall be deemed granted.

6) Any dispute arising from this contract shall be within the jurisdiction of the Court of Arbitration for Football in Cameroon. Arbitration costs shall be borne by the parties.

7) The transfer of a civil sports association shall be forbidden.

Article 31 :

1) Shareholders of companies with a sports object formed within clubs may transfer their shares to individuals or corporate entities of Cameroonian or foreign nationality, in accordance with the laws in force in Cameroon. The constitution providing for such modifications must be forwarded to the Secretary General of FECAFOOT for endorsement.

2) The procedure for obtaining endorsement and its effects shall be the same as provided for in par. 3, 4 and 5 of article 30 above.

Section V – Cessation of activity

Paragraph 1 – Non activity

Article 32 :

1) A non active club shall be a club not taking part in an official competition, or declared as such by the Federation on other grounds.

2) A club may also be authorized by the Federation to be in a position of partial non activity in one or more age categories.

3) The status of the free players of a non active club shall be specified in article 76 of these regulations.

Article 33 :

1) The non activity and resumption of activity of a club shall be decided by the Executive Committee or, where applicable, the Boards of the provincial leagues concerned and ratified by the Executive Committee.

2) Resumption of activity may take place only during the inter-season and in the division immediately lower.

Paragraph 2 – Expulsion

Article 34 :

1) A club which remains without any official activity for two consecutive seasons shall automatically be expelled.

2) Expulsion may also be decided on disciplinary grounds.

Article 35 :

1) An expelled club may only register anew with the Federation by submitting a new application for affiliation in the forms outlined in article 13 above.

2) Such re-registration shall be effective only after a period of one year following the date of expulsion.

Paragraph 3 – Resignation

Article 36 :

1) The resignation of a club shall be addressed to the Secretary General by registered mail, for onward transmission to the Executive Committee.

2) It shall be accepted only if the club has settled all outstanding sums owed the Federation and any entity having relations with or depending on it.

3) Members of the steering committees of clubs shall be personally liable to the Federation for any sums their clubs owe the Federation for whatever reason. Non payment shall be punishable as provided for in article 92(1) of the Disciplinary Code.

CHAPTER III: PLAYERS

Section I – Generalities

Article 37 : The licensed players of FECAFOOT shall be either amateurs or non amateurs.

Article 38 :

1) An amateur player shall be a person who plays football on a non-profit-making basis and seeks thereby to enhance or maintain his physical or moral fitness.

2) The amateur player shall be required to:

- refrain from using or have others use his name for publicity purposes where such use is linked to the practice of football.
- provide justification for expenditure or costs each time his club or the Federation refunds him any expenses he incurs during the practice of football.

Article 39 :

1) A non amateur player shall be a player who obtained this status either through registration of the contract binding him to his club or by decision of the Federation.

2) If the player breaches the contract, the parties shall refer to the terms thereof.

3) The status of the players referred to in par. 1 above shall be specified by a separate instrument.

4) The contract referred to in par. 1 above must, prior to execution, be transmitted to the Secretary General of FECAFOOT for endorsement.

5) Application for endorsement shall be submitted by the club. If endorsement is denied, the contract shall rightfully be null and void. If the Secretary General fails to respond within a period of 1 (one) month following receipt of the application, endorsement shall be deemed granted.

6) The player found guilty of wrongful breach of contract shall be liable to the sanctions stipulated in article 77 of the Disciplinary Code.

7) Any disputes arising from the contract shall fall under the jurisdiction of the player's status committee. The plaintiff shall be required to pay a deposit, the amount of which is fixed in the financial regulations.

Section II : - Obligations of players

Article 40 :

1) Any player recognized by FECAFOOT must be holder of a duly established licence bearing the date of the current year.

2) A licensed player shall not participate in a competition not approved by FECAFOOT; otherwise, the Executive Committee shall mete out any of the sanctions provided for in article 80 of the Statutes.

Article 41 : The player shall respond when summoned to the national selection; otherwise, he shall be sanctioned as provided for in article 73 of the Disciplinary Code.

PART II - LICENCE

Chapter I – Common provisions

Article 42 :

1) To participate in official activities organized by the Federation, any player, official, coach or referee must be holder of a duly established licence valid for the ongoing season.

2) This obligation shall concern *inter alia* any person on the substitutes' bench.

3) The Federation shall also issue licences to players' agents, pursuant to the prescriptions of FIFA.

Article 43 : The licence shall be annual. It must be renewed at the start of each sports season.

Article 44 : The different types of licences that may be issued are:

- "player's" licence ;
- "manager's" licence;
- "coach's" licence;
- "referee" licence;

- "player's agent's" licence.

Article 45 :

1) The issue of licences shall be within the competence of the Secretary General of the Federation.

2) However, the Secretary General of the Federation may delegate powers to provincial, divisional, sub-divisional or district leagues for the issuance of some types of licences.

Chapter II – Player's licence

Section I – Unicity of licence

Sub-section 1 - Principle

Article 46 :

1) A player cannot sign more than one "player's" licence during the same season, except for the cases provided for in Sub-section 2 below.

2) The player who infringes the above provision shall be punished in accordance with article 77 of the Disciplinary Code.

3) If the infringement is ascertained only during the next season, the unduly obtained licence shall be cancelled. The accused player shall be sanctioned as stipulated in article 77 of the Disciplinary Code.

Article 47 :

1) A player cannot sign more than one application for licence during the same season.

2) Any infringement of the provisions of par. 1 above shall be punished as provided for in article 77 of the Disciplinary Code.

Article 48.

1) A player cannot play football in a club not affiliated to the Federation.

2) In case of infringement, the situation of such a player shall be determined in accordance with the provisions of article 76 of the Disciplinary Code.

Paragraph 2: Exceptions

Article 49 : A player may obtain more than one licence during the same season in the following cases:

- a) transfer granted, pursuant to these General Regulations;
- b) where a corporate football licence and futsal licence are duly issued to a player of the senior or veteran category.

Article 50 : An official may be member of several clubs affiliated to the Federation, but he may play football only in one club, except in the cases outlined in article 49 above.

Section II – Grant of licence

Sub-section I - Conditions for grant of licence

Article 51 :

1) No player may be granted a FECAFOOT licence:

- a) if he is not of Cameroonian nationality;
- b) if he is not aged at least 12 (twelve) years;
- c) if he does not fulfil the condition of physical fitness required for the playing of football;
- d) if he has been sentenced to a final jail term for :
 - a felony or misdemeanour linked to probity, especially theft, forgery, influence peddling, swindling, fraud, misappropriation of public funds or breach of trust.
 - any offence for which he has been sentenced to imprisonment of at least 1 (one) year.

2) A foreign player may obtain a licence in the conditions laid down in articles 87 and 89 of these general regulations.

3) Without prejudice to criminal and civil action that may be taken, any player who fraudulently obtains a licence shall be punished under article 80 of the Statutes.

Paragraph 1 – Age categories

Article 52 :

1) Players eligible to a civil licence shall fall under five age groups as follows:

- under-15: from 12 to 14 years ;
- under-17 : from 15 to 16 years ;
- under-20 : from 17 to 19 years;
- seniors : from 20 years;
- veterans : from 35 years.

2) The ages mentioned above must correspond to the fully elapsed years.

Paragraph 2 - Nationality

Article 53 :

1) Any player born in Cameroon to foreign parents shall be subject to the rules of qualification applicable to Cameroonian players of the under-17 category.

2) Such a player shall be required to prove his nationality when he accedes to the under-20 category by producing a decree or certificate of nationality.

Article 54 : A foreign player who acquires the Cameroonian nationality may have his licence transformed into that of a Cameroonian player by proving his Cameroonian nationality through production of a decree or certificate of nationality.

Paragraph 3 - Medical check-up

Article 55 :

1) No player may play football without undergoing beforehand a medical check-up leading to the issuance of a medical certificate attesting to the non contra-indication of the practice of football, to be mentioned on the back of the licence.

2) The medical certificate shall be established after check-up by a medical doctor on the rolls of the National Order of Medical Doctors.

3) Medical check-up shall be annual.

4) Any change of licence form in mid-season shall require that the medical check-up be again mentioned on the back of the licence.

Article 56 :

1) The practice of football by a player wearing a surgical apparatus, whether visible or not, shall be subject to the production of a medical certificate issued by a medical doctor on the rolls of the National Order of Medical Doctors.

2) The lack of visual acuity shall be an absolute contra-indication to the practice of football.

Article 57 :

1) A player shall qualify to play football in his age category and possibly the one immediately higher only if, on the date of the match, he fulfils the conditions outlined in article 55 above.

2) The medical certificate must carry the following distinct indications:

- the name of the medical doctor;
- the date of the medical check-up;
- the handwritten signature of the medical doctor;
- the stamp that the medical doctor uses in the exercise of his profession.

3) In case any of the above-mentioned information on the medical certificate is contested, the Players' Status Committee shall decide.

4) Failure to mention the medical check-up on the back of the licence shall constitute grounds for disqualification of the player.

5) In case the player has an accident, the president of his club shall be responsible if no medical control formalities were performed.

6) For any subsequent modification of the medical certificate initially issued by the medical doctor, the licence must be sent to the Secretary General of FECAFOOT for endorsement.

Article 58 :

1) Players of the under-15, under-17 and under-20 categories may play in the age category immediately above their normal category, upon the express medical authorization featuring on the back of their licence. Their licence shall be marked: “*upgraded*”.

2) The medical authorization referred to in par. 1 above shall be subject to the prescriptions of article 57(2) above.

3) Infringement of the provisions of this article shall be punished as provided for under article 75 of the Disciplinary Code.

Sub-section II: Administrative formalities

Paragraph 6 – Composition of the file

Article 59 :

1) The licence file shall comprise:

- an application for licence signed by the player or the duly authorized manager of the relevant club;
- a medical certificate issued in accordance with articles 55 and 57(2) above;
- four passport size photographs;
- a receipt of payment of insurance premium and licence fees as stipulated in the financial regulations;
- a certified true copy of the birth certificate (for under-15, under-17 and under-20 players) or national identity card of the player;
- two copies of the contract binding the player to his club.

2) The player’s signature on the application for licence, followed by his fingerprint, must be legalized by the competent authorities.

3) The licence of a minor player shall be signed by his father, mother or legal guardian under conditions laid down in par. 2 above.

Article 60 :

1) The application for licence shall be drafted only on forms provided by the Federation.

2) Any forgery or imitation of the forms and stamps of the Federation shall be punished with one or more of the sanctions under article 72 of the Disciplinary Code and lead to cancellation of such licence.

Article 61 :

1) No aliases shall be allowed, except on the special authorization of the Executive Committee.

2) The Official Bulletin of the Federation shall publish the decision to adopt the alias.

Article 62 :

1) A serviceman in active service may apply for a licence in a club of his choice, upon presentation of an authorization of the Minister in charge of defence.

2) The references of the said authorization shall be written on the player's licence which shall be marked: "***Authorized to play in civil championship***".

3) Failing this authorization, the person concerned shall not be qualified.

Article 63 : The financial conditions for the issuance of licences to clubs are stated in the financial regulations. However, as a principle, the rates for licence of an upgraded player shall be those in force for the age categories to which he is upgraded.

Article 64 :

1) In case a club misplaces the licence of a player, a duplicate shall be issued to him by FECAFOOT.

2) The composition of the relevant file as well as the financial conditions shall be the same as for the issue of licence.

Paragraph 2 - Registration

Article 65 : The application file for licence shall be forwarded against receipt to the Secretary General of FECAFOOT for First Division clubs, and to the secretary of provincial leagues for clubs of the other divisions, by mail enclosure slip established in 3 (three) copies, one of which shall be returned to the club after being signed for.

Article 66 :

1) The secretary of the competent organ shall record received files in a register, initialed and numbered in order of arrival without distinguishing the clubs.

2) The registration date shall be the date of receipt of the application.

3) Any incomplete or unsigned file shall be returned to the club without date of registration.

4) In case of a breach, even an incomplete file shall be retained.

Paragraph 3 – Validation

Article 67 : Once the file is registered, the competent secretary shall forward it to the Secretary General of FECAFOOT.

Article 68 :

1) The Secretary General shall make out the licence in 4 (four) copies A, B, C, D and proceed with the matriculation of the player.

2) Matriculation shall consist of assigning a code number to all licences issued by FECAFOOT.

3) The code assigned to a player when he obtains his first licence shall be valid throughout his career. It cannot be changed even when he obtains a new licence under the conditions laid down in article 49 above, or when he accedes to the higher age categories.

Article 69 : After matriculation and signature by the Secretary General, the four copies of the licence shall be distributed as follows:

- 1 to the player's personal file;
- 1 to the General Secretariat ;
- 1 to the provincial League;
- 1 to the club.

Article 70 : If an offence is committed during application and validation procedures, the sanctions stipulated in article 72 of the Disciplinary Code shall be applied.

Paragraph 4 – Refusal, withdrawal and cancellation of licence

Article 71 :

1) A player under a criminal sentence as stipulated in article 51(1) above may not be issued a licence. The licence shall be withdrawn if it is still valid.

2) The Secretary General may refuse to issue a licence or may withdraw same even if the player is not under a criminal sentence.

Section III – Qualification of players

Article 72 : The qualification of a player shall be the result of compliance with a set of rules authorizing him to take part in official competitions.

Article 73 : The possession of a valid licence shall not imply qualification if an application were not filed in accordance with the regulations.

Article 74 :

1) A new player recruited by a club shall be qualified for his club once his licence is matriculated by FECAFOOT.

2) However, a player having already benefited from matriculation shall be qualified for his club once his licence is signed by FECAFOOT.

Section IV – Transfers of players

Sub-section I: National transfers

Paragraph 1 – Resignation

Article 75 :

1) Any player wishing to change club must resign from the club to which he was licensed, provided he is under contract with that club.

2) Resignation shall be construed as breach of contract by the player. The situation of the parties shall then be settled pursuant to the terms of the contract.

3) Resignation shall be submitted on a printed form filled entirely in two copies and signed by the player. The resignation must be substantiated.

4) The form shall be provided by the Federation.

5) The two copies of the resignation form must be dispatched by registered mail, the one to the club resigned from and the other to the Federation.

6) The club resigned from may object to the resignation within 15 (fifteen) days of receipt thereof. This objection must be substantiated.

7) In case of this club's objection, the situation of the player shall be settled by the Player's Status Committee.

Paragraph 2: Players from dissolved, expelled or non active clubs

Article 76 :

1) A player may apply for licence to any new club of his choice if he belongs to:

- a dissolved club ;
- an expelled club;
- a club in total non activity;
- a club in partial non activity, ascertained at the start or in course of the season in the player's age category.

2) The player must resign from the club in partial non activity, but shall not be obliged to do so if the club is in total non activity.

3) The non activity of the women's wing of a non active club shall, for the players, be considered as total non activity.

4) A player from a club in partial non activity can only play in a competition of his age category, for the season considered.

Paragraph 3 - Players of clubs having merged

Article 77 : Players of clubs having merged may be qualified to play in the new club born of such merger, except in case of transfer as provided for in these regulations.

Paragraph 4 – Free player

Article 78 :

1) A player having no qualification during the preceding season shall be considered as a free player and may apply for licence in a club of his choice.

2) The player who declares himself free must produce an affidavit on a FECAFOOT form, signed and legalized by a competent authority, by which he declares that he does not belong to any club.

3) Any false representation shall be punished as provided for in article 72 of the Disciplinary Code.

Article 79 : The player of a club whose name does not feature on the list of players deposited at FECAFOOT by his former club, shall be considered as free one month after the start of the competition, notwithstanding any contrary contractual provision.

Paragraph 5 - Liberated player

Article 80 :

1) The player who had a qualification during the previous season and holds an attestation of liberation from his former club may apply for licence in a club of his choice.

2) The attestation of liberation issued by the club shall be signed by a licensed and authorized club official.

Article 81 :

1) Any player liberated by his club may request a new licence in another club of his choice during the transfer periods mentioned in these regulations.

2) The transfer periods referred to above are as follows:

- from the end of the sports season to the 30th day following the start of the championship considered,
- in mid-season, from the end of the first phase of the championship considered to the 15th day following the start of the second phase.

Article 82 : Any club having liberated a player in mid-season must forward to the Secretary General of FECAFOOT, a copy of the liberation document as well as the licence of the player concerned within 72 hours, by any traceable means; otherwise, the sanctions provided for in article 80 of the Statutes shall be applied.

Paragraph 6 - Loan of players

Article 83 :

1) During the transfer periods, any player can be loaned only once to only one club for the ongoing sports season. Any violation of this provision by the implicated club shall be punished as provided for in article 80 of the Statutes.

2) The loan shall not suspend the contract. During the loan period, the player shall continue to belong to the lending club.

3) The loan shall be renewable once by express agreement of the parties.

4) The licence issued the loaned player shall be marked: "**Loan**".

5) The number of players loaned or borrowed may not exceed 5 (five) per club during the same sports season.

Paragraph 7 – Transfer of young players

Article 84 :

1) Players of the under-15 and under-17 categories may be transferred under the following conditions:

- change of family residence;
- reasons extraneous to football.

2) In all cases, the provisions of this article shall be applicable to these players only once during the same sports season.

Paragraph 8 - Upgrading of young players

Article 85 :

1) Under-15, under-17 and under-20 players may be upgraded to the age category immediately above theirs. Their licences must be labelled: “**UPGRADED**”.

2) An upgrading fee equivalent to the cost of licence of the higher category shall be paid for the issue of an upgraded player’s licence.

Paragraph 9 – Objection to transfer

Article 86 :

1) In case it objects to a transfer, the club quitted shall notify its objection by registered mail simultaneously to the player and the relevant League within 10 (ten) days of receipt of the resignation.

2) The objection shall indicate the reasons thereof and bear the stamp of the club and signature of the president or secretary.

3) The club quitted shall forward its objection to FECAFOOT along with the receipt of the registered mail notifying the player of its objections accompanied by the right of objection.

4) If the player or club failed to respect contractual clauses, FECAFOOT shall take precautionary measures.

Sub-section II – International transfers

Article 87 :

1) Pursuant to FIFA regulations, a player coming from abroad and quitting a national association affiliated to FIFA, may apply for licence in a Cameroonian club of his choice.

2) The player shall sign an application for licence on which he shall indicate his nationality.

3) The player concerned shall submit his application for licence along with documents proving his identity (official document or certified true copy). If the player is a minor, he shall also attach a parental authorization.

4) Before the issue of the licence, the interested club shall request the Federation to demand a transfer certificate from the foreign national association. The file processing charges, laid down in the financial regulations, shall be borne by the requesting club.

5) Upon receipt of this certificate, the Federation shall issue the licence. It shall be marked: “**FOREIGN**”.

6) The player concerned shall be qualified pursuant to the provisions of article 74 above.

7) A club having used a player from abroad without the Federation issuing the player a licence, shall have a match lost if a protest is filed pursuant to article 123 below. In all cases, the club shall be sanctioned as stipulated in article 80 of the Disciplinary Code.

8) Certificate of transfer shall not be issued to players aged below 18 years.

Article 88 :

1) If transfer certificate is not issued, because the foreign Federation did not reply within the time limit stipulated by FIFA, FECAFOOT may issue a licence under the conditions mentioned in these regulations.

2) If a reply is received in the meantime and a valid reason given for the refusal to issue certificate of transfer, the licence shall be cancelled forthwith.

Article 89 :

1) A club may not recruit more than 5 (five) foreign players.

2) Players who are nationals of CEMAC countries shall not be considered as foreign players.

3) The number of players referred to in par. 1 above shall not be limited during the same match.

Article 90: Any player in a Cameroonian club and wishing to play in a foreign club must obtain the exit authorization of FECAFOOT, after the opinion of the club quitted.

Article 91 : The use of agents or intermediaries for the transfer of players shall be regulated by FIFA.

Sub-section III – Transfer fees

Paragraph 1 – Fee for national transfer

Article 92 :

1) In case of transfer of a player between two clubs affiliated to FECAFOOT, the club quitted shall receive from the new club a fee agreed on by the parties, upon approval of the contract by FECAFOOT.

2) Any dispute regarding the payment of this fee shall be referred to the Court of Arbitration for Football in Cameroon. Arbitration fees shall be borne by the parties. They shall be fixed by this court.

Paragraph 2 – Fee for international transfer

Article 93 :

1) When a player from a Cameroonian club signs a contract with a foreign professional club, a training compensation shall be paid.

2) This compensation shall be distributed among the club(s) providing such training.

Article 94 :

1) A training club shall be a club under contract to train a player who is the subject of an international transfer or holder of a licence issued by FECAFOOT.

2) The recognized period of training shall be 12 (twelve) months.

3) The minimum age required to sign a training contract shall be 12 (twelve) years.

4) The contract or licence of a minor player shall be signed by the responsible parent or legal guardian. This signature, followed by his fingerprint, must be legalized by a competent authority.

Article 95 : The training fee to be split between the last club resigned from and the training club(s) shall be distributed in accordance with FIFA regulations.

Article 96 :

1) The last club quitted shall be bound to declare the amount of the transfer to the FECAFOOT General Secretariat.

2) In case of non declaration or false representation, the defaulting club shall, beside application of the sanctions stipulated in article 80 of the Statutes, be punished with the following:

- a fine equivalent to 50% of the undeclared amount;
- a ban from conducting international transfers for a period of 2 (two) years, beginning from the date of publication of the decision meting out the sanction in the Official Bulletin of the Federation;
- the withdrawal of official's licence from the author of the false representation for a period of 2 (two) years, without prejudice to the sanctions stipulated in article 80 of the Statutes and the opening of criminal proceedings against him.

Chapter III: Licences of managers, referees and coaches

Section I: Manager's licence

Article 97 :

1) To actually assume the functions of club manager, the members of steering committees of clubs must be holders of a licence duly established by the Secretary General of FECAFOOT and bearing the date of the ongoing year.

2) The licence of club manager shall be annual and must be validated anew each year at the rate fixed in the financial regulations.

Article 98 :

1) At the start of the season, each club shall apply for at least 5 (five) and at most 10 (ten) manager's licences for its steering committee. Any refusal to issue a manager's licence to a member of a club shall be substantiated. This decision may be appealed before the Executive Committee.

2) Clubs must declare to FECAFOOT their licensed members who shall be authorized to correspond with the Federation and to sign documents on behalf of the club.

Article 99:

1) In case a manager, holder of a licence, commits a serious fault that is duly ascertained, his licence may be withdrawn by the Secretary General after the final decision of the competent judicial bodies.

2) A manager on whom a criminal sentence is passed as mentioned in article 51(1) above may be refused the grant of a licence. If his licence is still valid, it may be withdrawn by the Secretary General.

3) The Secretary General may refuse to issue licence to a manager or may withdraw same in case of commission of one of the offences stated in article 51(1)d, even if no criminal sanctions have been passed for these offences.

Section II: Licence of referees and coaches

Article 100 :

1) At the start of the season, the Federation shall draw up a list of authorized referees and coaches for the season. A licence shall be issued to each of them. This licence shall be annual.

2) The issue of a referee's or coach's licence shall be subject to payment of licence fee at the rate specified in the financial regulations.

3) A referee or coach punished with one of the sanctioned stipulated in article 51(1)-d above may be refused the issue of a licence. If his licence is still valid, it may be withdrawn by the Secretary General.

4) The Secretary General may refuse to issue licence to a referee or coach or may withdraw same if one of the offences referred to in article 51(1)-d is committed, even if sanctions have not been applied for such offences.

5) In case of serious fault duly ascertained, the licence may be withdrawn from the referee or coach by the Secretary General.

6) Separate instruments shall specify modalities for the recruitment and training of referees and coaches.

Article 101 :

1) A referee may be member of a club, provided he declares to FECAFOOT the club to which he belongs. He may not under any circumstance referee matches whose final results could be of interest or advantage to his club.

2) A referee may not obtain a player's licence in a club affiliated to FECAFOOT.

Chapter IV: Licence of FIFA player's agent

Single section: Licence of player's agent

Article 102 :

1) FECAFOOT may issue a players' agent licence to any person of Cameroonian or foreign nationality under conditions prescribed by FIFA.

2) Such licence must be used in strict compliance with FIFA regulations in force.

PART III – COMPETITONS

Chapter I – Common provisions

Article 103 : An official match shall be a match of a competition organized by FECAFOOT or the various leagues. Only affiliated clubs may take part in an official match.

Article 104 : To participate in a competition organized by the Federation, a club must be affiliated to a FECAFOOT championship.

Article 105 : When enforcement of the provisions of an article of these regulations requires that the date of a match be considered, such a date shall be the real date of the match and not that featuring on the fixtures, if these dates are different.

Article 106 : The laws of the game fixed by the International Board shall be in force.

Article 107 : It shall be forbidden for clubs to play matches organized by individuals or corporate entities without the prior authorization of FECAFOOT; otherwise, the sanctions stipulated in article 80 of the Statutes shall be applied.

Article 108 :

1) It shall be forbidden for a licensed person, during or in view of participation in sports competitions, to use substances or processes which can artificially modify his capacities or mask the use of substances or processes having that property, the list of which is determined by joint order of the Ministers in charge of sports and public health.

2) Without prejudice to the principle of free prescription for therapeutic purposes, it shall be forbidden under the same conditions, to administer the substances specified in par. 1 above or to prompt and facilitate their use.

3) All licensed person shall be required to conform to the anti-doping regulations stipulated in the FECAFOOT Disciplinary Code.

4) The procedure shall be the one defined in the said Code.

Article 109 : In the appraisal of facts pertaining to discipline, the declarations of a referee or match Commissioner shall be considered authoritative until proven otherwise.

Chapter II – Organisation of national competitions

Section I – Types of competitions

Article 110 : FECAFOOT shall organize the following competitions:

- championships ;
- cups.

Article 111 :

1) FECAFOOT reserves the right to organize other types of competitions, as and when necessary.

2) The rules of organization of such competitions shall be specified by separate instruments.

Section II – Conduct of matches

Sub-section I – General conditions

Paragraph 1: Pitches

Article 112:

1) Regulations governing pitches shall spell out standards to be observed for facilities at each level of competition.

2) Each competent body of FECAFOOT shall approve pitches before the start of the sports season.

Article 113 :

1) The time and venue of matches shall be fixed by the competent body of FECAFOOT.

2) Arrival in the stadium shall be as follows:

- for clubs, one hour before the start of the encounter;
- for referees, one hour fifteen minutes before the start of the encounter;
- for the match commissioner, one hour thirty minutes before the start of the encounter.

Paragraph 3 – Law and order service

Article 114 :

1) The law and order service shall comprise the forces of law and order, and possibly vigils and scouts.

2) Access to the stadium must be denied to any person in possession of objects likely to be used as projectiles. Similarly, the use of pyrotechnical items such as crackers, rockets or fireworks must be formally forbidden.

3) The sale of drinks and other products in the stadium shall be authorized only in cartons or plastic packaging.

4) Assuming that home clubs are responsible for law enforcement and order on the field of play, they shall be answerable for any possible disorder occurring during or after the match that can be attributed to the attitude of spectators, players and managers or to inadequate organization. They shall then be liable to one or more of the sanctions stipulated in article 89 of the Disciplinary Code.

Paragraph 4 – Match Officials

Article 115 :

1) Referees and match commissioners shall be considered as match officials.

2) Referees shall be managed by the Central Referees Committee.

Article 116 :

1) Match commissioners shall be designated by the Secretary General of FECAFOOT or, by delegation, the secretary of the league concerned by the match.

2) The match commissioner shall especially be charged with:

- ensuring that there are dressing rooms for players and match officials, or any facility serving that purpose;
- ensuring the punctuality of teams and referees in the stadium;
- facilitating relations between the referee and organizers, seeing to it that match benefits are paid at the start of the match or at half-time;
- ensuring discipline throughout the match. To that end:

a) at the request of the referee and in case of his inability, the commissioner shall call in the law and order service or have expelled from the field of play any coach or club manager whose behaviour might jeopardize the proper conduct of the match.

b) Where there is no referee, the match commissioner shall call in any other FECAFOOT referee found on the pitch, upon the agreement of the two clubs.

c) In the absence of the referee, the commissioner shall ensure that the match is refereed by the first assistant referee and shall designate the second assistant.

d) In the absence of the officially designated referees, he shall designate the referees in consultation with the teams.

e) In case of a technical fault, the affected captain shall bring this to the attention of the referee and match commissioner at the first stoppage of play, following the fault. Thus informed, the referee and match commissioner shall mention it on the match form at half time or at the end of the match, and have the assistant referees co-sign the form. The commissioner shall assess and score the performance of the referee and assistant referees.

3) The commissioner must have perfect knowledge of the laws of the game and the regulations of FECAFOOT.

4) At the end of the match, the commissioner shall draft a report in duplicate which shall be forwarded within 48 hours (the post office stamp is considered authoritative) in a sealed envelope to the competent secretary.

5) In the absence of the match commissioner, the referee shall act in that capacity and mention it in his report. If the commissioner is late, he shall forfeit his rights and functions for the said match, but shall receive transport and accommodation allowance.

Paragraph 5 – Official documents

Article 117 :

1) Official documents considered authentic during football matches, are:

- the match form ;
- the report of the referee;
- the report of the fourth referee;

- the report of the match commissioner;
- the disciplinary form of players;
- the receipt attesting to the withholding of licence.

2) Any cancellations thereon must be endorsed by the author's signature. A document with unendorsed cancellations shall however be taken into account, but responsibility for such a document shall be punishable under article 102 of the Disciplinary Code.

3) The reports of referees and match commissioners must be forwarded in a sealed envelope to the competent secretary within 48 hours of the match by any fast means; otherwise, the sanction provided for in article 101 of the Disciplinary Code shall be applied.

Paragraph 6 – Sports wear of players

Article 118 :

1) Players in a match must be decently dressed in jerseys in the colours of the club. These colours must be declared and communicated by FECAFOOT before the start of the season.

2) The home club shall play in its traditional colours declared at the start of the season. Where the traditional colours of the contesting clubs are identical or confusing, the visiting club shall change its jerseys.

3) On a neutral pitch, in case of confusion, lots shall be cast to determine the club that should change its jersey.

4) If the Federation contracted with an industrial or trading company, clubs shall be bound to have their players wear the jerseys and possibly tracksuits and shorts provided by the Federation or bearing the label of such company, as per the terms of the contract.

5) Any violation of the prescriptions of paragraph 4 above shall, at the behest of the Homologation and Disciplinary Committee, be punished with loss of proceeds of the match or with one of the sanctions provided for in article 80 of the Statutes.

Sub-section II – Pre-match formalities

Paragraph 1 – Match form

Article 119 :

1) During any official or friendly encounter, a match form shall be established as per the rules of the competition in the case of an official match, and under the responsibility of the organizer in the case of a friendly match.

2) Except otherwise provided for in regulations governing competitions and formally approved by the Federation, a maximum of 18 (eighteen) players may feature on the match form.

3) The match form must be filled in its entirety and signed by the captains and the referee.

4) Any captain who refuses to counter-sign any information on the match form shall be suspended for one match.

Article 120 : Substitutes shall obligatorily be chosen from among players featuring on the match form. They must be indicated as such before kick-off.

Article 121 : Any match organized by FECAFOOT shall be played by two teams each composed of a maximum of 11 (eleven) players, one of whom shall be the goalkeeper. No match can take place if any of the teams does not have at least 8 (eight) players.

Paragraph 2 - Verification of licences

Article 122:

1) Referees shall demand that licences be presented before each match and shall verify the identity of players. If a player fails to show his licence, the referee must ask for an identification paper carrying his photograph.

2) If this is an official document, its references shall be noted on the match form.

3) If it is a non official document, the referee must withhold it if the opposing club files a protest within 24 hours to the body responsible for the competition which shall check whether the photograph corresponds to the one affixed to the player's licence, as well as his right to play the match.

4) If the player fails to present any of these documents or refuses to let go of the non official identification paper, the referee must forbid his featuring on the match form and participation in the match.

5) Where the opposing team files preliminary protest regarding the participation of the player referred to in par. 4 above, and where the referee nonetheless allows such a player to play the match, the club of this player shall lose the match by sanction if such protest was duly transformed into a claim.

Paragraph 3 – Protest on grounds of qualification

Article 123 :

1) For a claim about the qualification and/or participation of players to be processed, it must be preceded by nominal protest filed in writing on the match form prior to the match.

2) Protest shall be filed by the captain or a representative of the club, but must be signed by the plaintiff captain in the case of senior matches and by the responsible official in the case of the under-15, under-17 and under-20 categories.

3) Protest shall be communicated to the captain of the opposing team by the referee who shall counter-sign it with him. For matches of the youth category, protests shall be counter-signed by the official in charge and not the captain.

4) When protest is filed regarding the participation of all the players constituting a team featuring on the match form, such protest may concern the "whole team" without mentioning names.

5) Protests must be substantiated, that is, mention the precise grievances against the opponent, because the mere quoting of articles of the regulations will not constitute sufficient grounds. The club concerned shall lose the match by sanction if the claim is deemed admissible and founded.

6) Any club subject to the provisos for non presentation of licence shall produce, within 72 hours, the original of the licence(s) concerned before the competent judicial organ at its request. If it fails to do so within the set time period, the club concerned shall lose the match by sanction if the claim is deemed admissible.

7) If a player presents a licence for which the procedure stipulated in these regulations was not respected in whole or in part and if protest was filed thereon, the referee shall seize the licence and immediately forward it to the body managing the competition in order to facilitate the study of the claim.

Sub-section III – Formalities during match

Paragraph 1: Substitution of players

Article 124:

- 1) Substitution can be for only 3 (three) players.
- 2) However, the regulations of specialized championships may permit teams involved therein to substitute more than 3 (three) players.
- 3) Substitution of a player can take place only during stoppage of play and after the agreement of the referee.

Paragraph 2 – Protest regarding the fielding of a player

Article 125:

- 1) If a player not featuring on the match form is fielded during a match, verbal protest on his qualification or participation may be filed immediately to the referee who shall call the captain of the opposite team and one of the assistant referees to take cognizance of the fact. The protest must be substantiated as stated in article 123(5), except in the case of a player who fails to present a licence.
- 2) Such protest shall then be noted on the match form at half-time or after the match by the plaintiff captain. The referee shall apprise the opposite team's captain of the protest and shall counter-sign with him.
- 3) For matches of the youth categories, protests shall be signed by the managers in charge.
- 4) The team shall lose the match by sanction if the claim is deemed admissible and founded.

Paragraph 3 – Protests on technical grounds

Article 126 :

- 1) To be valid, protests concerning technical questions must:
 - a. be filed by the captain to the referee at the first stoppage of play, if it is a fact on which the referee did not intervene;
 - b. indicate the nature of facts and the decision contested.
- 2) In all cases, the referee shall call the captain of the opposite team and one of the assistant referees to take cognizance thereof.

3) At the end of the match, the referee shall note the protest on the match form and have it countersigned by the plaintiff captain, the captain of the opposite team and the assistant referee concerned.

4) For matches of the youth categories, protests shall be signed not by the captains but by the managers in charge.

5) If technical fault is established, the match may only be replayed if:

- the fault is directly linked to a goal scored ;
- the fault had a decisive impact on the outcome of the match.

Sub-section IV – Participation in matches

Paragraph 1 – Principle

Article 127: A player participating in a match shall be a player who is actually part of the game at any moment of the match.

Article 128: Players featuring on the match form must fulfil the conditions of participation and qualification laid down in these regulations.

Paragraph 2 – Individual restrictions

I - Suspension

Article 129 :

1) For the entire Federation, a suspended player shall not play any official match. The same shall apply to friendly matches if the suspension is for a period of at least 6 (six) months.

2) Furthermore, any suspended player, coach, manager or referee may not be admitted to any official function nor be present on the substitutes' bench or the area immediately surrounding the field of play.

II - Participation in a team of a lower age category

Article 130 :

1) Under no circumstance shall a player play a match of an age category lower than his own.

2) Any player who forges his age shall be liable to the sanction stipulated in article 72 of the Disciplinary Code.

Paragraph 3 – Collective restrictions

I - Number of trainers

Article 131 :

1) The number of trainers allowed on the substitutes' bench shall be 5 (five) per team.

2) The under-mentioned persons shall be considered as trainers:

- coaches ;

- licensed club managers whose names are communicated to the match commissioner by the coach of the club;
- medical doctors or assistants.

3) The trainers referred to in par. 2 above shall be holders a licence issued by FECAFOOT.

II - Minimum number of players

Article 132 :

1) A football match of 11 (eleven) players per team cannot start or be played if at least 8 (eight) players do not participate.

2) A team that enters the field of play to start a match with less than 8 (eight) players shall be declared forfeiture.

3) If a team is reduced to less than 8 (eight) players during a match, it shall be declared defeated through sanction.

4) Regarding football competitions of 7 (seven) players on either team, a match cannot start or be played if at least 6 (six) players do not participate. For football competitions of 9 (nine) players, this number shall be 7 (seven).

5) Where the number of players is insufficient or the two teams are absent at the time scheduled by the official structure for the start of the match, such insufficiency or absence shall be ascertained by the referee 15 (fifteen) minutes after the time scheduled for the commencement of the match. The conditions under which absence is ascertained shall be mentioned by the referee on the match form. The club(s) in question shall be declared forfeiture.

6) As concerns futsal competitions, a match cannot start or be played if at least 3 (three) players do not participate.

Paragraph 4 – Protest fees

Article 133 : Protest fees are fixed in the financial regulations.

Paragraph 5 – Sanctions

Article 134:

1) A club that violates any of the provisions of articles 129 to 132 shall, regardless of whether it has been sanctioned under article 137, lose one match if protest was filed pursuant to articles 123 and 125 above and duly transformed into a claim.

2) Protest shall not be necessary if the offence is the inclusion of a suspended player on the match form.

Paragraph 6 – Homologation of matches

Article 135:

1) Homologation of matches shall be decided by the Homologation and Disciplinary Committee in the case of division one matches or by provincial, divisional, sub-divisional and district homologation and disciplinary committees in the case of matches of a lower division.

2) All matches must be homologated within 15 (fifteen) days of play; otherwise, the Executive Committee shall punish the members of the committees as provided for in article 80 of the Statutes.

Paragraph 7 – Rating and classification

Article 136 : Matches shall be rated as follows:

- match won: 3 points
- match drawn : 1 point
- match lost: 0 point
- match won (forfeiture): 3 points, 3 goals for, 0 goal against
- match lost (forfeiture): 0 point, 0 goal for, 3 goals against

Article 137 : When a club loses a match through sanction, the following provisions shall be applied:

1) If a club wins on the field and is declared winner by sanction, it shall have 3 points and maintain the advantage of the goals scored while the penalized club shall have 0 point, 0 goal for and the number of goals conceded against.

2) If a club loses on the field and wins by sanction, it shall have 3 points, 0 goal for and 0 goal against whereas the penalized club shall have 0 point, 0 goal scored and 0 goal conceded.

3) If there is a draw, the team that wins by sanction shall have 3 points and maintain the advantage of any goals scored, whereas the penalized team shall have 0 point, 0 goal for and any goals conceded, against.

4) If the sanction is pursuant to article 129 of these general regulations, the following provisions shall be applied:

- a) If a team wins on the field and is declared winner by sanction, it shall maintain the result acquired on the field.
- b) If a team loses on the field and is declared winner by sanction, it shall have 3 points, 0 goal for and any goals conceded, against.
- c) If a team loses on the field and is declared winner, it shall lose 3 points on the general classification, have 0 goal for and the number of goals conceded against.
- d) In case of a draw, the team declared winner by sanction shall earn 3 points and maintain the advantage of any goals scored while the team declared loser by sanction shall lose the match, have no goal for and the goals conceded against.
- e) If a team wins on the field and is declared loser by sanction, it shall lose the match, have 0 point and the number of goals conceded against.

Article 138 :

1). In case two clubs stand at equal points, the classification shall take into account their particular goal difference.

The particular goal difference shall represent the results obtained by each of the clubs concerned during matches pitting them during the competition.

2). In case of equality in particular goal difference, the classification shall take into account the best attack resulting from matches pitting the two clubs.

3). If the equality persists, the classification shall take into account the best defence resulting from matches pitting the two clubs.

4) If the equality still persists, a play-off shall be organized pursuant to the regulations in force, with possibility of extra time and penalty shoot-out.

Article 139 : In case more than two clubs have equal points at the end of a competition, the tie of the clubs concerned shall be resolved as follows:

- 1) A special classification shall be established taking into account only the first and second phase matches pitting the clubs in the case of the Championship, or simply the home matches in the case of play-offs.
- 2) If equality persists, account will be taken of the best attack resulting from the particular classification mentioned in paragraph 1 above.
- 3) If the equality still persists, then account shall be taken of the best defence resulting from the special classification mentioned in paragraph 1 above.
- 4) If none of the above criteria succeeds in differentiating them, a play-off shall be organized between the teams concerned; each play-off match must necessarily designate a winner. Extra time will be played in case of a draw at the end of full time, followed possibly by penalty shoot-outs. At the end of the play-off, a classification shall be established based on the number of points obtained.

Chapter III – Separate provisions governing international matches

Section I – Matches of national teams and teams ranked as such

Sub-section I – Generalities

Article 140: An international match shall be a match recognized by FIFA and played between two national federations. The Cameroon Football Federation shall be the sole body qualified to conclude matches with the member federations of FIFA.

Article 141: The Federation may, on the day of an international match, forbid all encounters within the geographical area of the match venue or throughout the national territory.

Article 142 : Any player of Cameroonian nationality can be part of the Cameroon National Team or a national selection.

Sub-section II – Players of national teams or teams ranked as such

Article 143 :

1) Any player selected for a training session, preparatory match, selection match or an international encounter shall be at the disposal of the Federation. .

2) He shall be bound to respond whenever convened through the intermediary of his club and observe directives given him.

3) If he is sick or unavoidably absent, he must, the moment he is unable to respond when convened, notify the national coach of the relevant selection either in person or through the intermediary of his club. If the national coach deems it necessary, he shall alert the national team doctor and direct him to use all means to ensure the good health of the player and to report to him about it.

4) Failing this procedure or where the convening is maintained, the player shall automatically be suspended for the first official match of his club following the date of the convening, without prejudice to application of the sanctions stated in article 73 of the Disciplinary Code.

5) If his absence is caused by other reasons, he shall be punished with suspension from at least two matches, without prejudice to the imposition of the sanctions stated in article 73 of the Disciplinary Code.

6) The sanctions mentioned in par. 4) and 5) above shall be decided by the Homologation and Disciplinary Committee.

Article 144: A separate instrument shall specify the rights and obligations of players of national teams.

Section II – Friendly matches between clubs

Article 145 :

1) Matches between clubs of different nationalities may only take place with the consent of the two national federations concerned, pursuant to FIFA regulations.

2) For teams involved in a national Championship, the application for authorization, indicating the foreign club(s) concerned, must reach the General Secretariat of the Federation at least 15 (fifteen) days before the date fixed for the match.

3) For the other teams, they shall submit their application in duplicate to the FECAFOOT General Secretariat through the intermediary of the league to which they belong

4) The authorizations referred to in par. 2 and 3 above shall be issued by the Secretary General of FECAFOOT.

Article 146 :

1) The applications referred to in article 145 above shall be submitted along with a fee stipulated in the financial regulations, made to the order of the Secretary General.

2) This fee shall be unique, be it for a single match with one foreign team or a tournament in which any number of foreign teams participate.

Article 147 : The club which plays a match against a foreign team without authorization or fails to apply in time for the necessary authorization, and possibly the League to which the fault may be attributed, shall be punished as provided for in article 82 of the Disciplinary Code.

Article 148:

1) Any club playing a friendly match with a foreign team may use the licensed players of another club with the written consent of the latter.

2) This consent shall be appended to the application for authorization referred to in article 145 above. Otherwise, the defaulting club and player(s) shall be punished under article 81 of the Disciplinary Code.

Article 149:

1) The Secretary General may, exceptionally, authorize clubs belonging to a recognized association to conclude an international match when they plan to meet similar clubs abroad.

2) Such authorization shall rightfully be granted for matches between Cameroonian military and university teams, but in this case, these matches can only take place with the consent of the foreign federations concerned.

PART IV - PROCEDURES AND SANCTIONS

Chapter I – Procedures

Section I – Generalities

Article 150 :

1) When a disciplinary body, sitting in the first instance, is made to summon one or more persons, the corresponding transport costs shall be borne by the club whose responsibility is recognized by the said organ.

2) On appeal, the transport cost of the appealing party and his representatives shall still be borne by him. However, all costs incurred in order to hear other persons summoned by the appeal organ shall be borne by the appellant, if the decision does not favour him on all counts.

3) In disciplinary matters, the provisions of the Internal Rules and Regulations of FECAFOOT shall be applied.

Article 151 : The summons shall indicate the names of the accused persons concerned and mention the object of the dispute or accusation.

Article 152 : Managers representing their clubs may be assisted by any person of their choice.

Article 153 : Provincial, divisional, sub-divisional and district leagues must make all statutory arrangements to ensure that at the end of the season, no disputes pertaining to ended competitions are still open in the first instance after the 30th of November.

Section II – Claims

Sub-section I – Principle

Article 154:

1) Protests shall be transformed into written claims within 48 (forty-eight) working hours following the match and forwarded by registered mail to the organizing body of the competition along with a confirmation fee stipulated in the financial regulations.

2) The non respect of formalities governing the filing of protests and the transformation of same into written claims shall make such claims inadmissible.

3) The bodies responsible for the homologation of matches shall, for technical questions, have authority to order the homologation of results or a match replay, in accordance with article 126(5) above.

Sub-section II - Exceptions

Article 155:

1) Apart from nominal and substantiated protests transformed into claims, the competent judicial body may also rightfully look into the following issues prior to the homologation of a match:

- fraud on the identity of a player;
- falsification connected with the obtaining or use of licences;
- inclusion of a suspended player on the match form.

2) In the above-mentioned cases, the sanction shall be loss of the match, without prejudice to the application of the sanctions stipulated in article 80 of the Statutes.

Section III – Appeals

Sub-section I – General provisions

Article 156: The procedure for appeal shall be that outlined in the Disciplinary Code of FECAFOOT.

Article 157 :

1) Appeal shall mean for the parties, that the appealed decision is challenged in its entirety. Consequently, the appeal bodies shall have the option of either upholding, revising where necessary or aggravating decisions referred to them.

2) The ultimate decision shall not have retrospective effect on the parties.

Sub-section II – Appeal against decisions of provincial, divisional and sub-divisional leagues

Article 158:

1) Appeal against a decision of a provincial, divisional, sub-divisional or district league shall be forwarded by registered mail to the Secretary General of the Federation within 10 (ten) days of the date of notification of the contested decision, along with the receipt of dispatch by registered mail of a copy of the complete appeal file to the relevant league and the opposite party. Photocopies of these receipts shall be accepted, but appellant must be able to produce the originals.

2) The appeal fee stipulated in the financial regulations shall be paid by the appellant club.

3) Non respect of these formalities shall lead to the rejection of the appeal.

4) Thus informed, the league in question shall, within 8 (eight) days of receipt of the duplicate of the appeal file, forward by registered mail to the Secretary General of FECAFOOT two copies of the complete dispute file; otherwise, any of the sanctions mentioned in article 80 of the Statutes shall be meted against its President and secretary. Failing that, the Secretary General shall

validly open investigation and the Executive Committee decide after summoning and hearing the parties.

5) Appeal against decisions of a disciplinary nature shall follow a separate procedure stipulated in the Disciplinary Code of FECAFOOT.

Chapter II – Sanctions

Section I – Generalities

Article 159 : The sanctions which the Executive Committee, judicial bodies, homologation and disciplinary committees of specialized leagues, and provincial, divisional and sub-divisional leagues may mete out during disputes brought before them or for any offence of whatever nature against league officials, coaches, referees, club managers, clubs or grouping of clubs shall be those stipulated in article 80 of the FECAFOOT Statutes, apart from those specified in these articles or those featuring in different statutes.

Article 160 : The table of minimum sanctions for unsporting behaviour during a match is found in the appendix of the Disciplinary Code.

PART V: MISCELLANEOUS, TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 161 :

1) Licences of players other than those playing in the Division One Championship shall remain biennial for a period to be determined by the Executive Committee.

2) The biennial nature of the licence implies that players shall sign an application for licence for the same club only once in 2 (two) years. However, the club shall be bound every year to pay licence fee for all the players it plans to use during the sports season.

3) At the end of the two-year period, the player shall be free from any commitment. If he signs a new licence for the same club, such licence shall again be biennial.

Article 162 : When a statutory member, coach or player dies 72 (seventy-two) hours to a match, the match shall be postponed to a later date at the request of the bereaved club.

Article 163 : For all cases not provided for by these general regulations, the applicable jurisprudence shall be that of the World football governing body (FIFA).

Article 164 :

1) These general regulations shall come into force on 10 March 2007, date of their adoption by the General Assembly.

2) They shall be published in English and French.

**Prince NDOKI MUKETE,
RAPPORTEUR**

**IYA MOHAMMED,
CHAIRMAN**