

Competition Regulations

GFA Futsal Club Championship 2023-24

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DEFINITIONS

In these Competition Regulations, the capitalized terms shall have the following meanings, unless the context specifically indicates otherwise:

Accommodation	Any location providing accommodation to the Team Official Delegation of any of the Participating Teams.
Accreditation Card	Any physical item which is issued by the GFA and/or the Organizing Member Association which provides the recipient the right to access a Controlled Access Area (or part thereof) where the Controlled Access Area is under the control of the GFA or the LOC.
Advertising Rights	The right to promote brand and/or corporate names and/or products and/or services at and/or in relation to the Competition by whatever means available, whether existing now or to be developed in the future, whether at the Indoor Stadium or Facility Areas or within the Controlled Access Areas, in association with the Competition Marks and/or the GFA Marks, by in- stadium/out-stadium perimeter signage and other advertising, digital signage and screens, closed circuit television, equipment usage or other methods and through printed matter (including digitally delivered printed matter) such as programmes, posters, letterheads, press releases, newsletters and Tickets, and subject to any GFA regulations, the right to display such advertising on the clothing or footwear worn, or on any equipment used, carried or transported by the GFA Delegation (including for the avoidance of doubt Match Officials), medical and security staff, ball boys, Player escorts, flag bearers and/or photographers. The display of the name and/or logo of the bona fide supplier of clothing on the strip of the uniforms of the GFA Delegation (including for the avoidance of doubt Match Officials) are also included. For the avoidance of doubt, advertising on the strip of Participating Players is excluded, other than where it is the trademark of the bona fide manufacturer and is in accordance with FIFA and/or GFA regulations. Similarly, branding on any equipment, goods and/or services used in connection with the Competition, save where supplied by a Licensee, may only include customary branding of the bona fide manufacturer and may not be associated in any way with the Commercial Rights.
AFC	The Asian Football Confederation.
GFA	The Goa Football Association.
AIFF Systems	The AIFF's administrative systems, the AIFF's online competition management and registration system. (The AIFF CMS & CRS respectively)
GFA Commercial Rights Partner	The entity appointed by the GFA as the sole and exclusive representative of the GFA with regard to the sale of the Commercial Rights (or any part thereof) and the provision of services in relation thereto.
GFA Committee	One (1) or more (as the context defines) of the Standing Committees of the GFA as promulgated within the GFA Statutes.

GFA Delegation	(i) GFA staff; (ii) Match Officials; (iii) Other officials appointed by the GFA; (iv) The GFA's Committee members; and (iv) GFA guests.
GFA Futsal Committee	The GFA internal organizing committee for the Competition which has been appointed in accordance with the GFA Statutes, and which has ultimate authority over all matters relating to the organization of the Competition unless any of its decisions are overruled by the GFA's Executive Committee.
GFA Futsal Championship 2023-24	The Competition.
GFA Marks	All design marks, slogans, designations, names, logos, insignia, emblems or devices (in any application) owned and/or controlled by the GFA (in any language) relating to the GFA itself, but excluding the Competition Marks.
GFA Official Merchandise	Official merchandise of the Competition to which the GFA Marks and the Competition Marks may be applied at the sole discretion of the GFA.
Broadcast Licensee	Any entity, including the Host Broadcaster, which has been granted the Media Rights from the GFA or the GFA Commercial Rights Partner for the Competition.
Champion	The Participating Team that is adjudged the top ranked Participating Team at the end of Phase 2 /Knock Out Group Stage of the Competition.
Clean Indoor Stadium	An Indoor Stadium or Official Training Site whether inside, in the air space above or the outer perimeter, delivered to the GFA at a prescribed time, that is free from: (i) any advertising and commercial signage of any kind, whether on any stadium infrastructure, staff uniforms, accreditations, fences, equipment or elsewhere; (ii) third party agreements relating to the use and operation of the Indoor Stadium (or part thereof;) and/or (iii) Indoor stadium or venue naming rights.
Commercial Rights	Advertising Rights, Concession Rights, Hospitality Rights, Image Rights, Media Rights, Merchandising Rights, Promotional Rights, Sponsorship Rights, and Travel and Tour Rights.
Competition	The GFA Futsal Championship 2023-24, which includes without limitation, all Matches as set out in the Match Schedule, all qualifying Matches, all activities on the Field of Play (other than Matches), opening ceremonies, presentation or closing ceremonies, press conferences or Official Functions connected therewith.
Competition Data	Any and all information related to the Competition, including fixture lists, Image Rights, information and/or statistics about the Participating Teams and/or Participating Players, information and/or statistics about their participation and/or performance in the Competition, Match analysis, Referee decisions, and any other information in relation to the Competition.

Competition Marks	<p>Either cumulatively or individually:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) the Competition logo officially adopted by the GFA as a visual design symbol of the Competition; (ii) any mascot officially adopted by the GFA for the Competition; (iii) any two-dimensional representation of the Competition trophy; (iv) the official name of the Competition (in any language); and/or (v) any and all current and future trademarks, and/or logos, and/or copyrights and/or designs whether or not registered or applied for and whether registered in part or in whole including any present and/or future names, designations, symbols, logos or identifying music or sounds of the GFA or the Competition, the GFA Fair Play name and device mark, and other artistic and autographic representations in one, two or three dimensional proportions used by or in association with the Competition.
Complimentary Tickets	Tickets which are supplied without charge.
Concession Rights	Sampling, vending and other distribution methods and payment methods connected therewith for and of products or services, including without limitation all food, beverage and pourage rights at the Indoor Stadium and Controlled Access Areas.
Controlled Access Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) any Indoor Stadium; (ii) any Official Training Site; (iii) any official hotel (public areas being excepted), subject to and to the extent agreed in an executed hotel agreement; (iv) any official exclusion zone encircling an Indoor Stadium on any Match day; (v) any official parking area, accreditation center, International Broadcast Compound, and/or hospitality area; (vi) the venue of any Official Function; (vii) any official GFA fan park; (viii) Facility Areas; and/or (ix) any other location and/or facility designated by the GFA as a Controlled Access Area and to which access is permitted only to those in possession of an Accreditation Card, Ticket, and/or other officially-sanctioned entry permit.
Digital Media	Any digitalized media (including the GFA Website and any related Competition website) created by GFA in relation to the Competition, including but not limited to any mobile website, mobile application (app), online video channel, data product, photo-sharing account, social media account, and any further form of digital media developed herewith.
Facility Areas	The location of Official Functions, ceremonies, press centers, ticket offices, competition hotels, media areas (including without limitation areas used for viewing of any public exhibition), sponsor village areas (including without limitation "GFA fan park" areas, and areas used for the activation of the Commercial Rights), official hospitality areas (including without limitation areas used for the exploitation of the Hospitality Rights), and information centers controlled by or on behalf of the GFA and used in connection with the Competition whether at

	the Indoor Stadium or elsewhere at the Venues.
FIFA	The Federation Internationale de Football Association.
Fixed Media	Any magnetic, electronic or digital storage device or method including without limitation DVD, VHS or CD- ROM.
Football Association	The controlling body for football within a territory of India as recognized by the GFA.
Force Majeure	Any event affecting the performance or any provision of these Regulations arising from or attributable to acts, events, omissions or accidents which are beyond the reasonable control of a party, and shall include but not be limited to abnormally inclement weather, flood, lightning, storm, fire, explosion, earthquake, structural damage, epidemic or other natural disaster, failure or shortage of power supplies, war, terrorist action, military operations, riot, crowd disorder, strike, lock- outs or other industrial action, or civil commotion
Futsal Laws of the Game	The FIFA Futsal Laws of the Game 2023/24 as amended till date
Group Stage	The first and second Phase group/Knock Out stages of the Competition held in accordance with these Regulations.
Hospitality Rights	The opportunity to offer and sell hospitality and entertainment facilities at the Venues or within the Controlled Access Areas in combination with Tickets as may be purchased from the GFA whether such facilities are in boxes, marquees or otherwise, but excluding those private facilities reserved for GFA officials and its guests not forming part of the Commercial Rights.
Host Broadcaster	The organization appointed by the GFA to ensure and provide the production of broadcast signals of the Matches and other events of the Competition, and the provision of all related services in accordance with the Media Rights granted to it.
Host City	Any city and/or identifiable metropolitan area in which the Matches of the Competition are staged.
Host State	The State or territory of the Organizing Member Association.
Image Rights	The right to use still and/or moving images and/or representations of images of Participating Teams and Participating Players participating in the Competition, and including, for the avoidance of doubt, images of Participating Officials, Match Officials, and other officials forming part of the Competition.
Indoor Stadium	Any indoor stadium at which a Match is played. For the avoidance of doubt, this includes: (i) the entire premises (to the extent that a valid Accreditation Card or Ticket is required in order to gain access) of an Indoor Stadium and (on Match days and any day on which any official practice session takes place within the Indoor Stadium), the aerial space above such Indoor Stadium; (ii) parking facilities; (iii) VIP and hospitality areas (including any hospitality village); (iv) the media tribune; (v) concessions areas; (vi) commercial display areas;

	<p>(vii) buildings;</p> <p>(viii) the Field of Play;</p> <p>(ix) any broadcast compound or Indoor Stadium media center;</p> <p>(x) any stands; and</p> <p>(xi) any areas beneath the stands.</p>
Match	<p>A Futsal match in its entirety (including a replayed and/or deferred Futsal match, extra time and kicks from the penalty mark) which takes place as part of the Competition in accordance with the Match Schedule.</p> <p>For the avoidance of doubt, a Match formally commences when the Indoor Stadium is officially opened to spectators and formally concludes when the Indoor Stadium is officially closed to spectators.</p>
Match Officials	Any individual appointed by the GFA to officiate a Match in the Competition in the role of referee, second referee, third referee or timekeeper.
Match Schedule	The official schedule which sets out, without limitation, the dates and times on which Matches will be played, the Indoor Stadium at which the Matches will be played, and the names of the Participating Teams.
Media	Any individual granted a media Accreditation Card by the GFA.
Media Rights	The right and license to produce, edit, and transmit, for intelligible reception throughout the world in any language and in any format, and on any platform including film, fixed media, digital media, games, internet, public exhibition, radio, mobile, and television, a visual, audio-visual, and/or audio signal and/or image or recording (including without limitation the basic feed, multi feeds, additional feeds, audio feeds, a feed incorporating Competition Data, world feed, and unilateral feeds) of the Competition, and all interview activities and action during and forming part of the Competition including Official Functions and the Image Rights by any and all means of transmission distribution, exhibition and reception, now existing or hereinafter developed including but not limited to analogue, digital, satellite cable and interactive communication systems, on a live, delayed, and unlimited repeat basis, in full or in part (including without limitation by way of clips and/or highlights and/or support programmes and/or magazine shows and/or news access), and all rights to exploit any and all commercial opportunities (including for example broadcast sponsorship and commercial airtime opportunities) arising from and/or in connection with such rights.
Merchandise Rights	The right to exploit the Competition Marks and/or Official Status in the manufacture, packaging, distribution and sale of goods and services of all kinds, including items of equipment (i.e. footballs), clothing, coins, medals, games (electronic or otherwise), other collectibles and Premiums related to the Competition.
Official Countdown	An official document produced by the GFA and/or the Organizing Member Association which stipulates the events and activities to be carried out at specific times by the Clubs on Match day.

Official Function	Any event which is officially organized or sanctioned by the GFA in connection with the Competition. For the avoidance of doubt, this expressly includes, without limitation, all matches and/or events held at Official Training Sites, the opening ceremony, the closing ceremony, any GFA gala dinner, lunch, or banquet, cultural events, official press conferences and launch events.
Official Licensee	Any entity to which the GFA and the GFA Commercial Rights Partner has granted the right to exercise and exploit the Commercial Rights (or any part thereof) in respect of the Competition.
Official Training Site	Any site designated by the LOC and approved by the GFA for use by the Participating Teams throughout the duration of the Competition for training purposes.
Organizing Member Association	Collectively, the host Member Association and (if applicable) its affiliated or wholly-owned Local Organizing Committee, appointed and supervised by the GFA, to organize, stage and host the Competition.
Participating Official	Any official who is registered to participate in the Competition.
Participating Player	Any player who is registered to participate in the Competition.
Participating Team	Any representative team approved by the GFA to participate in the Competition.
Field of Play	The area described in Law 1 of the Futsal Laws of the Game issued by FIFA.
Premiums	Any promotional item (including packaging, labelling, and/or containers thereof) which incorporates a mark and/or logo of the GFA and/or the Competition, and which is distributed free of charge or via prize competitions.
Promotional Rights	Any rights to official publications, official suppliers, official products, sales promotion including but not limited to the right to organize promotional competitions (including without limitation any sweepstakes or lotteries) and to make awards and give prizes, official music rights, the right to use an Official Designation and all other rights of commercial value in regard to the Competition.
Proprietary Interests	Without limitation, intellectual property, copyright and analogous rights, trademark rights, moral rights, performing rights, personality rights, and all remedies available under the applicable laws of unfair competition comprised in the Commercial Rights.
Regulations	These Competition Regulations.
Runner Up	The Participating Team which secures the second place in the 1 st pool group in the Phase 2 Group/Knock Out Stage of the Competition.
Sponsorship Rights	The right, in any and all media, throughout the world, and in all languages, to promote an association between the Competition and certain products, services, and/or brands, and shall include (by way of illustration only) the exclusive right to exercise rights of association with the Competition, including without limitation the right to (a) use an official designation; (b) use the GFA Marks and/or applicable Competition Marks on branded products and/or product packaging (including Premiums, and in relation to the Competition Marks only on items for retail sale)

	and/or advertising; (c) receive commercial programme Tickets, and (d) receive broadcast sponsorship opportunities in connections with broadcasts of a Match or Official Function.
Team Official Delegation	The final-registered delegation of a Participating Team for the Competition subject to the limits set out in the Competition Regulations.
Third Place	The Participating Team which secures the third place in the 1 st pool group in the Phase 2 Group/Knock Out Stage of the Competition.
Ticket	A pass providing access to a venue for the purpose of attending a Match, Official Training Site, or Official Function.
Ticketing	All operational measures to provide Tickets to all spectators of every Match and for Official Functions of the Competition allowing them to enter the Indoor Stadium or a Venue. Ticketing shall include the management of the operation necessary for the production, sale, distribution, delivery and payment of the Tickets of the Competition.
Travel and Tour Rights	The right to organize and/or sub-license official travel and tour activities in relation to the Competition, which travel and tour activities shall, for the avoidance of doubt, include the provision of Tickets to a Match and/or Official Function for the Competition.
Venue	The Host City and immediately surrounding area in which the Indoor Stadium is located.

For the purposes of these Regulations, and provided the context so permits:

- (a) the singular shall include the plural and vice-versa;
- (b) the masculine gender shall include the feminine and vice-versa;
- (c) reference to natural persons shall include any legal person or corporation;
- (d) references to the GFA shall include its successors and permitted assigns and in relation to the availability of the Commercial Rights, its respective Participating Teams, and the GFA Committees;
- (e) reference to the GFA Commercial Rights Partner or Official Licensees shall include where advised by the GFA, its successors, and permitted assigns and, in relation to the exercise and exploitation of the Commercial Rights; and
- (f) all defined terms, unless otherwise stated herein shall bear the same meaning as ascribed in the GFA Statutes, unless the context indicates otherwise.

ARTICLE 1: GFA FUTSAL CHAMPIONSHIP 2023-24

1.1. Introduction

1.1.1 The GFA stages the Competition with only a Final Stage (“**Finals**”) for the Participating Teams comprising of two (2) group phases.

1.1.2 These Regulations set out the rights, duties, and responsibilities of the GFA, the LOC, and all the Participating Teams taking part in the Competition and form an integral part of the ~~Organizing Member Association’s agreement with the GFA’s~~ its annexes and amendments.

1.1.3 These Regulations and all the directives, decisions, guidelines, and circulars issued by the GFA pursuant thereto, shall be binding upon all parties participating and involved in the preparation, organization, and hosting of the Competition in any which way.

1.1.4 Any rights and Proprietary Interests associated with the Competition that are not granted by these Regulations and/or specific agreements, to any ~~Member Association~~ Participating Clubs, belong exclusively to the GFA.

1.1.5 Any reference to the GFA Statutes and to the GFA, AFC and FIFA regulations refer to those valid at the time of application.

ARTICLE 2: RESPONSIBILITIES

2.1. The Goa Football Association

2.1.1. The GFA Futsal Committee shall be responsible for organizing the Competition in accordance with the GFA Statutes and other GFA Regulations. The GFA General Secretariat shall carry out the necessary administrative work in support of the GFA Futsal Committee.

2.1.2. The responsibilities of the GFA shall include, but are not limited to:

- a) supervising general preparations and deciding on the Competition format, the draws, and the entries to the Competition;
- b) determining the Match Schedule (*cf* Article 3.4);
- c) selecting the Indoor Stadium and Official Training Sites for the Competition ~~after consultation with the Organizing Member Association;~~
- d) appointing the Match Officials for each Match;
- e) choosing the official Futsal ball and the stipulated technical material;
- f) approving the choice of the WADA-accredited laboratories that will carry out the doping analyses;
- g) reporting cases where appropriate to the GFA Disciplinary Committee;
- h) replacing Participating Teams that have withdrawn from the Competition (*cf* Articles 3.2 and 3.3);
- i) dealing with cases of abandoned Matches or cancelled Matches (*cf* Articles 4.5 and 4.6);
- j) dealing with cases of force majeure (*cf* Article 9.8);
- k) providing insurance coverage for the GFA Staff and Match Officials appointed to any Match ~~from the time of their departure from their home Member Association state to their departure from the Organizing Member Association's state;~~ and
- l) dealing with any other aspect of the Competition that is not the

responsibility of any other body of the GFA pursuant to these Regulations or the GFA Statutes.

m) All decisions made by the GFA Futsal Committee and/or the GFA General Secretariat are final and binding and not appealable.

n) All decisions made by the GFA Disciplinary Committee in relation to the Competition are subject to the operation of the GFA Disciplinary Code.

2.2. Participating Teams

2.2.1. The principal obligations and responsibilities of each Participating Team are stipulated in these Regulations, the GFA Statutes, and all other GFA regulations, directives, guidelines, and circulars issued from time to time.

2.2.2. Each Participating Team shall undertake to:

a) observe all obligations set out in these Regulations, the GFA Statutes, and all other GFA regulations, directives, guidelines and circulars issued from time to time and the applicable national and state laws;

b) comply with the FIFA Futsal Laws of the Game 2023-24;

c) accept that all the administrative, disciplinary and refereeing matters connected with the Competition shall be settled by the GFA in compliance with these Regulations and/or all other GFA regulations, directives, guidelines and circulars issued from time to time;

d) field their strongest team throughout the Competition;

e) observe the principles of Fair Play;

f) ensure the good conduct of its Team Official Delegation who have been provided with an Accreditation Card and of any person carrying out duties on its behalf throughout the Competition, from their arrival in the host Organizing Member Association's territory at the venue until their departure from there; However,

e) failure to ensure the good conduct of its Team Official Delegation may result in the Participating Team being issued with a fine of up to 2 Lakhs INR 10000/- (Rupees Ten Thousand Only); and

f) the GFA Disciplinary Committee may issue further sanctions at its discretion.

g) observe the Official Countdown and all other Match-related protocol notified by the GFA;

h) accept all the arrangements made by the Organizing Member Association LOC in agreement with the GFA;

i) attend and participate in all Official Functions along with all official activities and events, including without limitation any team arrival meeting, match coordination meeting, press conferences, and other media and marketing activities in accordance with the instructions issued by the GFA;

j) failure to attend and/or fully participate in any official activity or event shall

result in the Participating Team being fined at least INR 10,000/- (Rupees Ten Thousand Only);

k) the GFA Disciplinary Committee may issue further sanctions at its discretion;

l) provide to the GFA, free of charge, prior to the Competition, statistics and photographs of its Participating Players and/or Participating Officials, historical information related to its Participating Team and any further data as requested and in accordance with instructions issued by the GFA; and link the official URL for the Competition on its official website, if available

2.2.3. Each Participating Team at its own expense is solely responsible throughout the Competition for:

a) the insurance coverage (including but not limited to hospitalization and surgical operations, team equipment) of their Team Official Delegation, ~~from the date of their arrival in the host Organizing Member Association's territory until their departure therefrom;~~

b) payment of incidental expenses and for any costs incurred by its Team Official Delegation (*cf* Articles 5.1, 5.10);

~~obtaining any permits required to enter the territory of the host Organizing Member Association. This includes all costs related to the process of obtaining such permits.~~

~~Should a Participating Team fail to secure the necessary permits in time for their arrival to the Competition as a result of non-compliance with Article 3.4.5, they shall be considered to have withdrawn from the Competition in accordance with Article 6 and shall be liable to incur the consequences provided therein.~~

c) Each Participating Team shall indemnify, defend, and hold the GFA, the ~~Organizing Member Association~~ LOC, and without limitation all of their officers, directors, employees, representatives, agents, and all other auxiliary persons free and harmless against any and all liabilities, obligations, losses, damages, penalties, claims, actions, fines, and expenses (including reasonable legal expenses) of whatsoever kind or nature resulting from, arising out of, or attributable to, any non-compliance with these Regulations and all other GFA regulations, directives, guidelines and circulars issued by the GFA by the ~~Member Associations~~, Participating Teams, anyone in their Team Official Delegation, their affiliates and any third-parties contracted to the Participating Teams ~~or any of the Member Associations~~.

d) The Champion of this Competition may qualify directly and shall undertake, if required by the GFA, to take part in any intercontinental competition(s) arranged by FIFA, AFC, AIFF and/or the GFA with other international federations.

e) ~~Participating Teams are not authorized to represent the GFA or the Competition without the prior written approval of the GFA.~~ Teams are not authorized to participate in competitions within Goa which are not registered with GFA and outside of Goa which are not registered with respective state Associations and AIFF. For participating in Tournaments outside of Goa, clubs shall seek prior

written permission from GFA.

f) All Participating Players and Participating Officials shall ensure their presence at the GFA Awards Night in the calendar year if they are nominated for an annual GFA award. A written approval of the GFA is required in the event the nominated Participating Players and Participating Officials are unable to attend.

g) Each Participating Team shall ensure that any decision(s) made by the GFA relating to its duties and responsibilities is enforced immediately.

ARTICLE 3: ENTRY, WITHDRAWAL, MATCH SCHEDULE, COMPETITION SYSTEM

3.1. Entry

a) The GFA Futsal Committee shall invite eligible Participating Teams to enter the Competition.

b) Eligible Participating Teams must confirm their entry into the Competition.

c) All decisions by the GFA Futsal Committee regarding entry to the Competition are final and binding and not appealable.

d) A total of 16 (sixteen) teams will be invited by the GFA Futsal and Beach Soccer Committee for the Competition. ~~Only the invited teams fulfilling the following conditions would be eligible to participate in the Competition and the same will be invited in the following descending order of preference criteria mentioned in Article 5.5 below.~~

Invitation to the Competition

~~The sixteen (16) Participating Teams shall be invited by GFA to participate in the Competition:~~

3.2. Withdrawal Prior to Commencement of the Competition

3.2.1. Any Participating Team that enters the Competition undertakes that it shall play all of its Matches as set out in the Match Schedule.

3.2.2. In the case of a Participating Team withdrawing or being excluded from the Competition prior to the commencement of the Competition, the GFA Futsal Committee shall be responsible for making any necessary decisions, including without limitation whether to:

- a) replace the withdrawing Participating Team;
- b) change the competition system (cf Article 4); and/or
- c) make any other changes to these Regulations as it may deem fit.

3.2.3. All decisions of the GFA Futsal Committee in this regard are final and binding and not appealable.

3.2.4. A Permanent Club withdrawing from the Futsal competition after the draw is released or failing to complete their engagements in a competition shall be banned for a period of two years from participating in, and organizing Private Football Tournaments. However, Clubs participating in multiple competitions shall

be fined Rs. 10,000/- (Rupees Ten Thousand Only) and not debarred from participating in league competitions, participating in, and organizing Private Football Tournaments, provided they participate in at least one of those competitions. Permanent clubs which fail to participate in any of the official competitions during the season will be fined Rs 50000/- (Rupees Fifty Thousand) and such club/s will have to compulsorily field a team in at least one age group tournament/League for the ensuing one season. ~~Any Participating Team which withdraws up to thirty (30) days before the notified date of the commencement of the Competition shall be fined INR 50,000/-.~~

3.2.5. A Provisional Club which has entered a team in only one of the Official Competitions of the Goa Football Association, withdrawing or failing to complete the engagements in a competition, shall be deregistered as a provisional member of the Goa Football Association. The amount of Rs. 20,000/- (Rupees Twenty Thousand Only) deposited will also stand forfeited. However, Clubs participating in more than one tournament shall be fined Rs. 10,000/- (Rupees Ten Thousand Only) and not debarred from participating in the league competitions provided their team participates compulsorily in at least one age group tournament.

3.2.6. The Provisional Club registration may be accepted for the subsequent season subject to the following conditions:

- i) Granting permanent recognition to any Provisional Club shall be kept in abeyance for a further period of two years from the date on which the Club was due for permanent recognition, if the club withdraws the team from an Age Group Tournament for which an entry was submitted to the Goa Football Association.

~~Any Participating Team that withdraws less than thirty (30) days before the notified date of the commencement of the Competition shall be fined INR 1,00,000/-.~~

3.3. Withdrawal After Commencement of the Competition

3.3.1. Any Participating Team that:

- a) withdraws from the Competition after it has commenced; or
- b) does not report for a Match; or
- c) refuses to continue a Match; or
- d) leaves the Indoor Stadium prior to the completion of a Match,
- e) shall be considered to have withdrawn from the Competition after its commencement.

3.3.2. A Participating Team that withdraws from the Competition after it has commenced shall:

a) have all its Matches cancelled and considered null and void. For the avoidance of doubt, all points and goals in those Matches shall not be taken into consideration when determining the rankings in the Phase 1 and Phase 2 group/Knock Out stages pursuant to Articles 3.6 and 3.7;

c) be required to pay compensation for any and all damages or losses suffered by, where applicable, the other Participating Teams, the GFA, the GFA Commercial

Rights Partner, Licensees, Broadcast Licensees, and ~~any Member Association(s)~~ LOC. The amount of compensation shall be determined by either the GFA Futsal and Beach Soccer Committee or the GFA Executive Committee;

d) be disqualified from participating in the next two (2) editions of the Competition;

e) be disqualified from participating in Phase 2 of the Competition, if the Participating Team withdraws during Phase 1 Group Stage;

f) be disqualified from participating in any FIFA, AFC, AIFF and/or the GFA/ or the intercontinental competition(s) as listed in Article 2.2.3d, if qualification has been attained;

g) be fined:

i) INR 1,0,000/- (Rupees Ten Thousand Only) if it withdraws after the date of commencement of the Competition; or

ii) INR 5,00,0/- (Rupees Five Thousand Only) if it withdraws any time after the conclusion of the Phase 1 Group Stage or after the commencement of Phase 2 Group/Knock Out Stage; or

h) be referred to the GFA Disciplinary Committee which may impose further sanctions at its discretion; and

g) return to the GFA, any subsidy that may have been paid in support of its participation in the Competition or if not yet paid, forfeit their right to that subsidy.

h) The above Articles 3.2 and 3.3 are not applicable in cases of Force Majeure recognized by the GFA Futsal Committee.

i) The GFA Futsal Committee shall take whatever action it deems necessary in cases of Force Majeure.

3.4. Match Schedule

3.4.1. All Matches shall be played according to the dates, kick-off times, and in the Indoor Stadium as determined by the GFA Futsal Committee and notified to the Participating Teams prior to the scheduled official date of commencement of the Competition.

3.4.2. The Match Schedule shall be determined after all the Participating Teams have officially entered the Competition. The dates of the Matches and the grouping of the Participating Teams shall be determined by the GFA Futsal Committee. The date, venue and time of kick-off of every match in the GFA Futsal Competitions shall be intimated in writing to the concerned teams by the GFA Secretariat at least 72 hrs. (seventy-two hours) before the scheduled time of kick-off. Any Club seeking a postponement of a match should do so in writing at least seven days in advance failing which no such request will be considered. The GFA Secretariat may decide to postpone matches due to circumstances which, in their opinion warrant a postponement, upon consultation with the Chairman or Deputy Chairman of the GFA Futsal Committee.

Para-Unico: A fax/letter/e mail shall be deemed to comply with the requirements

of Article 3.4.2

3.4.3. The draw shall be released a minimum 10 days before the commencement of the tournament.

3.4.4. The GFA Futsal Committee retains final discretion to amend the Match Schedule and any decision taken by the GFA Futsal Committee to that effect is final and binding and non- appealable.

3.5. Competition System

The Competition shall consist of two (2) stages:

The Group Stage; and

the Knockout Stage.

The GFA Futsal Committee shall decide upon the format of the competition system.

3.6. Group Stage

3.6.1. Sixteen (16) Teams will be participating in the GFA Futsal Club Championship 2023-24. The Participating Clubs shall be divided into four (4) groups of four (4) teams each as follows:

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

3.6.2. Each Participating Team shall play against the other Participating Teams within its group once in accordance with the Match Schedule. At any point of time, no two matches shall be scheduled simultaneously.

3.6.3. The duration of Matches shall be played in accordance with Article 4.2 of these Regulations.

3.6.4. At the conclusion of each Match:

- a) three (3) points shall be awarded to the winner;
- b) one (1) point shall be awarded to each Participating Team for a draw;
- c) zero (0) points shall be awarded to the loser.

3.6.5. Should there be a situation where at the end of Phase 1 Group Stage there are two (2) or more Participating Teams in either of the groups which are tied with each other on points, the ranking in each group shall be determined in accordance with Article 3.6.5 of these Regulations.

- i) higher number of points obtained in group Matches;
- ii) if two (2) or more Participating Clubs are equal on points, the following

criteria are applied to determine the ranking (in descending order):

iii) Head-to-Head criteria

- a) higher number of points obtained in the group Matches between the Participating Clubs in question;
- b) superior goal-difference from the group Matches between the Participating Clubs in question;
- c) higher number of goals scored in the group Matches between the Participating Clubs in question;

iv) Tiebreaker

- a) if, after having applied the Head-to-Head criteria, two (2) or more Participating Clubs still have an equal ranking, the Head-to-Head criteria shall be reapplied exclusively to the Matches between the Participating Clubs in question to determine their final rankings. If this is unsuccessful, the Group Results criteria shall apply;

V) Group Results Criteria

- a) superior goal-difference from all group Matches played;
- b) higher number of goals scored from all group Matches played;
- c) Kicks from the Penalty Mark only if two (2) Participating Clubs are involved and they are both on the Field of Play;
- d) the lower score, calculated according to the number of yellow and red cards received in group Matches (Appendix 1); or
- e) the drawing of lots.

3.6.6. At the conclusion of the Group Stage:

- a) the first-placed Participating Teams in each group shall qualify for the Knockout Stage; and
- b) all other Participating Clubs shall be eliminated from the Competition.

3.7. Knockout Stage

- a) The Knockout Stage shall consist of the Semi Finals and Final.
- b) Each round of the Knockout Stage shall be conducted in accordance with the Match Schedule.
- c) The duration of Matches, including Extra Time and Kicks from the Penalty Mark (if required), shall be played in accordance with Articles 3.6.5.
- d) At the conclusion of each Semi Final:
 - the winner shall qualify for the Final; and
 - the loser shall be eliminated from the Competition
- e) At the conclusion of the Final:

the winner shall be declared Champion; and
the loser shall be declared Runner-Up.

ARTICLE 4: TECHNICAL REGULATIONS

4.1. Matches Played in Accordance with the Futsal Laws of the Game

4.1.1. All Matches shall be played in accordance with the Futsal Laws of the Game 2021/22 along with any amendments to the same prior to the issuance of these Regulations.

4.1.2. The nine (9) substitutes listed on a Match Starting List (*cf* Article 4.8) may take part in the Match. There is no limit on the number of substitutions that may be made by each Participating Team during a Match.

4.1.3. If a Participating Team at any stage of a Match is only able to field fewer than three (3) players, the Match shall be abandoned and the provisions of Article 4.6 shall accordingly apply.

4.2. Duration of Matches

4.2.1. Each Match shall last forty (40) minutes, comprising of two (2) periods of twenty (20) minutes (hereinafter, 'Normal Playing Time')

4.2.2. There shall be an interval of fifteen (15) minutes between the periods, commencing from the whistle ending the first period and ending upon the whistle starting the second period.

4.2.3. A Participating Team that causes a delay in the commencement of the first period of the Match and/or the second period of the Match may be sanctioned by the GFA Disciplinary Committee.

4.2.4. Each Participating Team may call for one (1) time-out per half for one (1) minute.

a) The Participating Officials are authorized to request the Third Referee or the Timekeeper (if there is no Third Referee), for a one (1) minute time-out. The Timekeeper grants the time-out when the Participating Team that has requested it is in possession of the ball and the ball is out of play, using a different whistle or acoustic signal than that used by the Referee.

4.3. Extra Time

4.3.1. If no winner is determined at the end of normal playing time during the Knock-Out Stage, Extra Time shall be played.

4.3.2. Extra Time shall consist of two (2) periods of five (5) minutes, with an interval of five (5) minutes at the end of normal playing time, but no interval between the periods of Extra Time. As a rule, the Participating Players shall remain on the Field of Play during this five (5) minute break at the end of normal playing time at the discretion of the referees.

4.3.3. A Participating Team that causes a delay in the commencement of the first period of Extra Time and/or the second period of Extra Time may be sanctioned by the GFA Disciplinary Committee.

4.3.4. There shall be no time-outs provided to the Participating Teams during Extra Time.

4.4. Determining the winner by Kicks from the Penalty Mark

4.4.1. If in accordance with the procedure mentioned in Article 3.6, kicks from the penalty mark are taken to determine the ranking between two (2) Participating Teams, the procedures herein shall be followed.

4.4.2. The Referee shall decide which goal will be used:

4.4.3. The Referee may choose which goal will be used without tossing a coin for reasons, without limitation, including safety and security, state of the Field of Play, and lighting quality.

4.4.4. The Referee's decision is final and binding and non-appealable.

4.4.5. During the kicks from the penalty mark, Participating Officials must always remain at the team bench utilized by their Participating Team through the Match.

4.4.6. To ensure that this procedure is strictly observed, the Referee shall be assisted by the Second and Third Referees and the Timekeeper, who shall also note down the number of the Participating Players on each Participating Team who take kicks from the penalty mark.

4.4.7. If kicks from the penalty mark cannot be completed because of weather conditions or for any Force Majeure reason, the result shall be decided by the drawing of lots by the Referee in the presence of the GFA Match Commissioner and the two (2) captains of the Participating Teams.

4.4.8. If through the fault of a Participating Team, Kicks from the Penalty Mark cannot be completed, Article 4.6.5 of these Regulations shall apply.

4.5. Cancellation of Matches

4.5.1. If a Match cannot commence for any reason, the following procedure shall be followed:

a) the Match must be delayed for a minimum of thirty (30) minutes. During this delay, the Referee may decide that the Match can commence prior to the completion of the delay period;

4.5.2. following the first delay, either:

b) an additional delay of thirty (30) minutes shall occur if at the discretion of the Referee, this second delay may allow the Match to commence; or

i) the Match is declared cancelled by the Referee;

4.5.3. following the second delay of thirty (30) minutes, if allowed by the Referee, the Referee must declare the Match as cancelled.

4.5.4. For any Match which is cancelled as a result of Force Majeure, the GFA Futsal Committee shall decide on the matter at its sole discretion and take whatever action is deemed necessary.

4.5.5. Any Match which is cancelled, except in cases of Force Majeure recognized by the GFA Futsal Committee, may lead to the imposition of sanctions by the GFA Disciplinary Committee against the relevant

4.5.6. Participating Team or party that has caused the cancellation in accordance with the GFA Disciplinary Code.

4.6. Abandonment of Matches

4.6.1. If a Match is stopped by the Referee for any reason except for that set out in Article 4.5, the following procedure shall be followed:

a) the Match will be stopped for thirty (30) minutes. During this stoppage, the Referee may decide if the Match can commence prior to the completion of the stoppage;

4.6.2. subsequent to the first stoppage, either:

a) an additional stoppage of thirty (30) minutes shall occur if in the discretion of the Referee this second stoppage may allow the Match to be resumed; or

b) the Match is declared abandoned by the Referee;

4.6.3. following the second stoppage of thirty (30) minutes, the Referee must declare the Match as abandoned.

4.6.4. For any Match which is abandoned as a result of Force Majeure, the GFA Futsal and Beach Soccer Committee shall decide on the matter at its sole discretion and take whatever action is deemed necessary.

4.6.5. Any Match which is abandoned, except in cases of Force Majeure as recognized by the GFA Futsal Committee, may lead to the imposition of sanctions by the GFA Disciplinary Committee against the relevant Participating Team or party that has caused the abandonment in accordance with the GFA Disciplinary Code.

4.6.6. Should the GFA, pursuant to Article 4.6.5, determine that an abandoned Match should be rescheduled and completed, the following principles shall apply:

a) the Match shall recommence with the same score at the minute and seconds at which play was interrupted rather than being replayed in full;

b) the Match shall recommence with the same Participating Players on the Field of Play and same substitutes at the time it was initially abandoned;

c) no additional substitutes may be added to the Player Selection List or Match Starting List;

d) any Participating Player sent off during the abandoned Match cannot be replaced;

e) any sanction imposed before the Match was abandoned shall remain valid for the remainder of the recommenced Match; and

f) any other matters not set out above shall be decided by the GFA Futsal Committee in its sole discretion.

4.6.7. If a Match is stopped by the Referee before the end of normal playing time as a result of a Participating Team being able to only field fewer than three (3) Participating Players, the Match shall be declared abandoned and the Participating Team who is able to field more than three (3) Participating Players shall be declared the winner by the score of 5-0, or the score at the time of abandonment, whichever is higher.

4.7. Indoor Stadium

4.7.1. Indoor Stadium to be utilized shall be nominated by the GFA.

4.7.2. If at any time during the Competition, the GFA General Secretariat deems that, for whatever reason, an Indoor Stadium is not fit to stage a Match, it shall propose an alternative Indoor Stadium.

4.7.3. The Indoor Stadium nominated to host the Matches shall be in accordance with all safety and security standards issued by or contained within the relevant GFA guidelines, directives, or circulars as issued by the GFA.

4.7.4. Smoking is strictly prohibited within any Indoor Stadium, and in particular, in the technical area, the vicinity of the Field of Play, or within the competition areas which includes, without limitation, the team dressing room.

4.8. Team Bench and Technical Area

4.8.1. A maximum of ~~six (6)~~ four (4) Participating Officials and a maximum of nine (9) Participating Players are permitted to sit on the team bench during a Match, provided they are in possession of the appropriate 'Accreditation Card'.

4.8.2. All individuals on the team bench must wear a kit that contrasts with the kit of the Participating Players and the Match Officials present on the Field of Play. This kit must comply with the GFA Equipment Regulations.

4.8.3. Team 'A' shall occupy the team bench on the left when facing the Field of Play when viewed from the position of the Timekeeper bench.

4.9. Warming up

4.9.1. Each Participating Team shall be entitled to warm-up on the Field of Play before a Match in accordance with the Official Countdown.

4.9.2. During a Match, a maximum of five (5) Participating Players from each Participating Team may warm-up simultaneously without a ball, at the designated area behind their team bench, or alternatively in a space determined by the GFA Match Commissioner.

10. Futsal balls

10.1. The Futsal balls for the Competition shall be selected and supplied by the GFA including the Futsal balls used during the official Matches during the Competition.

~~Each Participating Team shall receive ten (10) training balls upon their official arrival date (as determined by the GFA) which they are required to bring to and utilize throughout each of their Matches in the Competition.~~

2. Participating Teams are only permitted to use the training balls provided by the GFA for training and warming-up purposes.

ARTICLE 5: TEAM OFFICIAL DELEGATION

5.1. Team Official Delegation

a) The GFA shall issue each individual registered to participate in the Competition with an Accreditation Card bearing a photograph and personal details. The Accreditation Card remains the property of the GFA at all times. The GFA may revoke, cancel, and/or confiscate an Accreditation Card at any time for any reason, including without limitation, misuse or abuse. Any such decision is final and binding and not appealable.

b) The Team Official Delegation shall be granted full access to all official Competition areas, including the Field of Play and other necessary Controlled Accessed Areas, as determined by the GFA.

c) The Participating Teams shall ensure that no unauthorized persons are permitted entry into the team bus, team dressing room, Field of Play, or any other Controlled Access Area without being in possession of the necessary Accreditation Card.

d) The Participating Teams shall make a final registration of a Team Official Delegation, subject to the conditions set out below, comprising of fourteen (14) Participating Players and ~~six (6)~~ four (4) Participating Officials.

e) Each Participating Team may nominate an additional ~~four (4)~~ two (2) officials who shall receive the same Accreditation Card as the ~~six (6)~~ four (4) Participating Officials included in the Team Official Delegation.

f) Each Participating Team may nominate maximum ~~six (6)~~ four (4) Participating Officials to sit on the team bench. The identity of said Participating Officials must be confirmed on the 'Officials on the Team Bench List' to be submitted prior to the commencement of each Match.

g) Each Team Manager shall be responsible for coordinating all Participating Team and media-related matters with the GFA. They shall participate in all Official Functions related to Matches in the Competition, including without limitation the Match Coordination Meeting and all press conferences.

5.2. Eligibility of Players

5.2.1. Each Participating Team shall ensure that all Participating Players:

a) are duly registered with the GFA pursuant to these Regulations;

b) are duly registered by the Participating Teams themselves ~~and the concerned member Association~~ in accordance with the GFA Statutes, codes and any other relevant GFA regulations;

c) have a status which is not in conflict with the GFA's Regulations for the

Status and Transfer of Players (“GFA RSTP”);

d) are duly registered to participate in this Competition in accordance with these Regulations; and

e) Foreign Nationals born in Goa who are holding a PIO (Person of Indian Origin) or an OCI (Overseas Citizen of India) card will be allowed to participate in Futsal Competition provided they are in possession of a Players License issued by the Goa Football Association previously. Players holding dual nationality are not allowed by AIFF to participate in AIFF Leagues/Tournaments.

5.2.2. Individuals who meet the criteria set out in Article 5.2.1 are eligible to participate in the Competition, subject to the provisions of the GFA Disciplinary Code.

5.2.3. The approval of the registration of a Participating Player by the GFA General Secretariat does not automatically provide for the eligibility of the Participating Player. Each Participating Team is responsible for and bears the onus of fielding only eligible Participating Players in a Match. Failure to do so shall lead to the consequences stipulated in the GFA Disciplinary Code.

a) The GFA General Secretariat makes all decisions regarding the Participating Players’ final registration.

b) Decisions to reject the final registration of a Participating player may be appealed directly to the ~~Court of Arbitration for Sport~~ **GFA Arbitration Tribunal**.

5.2.4. A Participating Player shall be deemed ineligible, without limitation, if:

a) there is a violation of Article 5.2.1; or

b) he participates in a Match contrary to a decision of the GFA Secretariat, Disciplinary Committee, these Regulations, or the operation of the GFA Disciplinary Code;

c) the GFA determines that any document submitted for any Participating Player during registration is false, falsified and/or forged;

or

~~— d) Any Participating Player is deemed ineligible as per the Covid-19 directives issued under **Appendix – 2** of these Regulations.~~

5.3. Registration of Players

5.3.1. There are three (3) stages of a Participating Player’s registration:

a) Preliminary Registration (*cf* Article 5.6);

b) Final Registration: (*cf* Article 5.7); and

c) Player Selection List: (*cf* Article 5.8).

5.3.2. Throughout the Competition, each Participating Player shall wear the same number allocated during the Final Registration. Jersey number 1 shall be reserved

for a goalkeeper.

5.3.3. All Participating Players and Participating Officials will be issued with Accreditation Cards. Should a card be misplaced, the relevant Participating Team shall be required to pay INR 1000/- (Rupees One Thousand Only) as a replacement production fee.

5.4.4. Should the GFA not receive the “Official Registration for Players” via GFA Systems with all required documents by the stipulated deadline, the Participating Team concerned shall be considered to have withdrawn from the Competition in accordance with Article 3.2. Proof of submission by facsimile, courier and/or email or by any other means will not be accepted.

5.4. Documents for Registration of Players

5.4.1. Participating Players must be registered via GFA Systems with the supporting documents set out below (unless previously submitted and available in the GFA Systems):

a) a colour copy of a government issued national identification card including but not limited to Passport, Voter ID card or a State issued Driving License;

b) a colour copy of the Participating Player’s birth certificate; and

c) one (1) passport-size colour photo taken within three (3) months in the current team’s jersey.

5.4.2. Where original documents are not in English, the Participating Team ~~or its concerned Member Association~~ shall provide a government accredited translation of the same.

5.4.3. The GFA reserves the right to request additional documents in all cases.

5.5. Player Status

5.5.1. Participating Teams may only field Participating Players that are eligible to participate in the Competition if their status is not in any way in conflict with the relevant provisions of the GFA/AIFF RSTP.

5.5.2. The GFA may refuse to register any player which it believes, after an assessment of all supporting documents, does not meet the requirements of the GFA RSTP.

5.6. Preliminary Registration

5.6.1. Each Participating Team shall submit to the GFA via AIFF Systems, its registration of Participating Players and supporting documents in accordance with Article 5.4, ~~thirty (30)~~ ten (10) days prior to the date of commencement of the Competition as notified by the GFA.

5.6.2. Each Participating Team shall register a minimum of fourteen (14) and a maximum of ~~eighteen (18)~~ twenty-five (25) players in its squad.

5.6.3. If a Participating Team fails to register a minimum of fourteen (14) players,

it shall be considered to have withdrawn from the competition in accordance with Article 6 3.2.

5.6.4. Each Participating Team must register a minimum of two (2) goalkeepers in their squad.

5.6.5. Once the “Official Registration for Players” has been submitted via the AIFF/GFA Systems and received by the GFA, and after the deadline has passed, under no circumstances shall any Participating Teams be permitted to submit additional names or replace any registered individual, even if their quota of twenty-five (25) players has not been filled.

5.7. Final Registration

5.7.1. Participating Teams are required to submit a Final Registration squad of eighteen (18) Participating Players, ~~ten (10)~~ seven (7) days prior to the date of commencement of the Competition as notified by the GFA.

a) the Final Registration squad may only be comprised from those maximum twenty-five (25) players selected in the Preliminary Registration squad.

b) Each Participating Player shall wear the same number allocated in the Preliminary Registration during all Matches throughout the Competition.

c) the Participating Players should be assigned jerseys numbered from 1-14. Number 1 shall be reserved for a goalkeeper.

5.7.2. Each Participating Team must register a minimum of two (2) goalkeepers in their Final Registration squad.

5.7.3. Once the Final Registration squad has been received by the GFA, Participating Teams may replace any of the registered Participating Players up to six (6) hours prior to their first Match, subject to the below conditions:

a) Any replacement must have been registered in the Preliminary Registration squad.

b) Replacements shall only be allocated the vacated shirt numbers.

c) To replace a Participating Player, a Participating Team must provide his Accreditation Card to the GFA General ~~Coordinator~~ Secretariat or the GFA Match Commissioner and shall receive the Accreditation Card of the replacement in exchange.

d) Only when a replacement Participating Player has received his Accreditation Card will he be eligible to participate in the Competition.

5.8. Player Selection List

5.8.1. For all Matches, each Participating Team will receive a ‘Player Selection List’ one (1) day prior to the Match.

5.8.2. Each Participating Team must hand their Player Selection List signed by the Head Coach or Team Manager together with the “Officials on the Substitution

Bench" list to the GFA Match Commissioner at latest One hundred and twenty (120) minutes prior to the commencement of each Match.

- a) Each Participating Player who is marked on the Player Selection List must be available at the Player and Equipment Check undertaken by the GFA Match Commissioner on Match day.

5.9. Match Starting List

5.9.1. Upon receipt of the Player Selection List, the GFA Match Commissioner will issue the 'Match Starting List'.

5.9.2. The Match Starting List shall be signed by the GFA Match Commissioner, whose signature will make it an official document.

5.9.3. The GFA Match Commissioner will check the Accreditation Cards and playing kits of the Participating Players listed on the Match Starting List seventy-five (75) minutes before the Match in the area defined as per the GFA Match Protocol. Only those Participating Players possessing an Accreditation Card are entitled to participate in Matches.

5.9.4. Following the finalization of the Match Starting List but prior to the commencement of the Match:

- a) If any of the five (5) Participating Players selected to start the Match are unable to start for any reason, they may be replaced by any of the substitutes listed on the Match Starting List.
- b) The Team Manager or Head Coach of the Participating Team shall immediately notify the Match Officials and the GFA Match Commissioner of the change to the Match Starting List.
- c) There is no limit to the number of replacements subject to 5.9.4a.
- d) The replaced Participating Player(s) shall no longer be eligible to participate in the Match and cannot be substituted in during the Match. Although they may still be allowed to sit on the Team Bench.
- e) No Participating Players listed as substitutes in the Match Starting List may be replaced. Should such a Participating Player be unable to be fielded for any reason, the number of listed substitutes shall be reduced accordingly.

5.10. Registration of Officials

5.10.1. There shall only be one (1) registration period for Participating Officials.

5.10.2. Each Participating Team shall register its Participating Officials and additional officials (if any) via the GFA Systems along with the supporting documents not later than ~~thirty (30)~~ ten (10) days prior to the notified date of commencement of the Competition.

5.10.3. Each Participating Team shall register a minimum of three (3) and maximum of ~~ten (10)~~ six (6) Participating Officials for the Competition.

5.10.4. However, only up to ~~six (6)~~ four (4) Participating Officials may be registered for each Match through the 'Officials on the Substitution Bench' form filled prior to each Match. The following three (3) Participating Officials must be registered in the 'Officials on the Substitution Bench' Form:

- a) Head Coach;
- b) Team Manager; and
- c) Team Doctor or Physiotherapist (or equivalent qualification).

5.10.5. Each Participating Team can register any other ~~three (3)~~ one (1) Participating Officials for any other positions, including without limitation:

- a) Team Media Officer;
- b) Assistant Coach;
- c) Fitness Coach;
- d) Goalkeeper Coach;
- e) Technical Officer; or
- f) Kitman.

5.10.6. Office Bearers (e.g. President, Vice President, Treasurer, Members of the Board) of the Participating Team ~~or its Member Association~~ may be registered as Participating Officials.

5.10.7. Should the Participating Team nominate less than ~~six (6)~~ four (4) Participating Officials on the "Officials on the Substitution Bench" Form, the number of Participating Officials permitted on the Team Bench shall reduce accordingly.

5.10.8. Each Participating Team is entitled to register a 'Video Analyst' who shall be the only member of a Team Official Delegation entitled to record Matches in the Competition. This recording shall be strictly used only for technical purposes, and should not interfere with Match operations or be utilized by any broadcast licensees.

5.10.9. All Participating Officials will be issued with official Accreditation cards. Should a card be misplaced, the Participating Team shall be required to pay ~~INR 10,000/-~~ INR 1000/- (Rupees One Thousand Only) as a replacement production fee.

5.10.10. Should the GFA not receive the "Official Registration for Officials" via the AIFF/GFA Systems with all required documents by the stipulated deadline, the Participating Team shall be considered to have withdrawn from the Competition in accordance with Article 3.2. Proof of submission by facsimile, courier and/or email will not be accepted.

5.10.11. Once the registration of Participating Officials has been received by the GFA, the Participating Teams may replace any of the listed Participating Officials at any stage of the Competition with twenty-four (24) hours' notice to the GFA, subject to the below conditions:

- a) To replace a Participating Official, a Participating Team must provide

his Accreditation Card to the GFA and shall receive the Accreditation Card of the replacement Participating Official in exchange. Only when a replacement official has received his Accreditation Card will he be considered to be registered as a Participating Official and eligible to participate in the Competition.

5.11. Documents for Registration of Officials

5.11.1. Participating Officials must be registered on the “Official Registration for Officials” submitted via the GFA Systems, with the supporting documents set out below (unless previously submitted to the GFA and already available in the AIFF/GFA Systems):

- a) a colour copy of a government issued national identification card including but not limited to Passport, Voter ID card or a State issued Driving License;
- b) one (1) passport-size colour photo (taken within three (3) months);
- c) evidence of their qualification based upon their function:
 - i) Head Coach: GFA Online Introductory Futsal Coaching Certificate Course or higher;
 - ii). Team Doctor: relevant medical qualification.
 - iii). The GFA reserves the right to request additional documents at any time.

5.12. Size of Delegation at Matches

5.12.1. Each Participating Team shall finally register a Team Official Delegation comprising of fourteen (14) Participating Players and ~~six (6)~~ four (4) Participating Officials along.

5.12.2. The Team Official Delegation shall be granted full access to all official Competition areas, including the Field of Play and other necessary Controlled Access Areas, as determined by the GFA.

ARTICLE 6: MEDIA

6.1. Media access in Indoor Stadium

6.1.1. Representatives of the written press and radio journalists are not permitted on the Field of Play or the area between the boundaries of the Field of Play and the spectators, with the exception of accredited Media who shall carry out their duties in the specific locations assigned to them.

6.1.2. Only GFA official photographers, cameramen of the host broadcaster and the main visiting broadcast licensee and the personnel required to operate the electronic television cameras of the host broadcaster are allowed in the area between the boundaries of the Field of Play and the spectators, where they will carry out their work in the specific locations assigned to them.

6.1.3. No Media representatives are permitted to enter any team dressing room at any stage of any Match.

6.1.4. The ~~Organizing Member Association~~ GFA shall ensure that the LOC, the host broadcaster, and all broadcast licensees have free access to each Indoor Stadium from two (2) days prior to each Match and until one (1) day following each Match, to allow for the resolution of any technical issues and for the assembly of the relevant infrastructure required to execute the Media Rights.

6.1.5. The ~~Organizing Member Association~~ GFA is responsible for ensuring that the Media Rights are protected and that no unofficial or unauthorised broadcaster and/or video or ENG camera crews are permitted access to any Indoor Stadium without the prior written permission of the GFA.

ARTICLE 7: EQUIPMENT

7.1. GFA Equipment Regulations

7.1.1. Each Participating Team must comply with the GFA Equipment Regulations.

7.1.2. The GFA Equipment Regulations are operational from the arrival of each Team Official Delegation at a Controlled Access Area until the departure of each Team Official Delegation from such areas.

7.2. GFA Badges

7.2.1. Each Participating Team shall allow space on its playing jersey to affix the following sleeve badges:

- a) one (1) GFA Futsal Championship sleeve badge on the sleeve of the right arm;

7.3. Kit Approval Procedure

7.3.1. Each Participating Team shall submit to the GFA for its approval one (1) sample of each of the kits to be used by it during the Competition, by a date provided by the GFA prior to the date of commencement of the Competition.

7.3.2. Each Participating Team shall submit to the GFA for its approval, one (1) sample of all other apparel to be worn by its Team Official Delegation within the Controlled Access Areas during the Competition by a date provided by the GFA prior to the date of commencement of the Competition.

7.3.3. Should any equipment submitted to the GFA infringe the GFA Equipment Regulations or these Regulations, the Participating Team shall be required to resubmit corrected equipment to the GFA within four (4) days of receiving such notice of rejection from the GFA. In addition, the relevant Participating Team may be required to present additional samples at any time.

7.3.4. The GFA Match Commissioner and/or the ~~GFA General Coordinator~~ Match Officials shall have the right and duty to inspect the kit of a Team Official Delegation at each Venue, and are entitled to seize and send such items to the GFA headquarters for further inspection following each Match.

7.3.5. The GFA shall decide on the kit colour (shirts, shorts, and socks) to be worn for each Match on the basis of the equipment information submitted by each Participating Team prior to the Competition.

- a) Team A shall be given priority to wear its official colours;
- b) Team B shall wear official colours unless they clash with the official colours of Team A;
- c) Team B shall wear reserve colours if its official colours clash with the official colours.

7.4. Responsibility

7.4.1. The GFA has the sole authority to approve the equipment (including kit) set out in the GFA Equipment Regulations.

7.4.2. ~~Each Member Association i.e the Organizing Member Association and the Member Association of each participating Team~~ Participating Team, shall indemnify the GFA and hold the GFA harmless from any and all damages in the event that a conflict arises as a result of any endorsement deal existing between itself and its sponsor(s) which contravenes the GFA Equipment Regulations.

7.4.3. Each Participating Team is responsible, for all members of its Team Official Delegation, for the cost of any:

- a) hospitalisation (admission to hospital);
- b) surgical operations ~~not provided for in Article 58.2;~~ and
- c) specialized investigative procedures.

7.5. Anti-Doping

7.5.1. Doping is strictly prohibited. The NADA Anti-Doping Rules amended till date, the GFA Disciplinary Code, and all relevant GFA directives, guidelines and circulars provided in relation to anti-doping are applicable to the Competition.

7.5.2. The GFA shall inform the LOC and each Participating Team by means of a circular of the doping control procedure for the Competition, if any.

7.5.3. The GFA Sports Medical Committee shall be responsible for the approval of the WADA-accredited laboratory which shall carry out the analysis of all doping samples.

7.5.4. The LOC shall at the Indoor Stadium, make available a brightly lit and well-ventilated doping control room at all times during the Competition, ~~equipped with facilities listed below:–~~

- ~~(a) 1(one) table with 4 (four) chairs;~~
- ~~(b) 1 (one) cabinet with a lock;~~
- ~~(c) Attached bathroom and toilet equipped with washbasin, mirror and shower;~~
- ~~(d) Sofa for 8 (eight) persons;~~
- ~~(e) A refrigerator equipped with non alcoholic drinks in sealed bottles/packs;~~
- ~~(f) Mineral water bottles and canned juices; and~~
- ~~(g) A television~~

ARTICLE 8: DISCIPLINARY

8.1. Disciplinary Measures

8.1.1. All disciplinary measures in relation to the Competition shall be undertaken in accordance with the current GFA Statutes, GFA Disciplinary Code and any relevant GFA guideline, directive or circular as issued by the GFA.

8.1.2. The GFA may introduce new disciplinary rules and sanctions for the duration of the Competition. Such rules shall be communicated to the Participating Teams ten (10) days before the date of the scheduled commencement of the Competition at the latest.

8.1.3. All Participating Players agree to:

- a) respect the spirit of fair play, non-violence, and the authority of the Match Officials;
- b) behave accordingly; and
- c) refrain from doping (*cf* Article 7.5)

8.2. Good Conduct

8.2.1. Each Participating Team is directly liable for the improper conduct of:

- a) any member of its Team Official Delegation; and/or
- b) any person affiliated to it and/or carrying out duties on its behalf throughout the Competition including any additional members registered along with the Team Official Delegation.

8.2.2. For any violation of Article 8.2.1, the GFA Disciplinary Committee may issue any sanction listed in the GFA Disciplinary Code.

8.3. Administrative Procedure

8.3.1. Subject to the GFA Disciplinary Code, for any offence set out in these Regulations with a listed minimum fine, where it is the first such offence committed by a party:

- a) the GFA, after completing its investigation but prior to opening disciplinary proceedings, may write to the party and make an offer to compound the offence and reduce the listed fine by twenty percent (20%) should the party admit to the offence;
- b) if the offence is admitted, the GFA shall submit the compounded offence to the Chairperson of the GFA Disciplinary Committee for approval;
 - i) should the party not admit to the offence, the GFA shall open disciplinary proceedings;
- c) upon approval of the Chairperson of the GFA Disciplinary Committee, the sanction shall be notified and applied administratively by the GFA;
 - i) should the Chairperson of the GFA Disciplinary Committee not approve the compounded offence, the GFA shall open disciplinary

proceedings;

d) by agreeing to compound the offence, the party waives its right to request a motivated decision or appeal the sanction issued;

e) any sanction issued administratively comes into force immediately upon notification in accordance with the GFA Disciplinary Code.

8.4. Cautions and Expulsions

8.4.1. All matters relating to cautions and/or expulsions, including the carrying forward of cautions between stages of the Competition, shall be undertaken in accordance with the GFA Disciplinary Code except where expressly set out below.

8.4.2. If an individual receives a caution in two (2) separate Matches of the Competition, he is automatically suspended from the next Match.

8.4.3. Any Participating Player who completes the Group Stage having only received one (1) caution shall carry-over that caution to the Semi Finals.

8.4.4. Any Participating Player who completes the Semi Finals having only received one (1) caution shall not carry-over that caution to the Finals

8.5. Indiscipline or Violent Conduct

8.5.1. Any individual reported for any act of indiscipline or violent conduct at the Indoor Stadium (including without limitation within the team dressing room or on the Field of Play), Official Training Site, or any other location within the Venue or a Controlled Access Areas shall be referred to the GFA Disciplinary Committee.

8.6. Protest

8.6.1. A protest is an objection of any kind to any matter that has a direct effect on Matches and any matters related to breach of these Regulations.

8.6.2. Unless otherwise stipulated, to be considered valid, protests shall be:

a) submitted in writing on the Protest Form to the GFA Match Commissioner within two (2) hours of the end of the Match in question;

b) followed up with a full written report, including a copy of the original protest, sent to the GFA General Secretariat within twenty-four (24) hours from the end of the Match;

c) accompanied by a non-refundable fee of INR 5,000/- (Rupees Five Thousand Only) submitted within twenty-four (24) hours from the end of the Match.

8.6.3. No protest shall be lodged relating to the Referee's decisions regarding facts connected with play. Such decisions are final and not appealable, unless expressly otherwise stipulated in the GFA Disciplinary Code.

8.6.4. Should the GFA Disciplinary Committee determine that a protest is unfounded or irresponsible, it may impose a fine on the individual and/or Participating Team making such protest.

8.6.5. If any of the formal conditions of a protest as set out in these Regulations are not met, such protest shall be disregarded. Following the completion of the final Match of the Competition, all protests shall be disregarded.

8.6.6. The GFA Disciplinary Committee shall make decisions on all protests. The GFA Disciplinary Committee may transfer a protest to the GFA Futsal Committee for its decision if it is deemed to be purely operational in nature.

8.7. Dispute Resolution and Arbitration

8.7.1. Any dispute in connection with the Competition shall be promptly settled by negotiation.

8.7.2. In compliance with the GFA Statutes, the Participating Teams, Participating Players, and Participating Officials must submit to the exclusive jurisdiction of the GFA, and exhaust all internal remedies.

8.7.3. Participating Teams, Participating Players, and Participating Officials acknowledge and accept that, once all internal channels have been exhausted at the GFA, their sole recourse shall be to the Arbitration Tribunal of GFA. The language of arbitration shall be English.

8.7.4. The jurisdiction of the ~~CAS~~ Arbitration Tribunal to resolve disputes is only available where it has not been expressly excluded or a decision is declared as final and binding and not appealable.

8.7.5. In the event any party, after exhausting all remedies mentioned hereinabove, still decides to approach a court of law, the courts in ~~New Delhi~~ Goa shall have exclusive jurisdiction over the matter.

SECTION 12: ADMINISTRATION

12.1. Awards

12.1.1. The following awards shall be presented:

- a)** Most Valuable Player;
- b)** Top Goal scorer; and
- c)** Best Goalkeeper; and
- d)** GFA Fair Play Award;

12.1.2. The Most Valuable Player is awarded to the Participating Player who has a major influence in each of his Matches during the Competition.

12.1.3. The top Goal Scorer is awarded to the Participating Player who has scored the highest number of goals in combined Phase 1 and 2 Group/Knock Out Stages. In the event of a tie, the number of assists as determined by the GFA Technical Committee will be taken into account to identify the winner. If there is still a tie, the total minutes played will be taken into account with the Participating Player with the lower number of minutes played ranked first.

12.1.4. The GFA Fair Play Award is awarded to the Participating Team which has

collected the most Fair Play points in the Competition.

a) The Participating Team may be disqualified if it or any of its Team Official Delegation is involved in any severe misconduct throughout the Competition.

12.1.5. The GFA Futsal Committee may decide to introduce further awards **with the approval of the Executive Committee.**

12.2. Trophies and Medals

12.2.1. The original Competition trophy is presented to the Champion during the prize presentation ceremony and shall remain in the possession of the Participating Team for ~~three (3)~~ one (1) month, after which it shall be returned to the GFA **Secretariat** and shall remain with the GFA at all times thereafter.

12.2.2. The Champion may produce a copy of the trophy, after taking permission and approval of size of such copy from the GFA.

12.2.3. The GFA shall award the following medals and trophies:

a) twenty-four (24) gold medals to the Champion;

b) twenty-four (24) silver medals to the Runner-Up;

12.2.4. No additional medals or trophies shall be produced.

12.3. Prize Presentation Ceremony

12.3.1. A prize presentation ceremony shall be held immediately after the last Match of the Competition to present the awards, trophies, and medals listed in Article 12.1 and 12.3.

12.3.2. The Participating Teams along that qualify to receive the awards, trophies, and medals are required to attend the relevant prize presentation ceremony. Such Participating Teams shall be represented by their Team Official Delegation for the prize presentation ceremony following the last Match of the Competition.

12.4. Protocol

The GFA Match Protocol Guidelines, provided herein as **Appendix 1**, shall apply for all Matches.

~~The GFA COVID SOP, provided herein as Appendix 2, for the Competition shall also apply for all the Matches.~~

12.5. Special Instructions

12.5.1. The GFA Futsal Committee shall, in conjunction with the ~~Organizing Member Association~~ LOC, issue any instructions necessitated by special circumstances which might arise in the organization of the Matches.

12.5.2. These instructions shall form an integral part of these Regulations.

12.6. Decisions

12.6.1. All decisions made in accordance with these Regulations, except where expressly identified otherwise, are final and binding and not appealable.

12.7. Amendments

12.7.1. The GFA reserves the right to make amendments to any part of these Regulations for any reason whatsoever prior to the commencement of the Competition. Such

amendments shall be duly communicated in due course.

12.8. Force Majeure

12.8.1. The GFA Futsal Committee is the only body capable of declaring and accepting the existence of a Force Majeure event.

12.9. Matters not provided for

Matters not provided for in these Regulations shall be decided by the GFA Futsal Executive Committee. Such decisions are final and binding and not appealable.

12.10. Closing Provisions

The GFA General Secretariat is entrusted with the operational management of the Competition and is therefore entitled to make decisions and adopt the detailed provisions necessary for implementing these Regulations.