



**COE U-17**  
**LEAGUE**



**2023 REGULATIONS**

## **GENERAL PROVISIONS**

### **Purpose and Applications**

These Tournament Regulations for the Centre of Excellence (COE) Under-17 (U17) League is promulgated by the Football Association of Singapore (FAS) to regulate and govern the conduct, operations and administration of the COE U17 League, all participating Clubs, League and Club Officials, Match Officials, Referees, Players and other related stakeholders as cited within these Regulations.

### **Scope of Application**

These Regulations shall be used at all times in conjunction with all other governing documents and regulations of the COE U17 League as issued from time to time. These Regulations shall be binding on the COE U17 League, all Clubs in the Competition, League and Club Officials, Referees, Players and other stakeholders and partners as cited within these Regulations and other FAS governing documents.

### **Enforcement**

Any breach of any of the provisions of these Regulations shall be enforced by the imposition of action and possible sanctions pursuant to these Regulations and/or the FAS Disciplinary Code as may be subsequently issued.

### **Definition and Interpretation**

Unless otherwise indicated, words and expressions in these Regulations shall have the same meaning as in other governing documents of the FAS. Any interpretation of provision of these Regulations shall at all times be the interpretation that best achieves the objectives of the FAS.

### **Amendments**

Any part of these Regulations may be amended from time to time, provided that any such amendments are formalized after appropriate consultation with the relevant committees of the FAS and approved by Exco.

## DEFINITIONS

Unless the contrary appears from the context in this and the following Sections,

the words “AFC Statutes” means the statutes and accompanying standing orders and regulations promulgated by the Asian Football Confederation (AFC) from time to time;

the word “Club” means any Club in membership of the COE U17 League;

the words “Code of Conduct” means the FAS Code of Conduct and COE U17 League Code of Conduct as may hereafter be issued;

the word “Competition” and/or “COE U17”, and/or the “League” means the amateur football club competition, namely the Centre of Excellence Under-17 League, organized and sanctioned by FAS and staged and managed by the FAS;

the words “FIFA Statutes” means the statutes including the standing orders and regulations promulgated by FIFA, including the Regulations Governing the Status and Transfer of Players, as amended from time to time;

the word “the Council” shall refer to the Council of Football Association of Singapore;

the word “dollars” refers to Singapore Dollars;

the word “Exco” refers to the Executive Committee of Football Association of Singapore, and any decision made by the Exco shall be deemed to be the decision of the Council of Football Association of Singapore.

the letters “FAS” mean Football Association of Singapore;

the letters “FIFA” mean the Federation Internationale De Football Association;

the word “he” and its derivatives are used of any person, whether male or female;

the word “person” includes any company or association or body of persons, whether incorporated or not;

the word “public” includes any class of the public or any community;

the words “COE U17 Match” mean any Match in any tournament organised by the COE U17 League and/or or sanctioned pursuant to these Rules in these Sections;

the word “Season” refer to a particular calendar year;

the word “Foreign Player” refers to a Player who is a Permanent Resident (PR) of Singapore or any player currently residing in Singapore and on a long-term student pass or a long-term dependant’s pass, not for the purposes of employment;

the words “Friendly Match” means any match participated in by a Club that is not part of the Season and sanctioned by FAS;

the word “Agent” means a person authorized to negotiate a Standard Player Contract on behalf of a player as specified in these Regulations;

the words “Laws of the Game” means the Official Laws of the Game as promulgated by IFAB and enforced by FIFA;

the words "Match Official" means a referee, assistant referee, fourth official, match commissioner, referee assessor or any person in charge of safety or any person appointed by FAS to assume responsibility in connection with a match;

the words "Medical Officer" means the suitably qualified, registered medical doctor appointed by the Host Club to treat players for injury and illness;

the words "National Team" means any national team squad selected or nominated by a FIFA Member Association, including the men's senior, Olympics, age-groups, futsal or beach football teams or any other national representative team determined by FIFA from time to time;

the word "Official" means any person involved with:

- Club Official - the administration, management or organization of a Club (whether paid or unpaid), including employees, contractors, consultants, officers and directors and representatives; or
- Team Official - the management, preparation or participation of a Club's team (whether paid or unpaid) including the coaches, managers, medical staff (including team doctor), physiotherapists, kitman and other support staff;

the plural number, and words importing the plural number include the singular number.



## **SECTION A: ENTRY, WITHDRAWAL, COMPETITION SYSTEM**

### **1. Composition of the COE U17 League**

- 1.1 The League shall consist of Participating Clubs determined by FAS and accepted as such by the Executive Committee (hereinafter “the Exco”) of FAS or by the Council of FAS (hereinafter “the Council”).
- 1.2 The Exco or the Council reserves before, during or after any Season, the right to determine at all material times and at their absolute discretion the membership of any Participating Club in the League which fails to meet the criteria and/or requirements, from time to time, of FAS.
- 1.3 The Exco or the Council shall appoint a FAS Competitions Committee, an Administrative and Finance Committee, a Marketing Committee, a Players Status Committee or such other Committee or Committees which Committees in their respective terms and Rules thereunder, if any, shall determine the format, timing and venues of, and all other rules relating to match or matches, and any play-offs thereof, or regulating Players, Coaches, or any other key personnel, their contracts of service, their registrations, transfers and/or status, and anything akin thereto, and sponsorship, and finance, administration and its management thereof, and the use of the stadia or anything relating thereto, and/or anything relevant and desirable for promoting professional football in Singapore.
- 1.4 Such Committee or Committees, so appointed from time to time, shall promote, provide for, regulate, publish, where necessary, manage all or on any details or arrangements or other things necessary or desirable for or ancillary to the comfort, conduct, management, convenience or benefit of the game, the League and/or the Participating Clubs thereunder and/or its members thereof.
- 1.5 Save as otherwise expressly provided for by these Rules, all such decisions and rulings of the Committees shall be deemed to be decisions of the Exco or the Council, and shall be binding upon all Participating Clubs, and all members thereof unless they are rescinded or varied by the relevant Committee or the Appeals Committee or the Exco or the Council as per these Rules in these Sections hereinafter appearing, the Exco being deemed the supreme body and the final decider and/or decision-maker.

### **2. Undertaking by Clubs**

- 2.1 Membership of the League shall constitute an agreement between FAS and each Participating Club, and between each of the Participating Clubs, to be bound by and to comply with:
  - 2.1.1 these Rules (each as altered, revoked, or added to from time to time);
  - 2.1.2 the Rules of all Committees of FAS (each as altered, revoked, or added to from time to time);
  - 2.1.3 Such other Rules that are applicable to the Participating Clubs partaking in tournaments organised and/or sanctioned by FAS; and
  - 2.1.4 Such decisions of the Exco or the Council of FAS;
  - 2.1.5 The Laws of the Game as laid down from time to time by the Federation Internationale De Football Association (FIFA) as adopted by FAS or otherwise.

- 2.2 Such agreement shall have effect from the date of the Participating Club's admission to the League and terminate upon the Participating Club ceasing to be a member thereof (but without prejudice to any rights or claims which may have arisen or arise in respect of circumstances prior to such a date and to any Rules which, by their terms, establish rights and obligations applicable after such a date) and/or pursuant to any resolution of FAS, through the Exco and/or the Council.
- 2.3 By virtue of this undertaking, Participating Clubs shall in particular be bound to provide certain rights, facilities and services to League/FAS in order to enable it to fulfil its obligations under commercial contracts entered into in accordance with its Constitution.

### **3. Relationship between teams and the COE U17 League/FAS: Confidentiality**

- 3.1 In all matters and transactions relating to the COE U17 League, each Participating Club shall behave towards each other Participating Club and FAS or its Department or its Committees with the utmost good faith.
- 3.2 No player/coach/official, its employees of a Participating club or agents shall by any means whatsoever unfairly criticise, disparage, belittle or discredit any other Participating Club or FAS or its Department or its Committees or in either case any of its directors, officials, employees or agents or bring football into disrepute.
- 3.3 A Participating Club shall not either during its membership in the COE U17 League or at any time after its membership has been determined disclose or divulge either directly or indirectly to any person, firm or company whatsoever or otherwise make use of any confidential information as to the business or finances of FAS or its Department or its Committees or any of its dealings, transactions or affairs or as to any other matters which may come to its knowledge by reason of its membership without FAS's prior written consent, save as to statutory and regulatory authorities and to such employees of a team to whom such disclosure is strictly necessary for the purpose of their duties and only then to the extent so necessary.
- 3.4 Each Participating Club shall procure that each of its officials and employees are made aware of the foregoing provisions of Rule 3.3 above and enter into a binding obligation to comply with the same both during the period of their appointment or employment by the Participating Club and at all times thereafter.
- 3.5 Any Participating Club found to be in breach of Rule 3.1 to Rule 3.4 herein shall be deemed to be guilty of misconduct.

### **4. Commitment to the National team or any such Representative team**

- 4.1 All Clubs shall support FAS in relation to international matches in accordance with the provisions of FIFA and The Rules of the Players Status Committee of FAS, the latter Rules prevailing.
- 4.2 No matches shall be arranged on any of the days preceding any of the specified dates of each Season for international matches, unless otherwise decided by the League.

- 4.3 All Clubs shall support and release selected coaches and/or players to represent FAS and/or League and to participate in officially sanctioned events, activities or competitive matches for the sole purpose of promoting and publicising the FAS and/or League.
- 4.4 In support of the development and preparation of the National Team, a National Team Training Day shall be designated, and the Clubs shall support, and release players called up by the National Head Coach. The players shall participate in the programme drawn up at the sole discretion of the National Head Coach.
- 4.5 A Participating Club may request for a postponement and rescheduling of a League match if at least four (4) or more players from their squad have been officially called up to represent the National Team and/or National Age Group Teams or representative teams in any official international match or competition sanctioned either by the FAS or a Member Organization of FIFA. The final decision shall reside with the FAS Competitions Department.

## **5. Termination of Membership**

- 5.1 Subject to these Sections, no Club shall terminate its membership of the League unless it has given notice in writing to FAS of its intention to do so, a minimum of four (4) months before the end of the Season in reference. Subject to Section 5.3, no Club shall terminate its membership before the end of the Season.
- 5.2 Any Club which is in breach of the provisions of Rule 5.1 above shall indemnify FAS against all losses from any such breach.
- 5.3 FAS may from time to time, and upon such terms and conditions as it may think fit, expel or accept the retirement or relegation of any Club from the League. Any resolution to expel, retire or relegate any Club from the League shall be at the complete discretion of the Exco.

## **6. Competition System**

- 6.1 The League shall be spread over as much of a year and the FAS Competitions Department shall determine dates of commencement and the end of the League.
- 6.2 The Competition shall be played on a "league" basis, with each team facing each opponent three times. The FAS Competitions Department shall reserve the right to alter the basis of the league; not limited to the competition format.
- 6.3 Three (3) points shall be awarded for a win and no points to the losing team.
- 6.4 In the event of a draw after the 90 minutes of regulation time, both the teams shall be awarded one (1) point each.
- 6.5 In the event that two (2) or more teams have accumulated the similar number of points, then the higher placed team shall be the team which has the greater goal difference, that is, number of goals conceded subtracted from the number of goals scored.

- 6.6 In the event that two (2) or more teams have a similar goal difference, then the higher placed team shall be the team which scores the greater number of goals.
- 6.7 In the event that two (2) or more teams score a similar number of goals, then the higher placed team shall be the team which attains the greater number of wins.
- 6.8 In the event that two (2) or more teams attain the same number of wins, then the higher placed team shall be the team which attains the higher number of points from the matches played between the teams in question.
- 6.9 In the event that two (2) or more teams attain the same number of points from the matches played between the teams in question, then the higher placed team shall be the team which has the greater goal difference from the matches played between the teams in question.
- 6.10 In the event that two (2) or more teams have a similar goal difference from the matches played between the teams in question, then the higher placed team shall be the team which scored the greater number of goals from the matches played between the teams in question.
- 6.11 In the event that two (2) or more teams score a similar number of goals from the matches played between the teams in question, then the higher placed team shall be the team which attains the greater number of wins from the matches played between the teams in question (Head-to-Head).
- 6.12 In the event that two (2) or more teams attain the same number of wins from the matches played between the teams in question, the higher placed team shall be the team which is ranked higher in the Fair Play table (tabulation of Yellow and Red Cards).
- 6.13 In the event that two (2) or more teams cannot be separated using the above criteria, the winner shall be decided by the drawing of lots.



## **SECTION B: TEAM DELEGATION**

### **7. Eligibility of Players**

- 7.1 Each Participating Club shall ensure that all players are duly registered with the FAS pursuant to these regulations.
- 7.2 All Participating Players registered in the COE U17 League shall be under the age of 17 (born on or after 1 January 2006).
- 7.3 A registered Player is one whose registration has been approved by the FAS Competitions Department through the MyFAS Online Registration System, with the player being indicated as 'active' in the said system.
- 7.4 Individuals who meet the criteria set out in Articles 7.1, 7.2 and 7.3 are Participating Players and eligible to participate in the Competition, subject to additional provisions of the FAS Disciplinary and Ethics Code.
- 7.5 The FAS Competitions Department may decide not to approve the registration of a player if any of the requirements set out in this Section are not met.
- 7.6 The approval of the registration of a Participating Player by the FAS Competitions Department does not automatically provide for the eligibility of the Participating Player. Each Participating Club is responsible for and bears the onus of fielding only eligible Participating Players in a Match. Failure to do so shall be considered as gross misconduct and shall lead to the consequences stipulated in Rule 11.3 and/or referred to the FAS Disciplinary Committee.
- 7.7 Insofar as it applies to the currency of the League and notwithstanding anything herein these Rules in these Sections, there shall be two (2) windows for registrations.
- 7.8 Clubs in the League shall not be allowed to change players after the closure of the first registration window.
- 7.9 Clubs in the League can change as many of their local and foreign Players during the second registration window on any dates decided by the FAS Competitions Department. Without breaching any of the Rules in these Sections, a Player is eligible to play when he is registered before twelve (12) noon on the day of the match. If any Club in the League has not filled up its full quota of Players, then such a Club can register those additional players during the registration periods.
- 7.10 Clubs falling short or failing to register the minimum registration requirements by the minimum registration deadlines and after the close of registration windows shall constitute a disciplinary offence.

### **8. Documents for Registration of Players**

- 8.1 All Participating Players shall be registered via the MyFAS online registration system.

- 8.2 All Participating Players shall be issued with a Letter of Authorisation (LOA) authorised by the FAS Competitions Department. Should an LOA be misplaced, the Participating Club shall be required to pay a penalty of One Hundred Dollars (SGD\$100.00) for each misplaced LOA as a replacement production fee.

## 9. Multiplicity of Registration

- 9.1 In the event of a Participating Player registering for more than one Participating Club, priority of registration shall be the deciding factor. The Participating Club submitting the later registration shall be notified of the prior registration of the Participating Player, and Director, Competitions, shall investigate the circumstances under which the registrations were conducted.
- 9.2 Any Participating player found to have wilfully registered with more than one Participating Club or a Participating Club found to have knowingly induced a Registered Player of another Participating Club to register shall be dealt with by Director, Competitions, in such manner as he shall think fit.
- 9.3 Local Players who have been de-registered or have his contract terminated by the Participating Club during the season, shall be allowed to move to another Participating Club during the next registration window provided it does not contravene any of the League Rules.
- 9.4 In extenuating circumstances, Director, Competitions can approve Participating Players to move to another Club before the next registration window.

## 10. Registrations of Players

- 10.1 Every Participating Club shall have a minimum squad of twenty (20) Players and a maximum of Thirty (30) Players, at the pre-season minimum registration deadline (set by the FAS Competitions Department), and at the commencement and during the currency of a season.
- 10.2 Each club shall be allowed to register a maximum of three (3) foreign Players. For avoidance of doubt, a maximum of three (3) foreign Players may be named or fielded in any one match. A foreign Player is defined as a Permanent Resident (PR). If the Player is not a PR, he must be on a long-term student pass or a long-term dependant's pass.
- 10.3 Pursuant to Rule 10.1, the squad composition for every Participating Club shall be as follows:

Squad Size	20-30 Players
Foreign U-17 Players (Born on or after 1 January 2006)	Maximum 3
Singaporean U-17 Players (Born on or after 1 January 2006)	Remaining Slots

- 10.4 For the COE U17 League, the allocated jersey numbers are from 1 to 99.

- 10.5 A Players' number shall remain with him for the duration of the season unless either:
- 10.5.1 He ceases to play for the Club; or
  - 10.5.2 For other reasons that are deemed satisfactory to the FAS Competitions Committee as per the Regulations
- 10.6 Any new Players registered during the season shall not be registered with a number that had been allocated to any other Player in the same Club during the season.

## **11. Breach of Conditions of Registration**

- 11.1 Failure to comply with any of the conditions relating to registration shall render the Player ineligible to play for the Participating Club concerned.
- 11.2 An Eligible Player for a particular Match is one who:
- 11.2.1 Is not serving a suspension as a result of a caution/dismissal in a match;
  - 11.2.2 Is not serving a suspension as a result of a decision by the FAS Disciplinary Committee;
  - 11.2.3 Has been fielded in a match without contravening any of the League's requirement of fielding and/or substitution of Players
- 11.3 Should a Club field an unregistered, suspended or ineligible Player or field a registered Player in the starting line-up (First XI) who have been named as a substitute, or without the Player's name being indicated so either in the First XI or as Substitute in accordance to the Player Selection List, the match and three points shall be awarded to the opposing non-infringing team, and the score to remain/or a three (3) - nil (0) shall be awarded to the said non-infringing team, whichever is the greater. If a match is forfeited, suspension is only considered to have been served if the team to which the suspended Player belongs is not responsible for the facts that led to the forfeit of the match.

## **12. List of Players**

- 12.1 All Participating Players registered in the COE U17 League shall be Amateur Players.
- 12.2 An Amateur Player is one who does not play football professionally and are paid allowances, etc.
- 12.3 An Amateur Player, regardless of age, who wishes to move to another club at the end of his contract is free to do so without his new club having to pay any form of compensation, provided that he retains his amateur status at his new club.
- 12.4 An Amateur Player under the age of 23 (born on or after 1<sup>st</sup> January 2000), who is out of contract and wishes to move to another Club and change his status to that of a Non-Amateur (professional), is free to do so, but his previous club(s) can seek compensation based upon a justifiable claim for training compensation.

### **13. Registration of Officials**

- 13.1 Each Participating Club shall submit to the FAS Competitions Department its registration of Participating Officials and the supporting documents by the deadline stipulated for the relevant registration Window.
- 13.2 Each Participating Club may register a maximum of ten (10) Participating Officials.
- 13.3 Up to seven (7) officials may be registered for each Match. The following two (2) Participating Officials shall be registered on the Officials on the Substitution Bench Form:
  - 13.3.1 Head Coach; and
  - 13.3.2 Physiotherapist/Sport Trainer
- 13.4 Each Participating Club may register any other eight (8) Participating Officials for any positions, including without limitation:
  - 13.4.1 Assistant Coach;
  - 13.4.2 Goalkeeper Coach;
  - 13.4.3 Fitness Coach/Trainer;
  - 13.4.4 Team Manager
  - 13.4.5 Media Officer;
  - 13.4.6 Doctor;
  - 13.4.7 Interpreter;
  - 13.4.8 Security Officer;
  - 13.4.9 Video Analyst;
  - 13.4.10 Technical Director;
  - 13.4.11 Equipment Manager / Kitman.
- 13.5 Should the Participating Club nominate less than seven (7) Participating Officials on the Officials on the Substitution Bench Form, or the FAS Competitions Department does not approve the registration of any person(s) nominated, the number of Participating Officials permitted on the team bench shall reduce proportionately.
- 13.6 All Participating Officials shall be issued with official eligibility cards authorized by the FAS Competitions Department. Should a card be misplaced, the Participating Club shall be required to pay One Hundred Dollars (SGD\$100.00) for each misplaced card as a replacement production fee.

### **14. Documents for Registration of Officials**

- 14.1 Participating Officials shall be registered via the MyFAS online registration system.
- 14.2 All Team Officials shall provide in the MyFAS online registration system, evidence of their qualification, based on the Minimum Coaching Requirements (MCR) set by the League.
- 14.3 All Clubs shall ensure that the following coaching and technical positions adhere to the following Minimum Coaching Requirements (MCR) stipulated below:

Position	Minimum Coaching Requirements (MCR)
COE U17 Head Coach	AFC 'B' Coaching Diploma or equivalent
Physiotherapist	Certified by Ministry of Health (or relevant country's Health Ministry) and/or registered with physiotherapy board/council in Singapore and Registered with FAS Football Science Department
Sports Trainer	FAS Level 1 Sports Trainer Certificate and Registered with FAS Football Science Department

## 15. Size of Delegation at Matches

- 15.1 Each Participating Club shall register a Team Official Delegation comprising of maximum twenty (20) Participating Players and a maximum of seven (7) Participating Officials for each match.
- 15.2 The Team Official Delegation shall be granted full access to all official areas, including the Field of Play and other necessary Controlled Accessed Areas, as determined by the FAS Competitions Department.
- 15.3 Participating Clubs shall ensure that no unauthorized persons are permitted entry into the team dressing room, Field of Play, or any Controlled Access Area requiring an Accreditation Card.

## **SECTION C: TEAM SELECTION AND MATCH DAY REGULATIONS**

### **16. Naming of Participating Players before the match**

- 16.1 All Participating Clubs shall provide one (1) duly completed 'Player Selection List' to the Match Commissioner no less than forty-five (45) minutes prior to the scheduled kick-off. The club shall indicate on the Starting List the eleven (11) Participating Players who shall start the match and the other nine (9) named substitutes. The Team Captain shall also be identified on the starting list.
- 16.2 Once the Player Selection List is submitted to the Match Commissioner and becomes an official document, and if the match has not yet kicked-off, the following instructions apply:
- 16.2.1 If any of the eleven (11) players listed on the Player Selection List selected to start the match are not able to start the match for any reason, they may be replaced by any of the named substitutes. Such replacements shall reduce the quota of substitute players accordingly. The player being replaced cannot be renamed as a substitute. During the match, five (5) substitutions may still be made by the team.
- 16.2.2 If any of the substitutes named on the Player Selection List is not able to be fielded for any reason, they may not be replaced, which means that the quota of substitute players shall be reduced accordingly.
- 16.3 Any Participating Club failing to carry out these provisions shall be fined a sum of One Thousand Dollars (SGD\$1000.00) for the first offence, and for any subsequent offence the club shall be deemed guilty of misconduct and referred to the FAS Disciplinary Committee.
- 16.4 Should a team be found to infringe any of the rules above or field an unregistered, suspended or ineligible player or field a registered player either in the starting line-up (First XI) who have been named as a substitute, or without the player's name being indicated so either in the First XI or as Substitute in accordance to the Player Selection List, the match and three (3) points shall be awarded to the opposing non-infringing team, and the score to remain or a three (3) - nil (0) win to be awarded to the said non-infringing team, whichever is the greater. If a match is forfeited, suspension is only considered to have been served if the team to which the suspended player belongs is not responsible for the facts that led to the forfeit of the match.

### **17. Minimum Number of Players During a Match**

- 17.1 A Match shall not start or continue if either team consist of fewer than seven (7) players.

### **18. Substitution of Participating Players**

- 18.1 In all Matches, each Participating Club is permitted a maximum of five (5) named substitutions.
- 18.2 Pursuant to 18.1, the five (5) named substitutions shall only be made over three (3) substitution opportunities, excluding half-time.



- 18.3 If the goalkeeper is ordered off during play, the designated substitute may subsequently replace another player of the same Team and play as a goalkeeper.
- 18.4 There shall be no substitution of any player who is ordered off the field of play.
- 18.5 All Participating Clubs wishing to make a substitution shall inform the 4<sup>th</sup> Official of the Players involved in the Substitution using a duly completed 'Substitution Card' and accompanied by the Players' Letter of Authorisation (LOA).

## **SECTION D: TECHNICAL REGULATIONS**

### **19. Duration of Matches**

- 19.1 All Matches shall be of ninety (90) minutes' duration (forty-five (45) minutes for each half) but any Match which for any cause whatever falls short of ninety (90) minutes' duration may be ordered to count as a completed fixture or to be replayed in full as the FAS Competitions Department may in its absolute discretion determine.
- 19.2 In all Matches, the half-time interval shall not exceed fifteen (15) minutes, from whistle to whistle.

### **20. Arrangement of Fixtures**

- 20.1 All Matches in the League shall be arranged as soon as practicable prior to the commencement of the Season. The copyright in all lists or arrangements of such fixtures in the League or of any match sanctioned by the FAS Competitions Department shall be vested in FAS.
- 20.2 The FAS Competitions Department shall be responsible for drawing out the match fixtures for dissemination to all the Clubs before the commencement of the League. All Matches shall, unless re-arranged with the approval of the FAS Competitions Department, be played on the dates scheduled.
- 20.3 The FAS Competitions Department and the FAS Referees Committee shall appoint the Match Commissioners and Referees for all Matches.
- 20.4 All kick-offs shall adhere to the time advertised by the FAS Competitions Department, Clubs and Referees shall report any delays at the scheduled time of kick-off and the start of the second half to the FAS Competitions Department. Any Club causing a kick-off to be delayed by more than ten (10) minutes from the time advertised shall be deemed guilty of misconduct.
- 20.5 Should any delayed kick-off necessitate the Visiting Club incurring expenses, the Visiting Club shall be entitled to claim reasonable costs against the gross gate takings. Any dispute arising from the claim so made shall be referred to the Director, Competitions, whose decision shall be final. Any such claim shall be made within fourteen (14) days of the match in question and payment, or referral to the Director, Competitions, shall be made within fourteen (14) days of receipt of the claim.

### **21. Kick Off Timings**

- 21.1 The time of kick-off shall be between 5pm and 9.30pm for all matches. FAS reserves the right to amend the kick-off time for all matches.
- 21.2 Any variation to these timings shall be made only with the approval of the FAS Competitions Department.
- 21.3 For matches on Public Holidays, the FAS Competitions Department shall fix the time of kick-off.
- 21.4 For matches televised or streamed online (whether live or otherwise), the FAS

Competitions Department shall determine the time of kick-off if necessary.

- 21.5 Both Teams shall enter the field of play together along with the Match Officials, the Referee as per timings listed on the Official Match Countdown.

## **22. Non-fulfilment of Fixture Obligations**

- 22.1 Any team that failed to fulfil its fixture obligation without just cause in respect of any Match on the appointed date or dates shall be deemed guilty of gross misconduct.
- 22.2 The team that fails to fulfil its fixture obligations shall be liable to pay a fine and compensation for any expenses necessarily incurred by the opposing team, FAS and other affected parties as a direct result of the failure. The amount of compensation shall be at the discretion of Director, Competitions after weighing the merits of each case. The FAS Competitions Department reserves the right to take whatever action they deem fit against the infringing team, including but not limited to imposing a fine on the team, and/or referring the matter to the Exco or the Council.

## **23. Dispute / Dislocation of Fixtures / Abandoned Matches**

- 23.1 Any dispute between two or more Clubs as to the arrangement of the Matches shall be referred to and decided by the Director, Competitions as soon as possible but not later than seven (7) days before the Match in reference.
- 23.2 If, for whatever reason, the Matches cannot be played on the appointed date, this shall be immediately reported to the Director, Competitions by the Clubs concerned, and it shall be the FAS Competition Department's responsibility in each instance to notify immediately the appointed Referee, the Assistant Referees, the Fourth Official, and the Match Commissioner, and such other relevant personnel, of such postponement.
- 23.3 In the event of any Match that has been postponed or abandoned before the completion of the regulation time of ninety (90) minutes, the result shall be decided by the FAS Competitions Department as to whether there should be a replay or any form of disciplinary action to be taken against the errant team or Club.
- 23.4 The FAS Competitions Department shall as far as possible arrange for a date agreeable to both the teams if the match is not played the following day. When this is not possible then the FAS Competitions Department shall decide on the date and venue, and whose decision shall be final. A team unable to play on the date and venue decided by the FAS Competitions Department shall be considered to have failed to fulfil an engagement or play its fixtures and liable to disciplinary action. The decision of the Disciplinary Committee shall be final and binding.
- 23.5 In the event where a match is abandoned/postponed before the 80th minute of play (i.e., Between 0 to 79 minutes) as determined by the Match Official, the match shall be replayed. The score of the abandoned match shall be considered null and void, and the replay shall start as a new match playing the ninety (90) minutes of regulation time with a score of 0-0. In the event where a match is abandoned/postponed after the 80<sup>th</sup> minute of play (i.e., 80 minutes onwards) as determined by the Match Official, the match shall be considered complete and the score at the time of abandonment/postponement shall be considered final.
- 23.6 An abandoned/postponed match shall not be considered as the match where a

suspended player has served the suspension; the suspended player shall serve the suspension in the immediate match following the abandoned/postponed match. If an abandoned match is to be replayed, any caution issued during that match shall be annulled but a red card received by a player in an abandoned match shall count and the appropriate sanction shall follow. The replay of the abandoned match shall not be considered as the match where the errant player has served the suspension. If the match is not to be replayed, the cautions received by the team responsible for causing the match to be abandoned are upheld; if both teams are responsible, then all of the cautions are upheld.

- 23.7 The score of the abandoned match shall be considered null and void, and the replay shall start as a new match playing the ninety (90) minutes of regulation time with the score of 0-0.
- 23.8 If a match is abandoned, suspension is only considered to have been served if the team to which the suspended player belongs is not responsible for the facts that led to the abandonment of the match.

#### **24. Club ceasing to play**

- 24.1 If any Club in the League ceases to operate during the Season, its playing record in the League shall be expunged, and the number of places from the respective Tournaments, shall be reduced accordingly unless otherwise determined by the FAS Competitions Committee. The remaining fixtures if any shall continue without the Club that has ceased to operate.
- 24.2 If any Club ceases to operate after the completion of the Season's fixture programme, the FAS Competitions Committee shall determine the position of the Club without prejudice to any and all rights it has.

#### **25. Club Protest**

- 25.1 Any Club intending to lodge a protest against their opponents for any violation of the Tournament procedure in or about the Match shall do so in writing signed by the General/Club Manager or Hon. Secretary of the Club or a responsible Official of the Club to the FAS Competitions Department within forty-eight (48) hours from the end of the Match with a deposit of One Thousand Dollars (SGD\$1,000.00).
- 25.2 Pursuant to Rule 25.1 above, any protest(s)/complaints lodged by Clubs without meeting the conditions stipulated in Rule 25.5 below, shall not be entertained by the FAS Competitions Department.
- 25.3 No protest shall be lodged relating to the Referee's decisions regarding facts connected with play. Such decisions are final and binding and not subject to appeal.
- 25.4 In cases where a decision by the Referee involves an obvious error (such as mistaking the identity of the person penalised), the FAS Committee and/or judicial bodies may only review the disciplinary consequences of that decision. In cases of mistaken identity, the relevant proceedings may be opened against the person who was actually at fault.
- 25.5 Any Club intending to lodge a protest shall abide by the following procedure:

- 25.5.1 The Team Manager or a responsible official of the Club shall notify the Match Commissioner immediately after the relevant match that he shall be filing an official protest. The Match Commissioner shall reflect this in his report and submit a detailed report on the incident.
- 25.5.2 The Team Manager/official must then send in a full written report (including the appropriate Protest Form issued by the FAS General Secretariat) of his official protest to the FAS Competitions Department within forty-eight (48) hours, following the end of the relevant match, accompanied by a fee of One Thousand Dollars (SGD\$1,000.00).
- 25.5.3 On receiving the protest, the Director, Competitions, after studying the relevant reports, shall decide on the outcome where possible.
- 25.5.4 When no decision can be ascertained, the FAS Referees' Department and/or FAS Committees may be consulted.
- 25.5.5 The player pending the appeal shall have to serve his mandatory suspension until a decision is arrived at by the Director, Competitions.
- 25.5.6 All decisions pertaining to the protest shall be binding and final.
- 25.5.7 The deposit may be refunded to the appellant if the appeal is successful.

25.6 The FAS Committee and/or judicial bodies are also responsible for:

- 31.6.1 sanctioning serious infringements which have escaped the Match Official's attention; and
- 31.6.2 rectifying obvious errors in the Referee's disciplinary decisions

## **26. Disparaging Remarks on Refereeing / Charging at Referees / Conduct of Club Officials and Players**

- 26.1 No Club Official, Coach, Player or a member of the Team shall make any disparaging remarks about the refereeing of a match; any such remark made by a Club Official, Coach or a member of the Team may render such person liable to disciplinary action.
- 26.2 Players/Officials are prohibited from charging at the referee before, during or after the game, for whatever reasons. Any such action shall render the player/official and club concerned, liable to a fine at the discretion of the Director, FAS Competitions Department and/or referred to the Disciplinary Committee.
- 26.3 Any Club Official or player who fails to conduct oneself in a proper and responsible manner before, during or after the game, including but not limited to misconduct on the field of play, in the technical area, dressing rooms and stadium premises, shall be liable to disciplinary action.

## **27. Fixtures Scheduling Policy**

- 27.1 The COE U17 League shall adopt and be guided by the policy of a minimum of forty-eight (48) hours between matches. The rest period shall not take into account for the impact travel has on recovery.
- 27.2 With the exception of extenuating circumstances, requests for rescheduling and postponement of matches shall not be approved unless otherwise decided by the FAS Competitions Department.
- 27.3 All Participating Clubs shall seek the approval of the FAS Competitions Department

before granting leave of absence and/or overseas breaks for their respective Participating Players and Participating Officials during the official period of Competition.

## **28. Field of Play**

28.1 Each Participating Club shall register its ground with the FAS Competitions Department, and no Participating Club shall move to another ground, without the consent of the FAS Competitions Department.

28.1.1 The dimensions of the field of play for all Matches shall be as follows:

	<b>Minimum</b>	<b>Maximum</b>
<b>Length</b>	100m	110m
<b>Width</b>	64m	75m

28.2 All Participating Clubs shall register their pitch dimensions with the Director, Competitions, prior to the start of each Season. Participating Clubs are not allowed to alter its pitch dimensions during a Season unless with the prior written consent of the FAS Competitions Department; the Department may at any time require a Participating Club to submit a report from a qualified independent source, at its cost, certifying the pitch dimensions or the condition of the Stadium, including the ground.

28.3 Each Participating Club shall take all reasonable steps to maintain its pitch and grounds in good order. The FAS Competitions Department or the Facilities, Grounds and Building Committee (Sport SG) or the Field Maintenance Committee (Sport SG), may require a Participating Club to take such steps as it shall specify if it is not satisfied that an adequate standard of pitch or ground or offices or the safety and security of the Participating Club is/are being (or has been) maintained.

28.4 A Participating Club shall have a regular use of a ground where charge for admission may be made and a gate collection be taken in all Matches.

28.5 The playing area and the technical area shall be demarcated, and spectator viewing shall be further demarcated.

28.6 There shall be separate dressing rooms for each Participating Team and the Match Officials.

28.7 There shall be toilets/bathrooms provided in dressing rooms used by Participating Players and Match Officials, and not for spectator use; dressing rooms shall have adequate facilities.

28.8 Floodlights installed at the stadia ought to meet the requirements of FAS Competitions Department and/or the relevant authorities.

## **29. Team Bench and Technical Area**

29.1 Each Participating Club shall provide separate areas adjacent to the pitch (hereinafter "the technical area") for the sole use of Participating Team Officials, Participating



Team Medical Staff and Participating substitutes; such designated areas shall be clearly marked "Home" and "Away", have direct access to the pitch, be located equidistant from the half-way line, preferably be under cover, and capable of seating at least sixteen (16) people from each Participating Club.

- 29.2 Technical areas may vary between stadium, for example in size or location.
- 29.3 The technical area extends one (1) metre on either side of the designated seated area and shall extend forward up to a distance of one (1) metre from the touchline.
- 29.4 The Fourth Official before the commencement of the match shall identify and verify the accreditations of the occupants of the technical area. Accreditations shall be worn by the Team Officials at all times.
- 29.5 All person at the technical area shall wear kits that are contrasting with the kit of players and referees on the field of play.
- 29.6 A Participating Player and/or Participating Official who has been sent off the field/technical area shall not be allowed to remain in the vicinity of the field or technical area.

	Player		Team Official	
	Expulsion	Suspension	Expulsion	Suspension
Field of Play	Ordered to leave the field of play and its surroundings	Banned from the field of play and its surrounding	Ordered to leave the field of play and its surroundings	Banned from the field of play and its surroundings
Team Bench	Ordered to leave the team bench	Banned from the team bench	Ordered to leave the team bench	Banned from the team bench
Technical area	Cannot sit in the technical area	Banned from the technical area	Cannot sit in the technical area	Banned from the technical area
Dressing Room	Shall stay in the dressing room accompanied by a chaperone until 75 <sup>th</sup> minute	Banned from the dressing room at any time before and during the math in question (can join after the final whistle)	Banned from entering the team dressing rooms at half time if sent off during the first half of the match	Banned form the team dressing rooms at any time before and during the match in question (can join after final whistle)
Stands	Allowed to sit in the stands, provided his integrity and security are safeguarded as of 75 <sup>th</sup> minute	Allowed to sit in the stands, but not in the immediate surroundings of the field of play.	Allowed to sit in the stands, but not in the immediate surroundings of the field of play, for the rest of the match, provided that integrity and security are safeguarded	Allowed to sit in the stands, but not in the immediate surroundings of the field of play.

- 29.7 A Participating Player and/or Participating Official on suspension is not allowed to be in the vicinity of the field or technical area.
- 29.8 Only one person at a time is authorised to convey tactical instructions from the technical area.
- 29.9 The Head Coach, Participating Team Officials and other occupants of the technical area shall remain within the confines of the technical area except in special

circumstances, for example, a Medical Practitioner and/or a physiotherapist and/or a Sports Trainer entering the field of play with the Referee's permission to assess an injured player.

- 29.10 The Head Coach and other occupants of the technical area shall behave in a responsible manner at all times.
- 29.11 Only a maximum of seven (7) registered Participating Team Officials and nine (9) Participating Substitute Players are allowed to be on the substitutes' bench.
- 29.12 Only Participating Players indicated in the Official Player Selection List and registered for play (maximum 20) shall be allowed to take part in the Pre-Match warm up.
- 29.13 During actual play, a maximum of six (6) named substitutes from each Participating Team may warm up at the same time but without a ball (except for the Goalkeeper), behind the goal closest to their substitutes' bench or in a space determined by the Match Commissioner. These Participating players may be accompanied by a maximum of two (2) Participating Officials.
- 29.14 If there is no space to warm-up behind the goal, a maximum of three (3) Participating Players from each participating club may warm up simultaneously without a ball (except Goalkeeper) behind the Assistant Referee 1. These Participating Players may be assisted by one (1) Participating Official.

### **30. Footballs**

- 30.1 The footballs for the Competition shall be selected and supplied by the FAS.
- 30.2 Each Participating Club shall receive footballs for training and Competition Matches.
- 30.3 Participating Clubs are only permitted to use the footballs provided by the FAS for training and warming-up purposes.

## **SECTION E: TRANSFER REGULATIONS**

### **31. Scope**

- 31.1 These Rules deal with the status and eligibility of Participating Players and whenever they effect a transfer of the Participating Player from one Participating Club to another.
- 31.2 In these Rules, the term "Club" shall (where the context requires to give full effect to the intent of the particular provision) be construed as registered with the Registry of Societies, Singapore, and all such Clubs registered with FAS. Where provision is made for the payment of compensation between Clubs in respect of a Player's registration, then such provision shall extend to the movement of Players to/from Clubs. References to the Players Status Committee is that appointed by the Council of FAS.
- 31.3 All registered players of the COE Under-17 League shall be amateur.
- 31.4 Players who have never received remuneration other than for actual expenses incurred during the course of their participation in or for any activity connected with football shall be regarded as amateur. To this effect, meal allowances, travel and hotel expenses incurred through involvement in a match and the cost of a Player's equipment, insurance and training, may be reimbursed without jeopardising a Player's amateur status.
- 31.5 Any Player who has ever received remuneration other than the remuneration stated in sub-Rule above in respect of participation in or an activity connected with football shall be regarded as non-amateur (which term also covers a semi-professional who is contracted for the actual playing Season) unless he has re-acquired amateur status. Such a Player shall be subject to Central Provident Fund contributions and tax liability.

## **SECTION G: MEDICAL**

### **32. Facilities and Personnel**

- 32.1 One (1) ambulance shall be stationed fifteen (15) minutes before the commencement of each Match at the designated area near the Medical Room and the Field of Play.
- 32.2 The area wherein the ambulance(s) are stationed shall be free from any obstruction. Media shall not be permitted within this area.

## **SECTION J: FAIR PLAY**

### **33. General Principles**

- 33.1 In its effort to promote Fair Play and sportsmanship, the League shall hold a Fair Play Competition for the Season, based on an assessment of the Teams'/Clubs' conduct.
- 33.2 The objectives of the Fair Play Competition is to foster sportsmanship and Fair Play among Players, Clubs/Team Officials, Members of the Club, and spectators, in keeping with the Mission Statement of the League, thereby also increasing the entertainment value of the game.
- 33.3 The FAS Competitions Department shall release the standings upon the completion of the competition whose decision shall be final.
- 33.4 The FAS Competitions Department shall award the Club winning the Fair Play Competition a trophy and/or cash award or such prizes at their absolute discretion.

### **34. The Final Assessment**

- 34.1 The overall assessment of Team/Club during the League, or beyond, shall be calculated by adding the marks attained at each game divided by the number of matches played. The Club that has the highest average points shall be the winner of the Fair Play Trophy.
- 34.2 In the event of a tie in the overall assessment, there shall be a tie breaker. Tie breaker 1: Team with less direct red cards shall receive the award, Tie breaker 2: team with less indirect red cards shall receive the award if both tie breakers cannot determine, then both teams shall be awarded.
- 34.3 The FAS Competitions Department draws up these Rules and the decision on any other matters pertaining to this Award is final.
- 34.4 This Award is based on the Clubs' performance in the league, aforesaid, and or other such tournaments in the seasons following, and shall not include the performance in any other competition unless determined by the FAS Competitions Department.

## **SECTION K: DISCIPLINARY**

### **35. Disciplinary Measures**

- 35.1 All disciplinary measures in relation to the Competition shall be undertaken in accordance with the current FAS Constitution, FAS Disciplinary and Ethics Code, and any relevant FAS circular.
- 35.2 The FAS may introduce new disciplinary rules and sanctions for the duration of the Competition. Such rules shall be communicated to the Participating Clubs in due course.
- 35.3 Only Participating Players and Participating Officials may serve match suspensions in the Competition. For avoidance of doubt, this requires the registration of the relevant individual within a Registration Window in accordance with the deadlines set out in these Regulations.
- 35.4 All Participating Players agree to:
  - 35.4.1 respect the spirit of fair play, non-violence, and the authority of the Match Officials;
  - 35.4.2 behave accordingly; and
  - 35.4.3 refrain from doping.

### **36. Administrative Procedure**

- 36.1 Where a specified financial penalty and/or sanction is/are provided for in these Rules in these Sections, the FAS Executive Committee [hereinafter "the FAS Exco"] shall have, through the Director, Competitions or any of the Standing Committees, the full power to impose against any Club, Official and/or Player and/or Member who they shall deem guilty of having offended against or committed a breach of these Rules in these Sections such financial penalties and/or sanctions as these Rules hereinafter appearing permit.
- 36.2 The FAS Congress shall elect a Committee known as the FAS Disciplinary Committee [hereinafter "the Committee"].
- 36.3 The Committee shall receive from the Director, Competitions, or any Standing Committee of the FAS or the FAS Exco itself notice of any suspected or alleged offence or breach of any of these Rules of these Sections or any misconduct notwithstanding that a penalty for such offence, breach of the Rules under these Sections or misconduct is not specifically provided for by the Rules.
- 36.4 The FAS Exco delegates the exercise of any of its powers under these Rules either generally or specifically to the Committee or the Director, Competitions, or any of the Standing Committees of the FAS or the FAS Players Status Committee [hereinafter "the PSC"] for adjudication and determination as hereunder set out.
- 36.5 The Committee pursuant to these Rules shall consist of such person or persons as the Board deem the circumstances warrant but shall consist of a maximum of twelve (12) members, of whom any three (3) shall be adequate to hear and determine any



matter. From among the three (3) one shall be the Chairperson of the Committee. The Chairman of the Committee has the power to appoint a Deputy Chairman or any member of his Committee who shall deputise as Chairman as and when necessary.

- 36.6 The Committee shall draw its own sub-rules which may include procedures, infringements and sanctions, implementation thereof, and any appeal procedures or powers thereof, including such order as to the payment of expenses, costs or financial penalties by Clubs, Players or Officials or Members of the Club as they think fit, in accordance with the FAS Disciplinary and Ethics Code.
- 36.7 The Committee shall have the power of inquiry into all disputes, questions or differences between Clubs and Players, Officials or Members of the Club, and into all matters constituting or pertaining to any breach of these Rules under the various Sections by Clubs, Players, Officials and Members as may be referred to by the Director, Competitions or any of the FAS's Standing Committees, and to convene a hearing on notice being given, and to effect that purpose the Committee may require the attendance of all Officials, Players and other persons for the hearing of the complaint and compel the production of all books, letters and other documents relevant and necessary for the determination of the dispute/question/difference.
- 36.8 Any Club, Official, Player or Member offering or receiving a payment or any other form of inducement to or from any Club or Official or Player or Member of any Club or any person, or any such Club, Official or Player or Member receiving or seeking to receive any payment or any other form of inducement from any other person or organisation to win, lose or draw a match under the jurisdiction of the FAS shall be deemed guilty of misconduct. The FAS or any of its Standing Committees or the Director, Competitions shall have the power to refer such acts to the relevant authorities.
- 36.9 The Committee or such other Standing Committee of the FAS, inclusive of the Director, Competitions, the Arbitrator or Board of Arbitrators or the Appeals Committee or the PSC, shall be entitled to publish in the media or in such other manner as they shall think fit reports of their proceedings, acts, resolutions, findings and financial penalties whether the same shall or shall not reflect on the character or conduct of any Club, Official, Player or Member, and every such Club, Official, Player or Member shall be deemed to have assented to such an inquiry and such publication.

### **37. Differences between Clubs**

- 37.1 A Club in the first instance shall refer all differences and questions or disputes between it and any other Club or Officials or Players or Members thereof to the Director, Competitions. Each Club making such a reference shall do so in writing and shall deposit a fee of Singapore Dollars One Thousand (SGD\$1000.00) only which shall be liable to be forfeited to the FAS at the discretion of the Committee or the Director, Competitions or Arbitrator or the FAS three (3) Arbitrators or such Standing Committee or the PSC as the case may be.
- 37.2 On any such submission or reference, the Director, Competitions may in his absolute discretion:
- 37.2.1 either determine the dispute, question or difference himself; or

- 37.2.2 refer to or delegate the determination of such dispute, difference or question, at the absolute discretion of the Director, Competitions, to a single Arbitrator or a Board of three (3) Arbitrators appointed by the Director, Competitions or to any of the Standing Committees of the FAS or the PSC; or
- 37.2.3 refer the matter to the Committee.
- 37.3 The Director, Competitions shall be under no obligation whatsoever to grant an oral hearing to a Club should he, in his absolute discretion, refer the matter to a single Arbitrator or a Board of three (3) Arbitrators or the Committee or any of the Standing Committees of the FAS or the PSC.
- 37.4 Any Club aggrieved at the determination of the Director, Competitions or the Arbitrator or the Board of three (3) Arbitrators or of the Committee or any of the Standing Committees of the FAS, made pursuant to this Rule as regards the determination of the dispute, question, difference, or at the manner in which such determination was arrived at, shall refer the matter to the Appeal Committee [hereinafter "the Appeal Committee"] as provided in this Section, and any decision of the Appeal Committee shall be final and binding on all parties.
- 37.5 Membership for the time being for the FAS shall constitute an agreement to refer all disputes, questions and differences between the Director, Competitions who shall determine the same in accordance with the provision of Rule 37.2 above.
- 37.5.1 The Arbitration tribunal ("the tribunal") shall consist of either a single Arbitrator or three (3) Arbitrators appointed by the Director, Competitions. The Director, Competitions shall, in a case involving three (3) Arbitrators, appoint a Chairman to chair all such meetings, and three (3) members shall hear the matter, adjudicate and determine the dispute, question or difference.
- 37.5.2 If any arbitrator appointed by the Director, Competitions shall die, refuse to act or become incapacitated from acting prior to the making of a determination a further arbitrator shall be appointed by the Director, Competitions to replace him.
- 37.6 As soon as practicable after it has been convened, the Arbitrator or Board of three (3) Arbitrators or such Standing Committee of the FAS or the PSC as the case may be shall convene a meeting with the parties or their representatives. The Arbitrator or Board of three (3) Arbitrators or such Standing Committee of the FAS or the PSC may adopt such procedures as it considers appropriate for the resolution of the dispute, question or difference, and may proceed by way of oral hearing or by written submission, and by such manner of evidence as it considers appropriate.
- 37.7 Any decision or procedural decision shall be made by the Arbitrator himself or in the case of the Board of Arbitrators or such Standing Committee or the PSC shall, where necessary, be made by a majority and, in the event that no majority may be formed, the Chairman of the Board of Arbitrators or the Chairman of such Standing Committee or the PSC shall make his determination as if he were a sole arbitrator.
- 37.8 No party shall be represented at any hearing by a solicitor or counsel acting in his capacity as such, unless he has been a member of a Club for a period of twelve (12) months preceding the appointment of the Arbitrator, Board of Arbitrators or such Standing Committee or the Committee or the PSC or the Appeal Committee to hear the dispute, question or difference or any appeal therefrom.

- 37.9 In the event of default by either party in respect of any procedural order of the Arbitrator or Board of three (3) Arbitrators or such Standing Committee or the Committee or the PSC, the Arbitrator or such Board or such Standing Committee or the Committee or the PSC shall have the power to debar that party from further participation in the arbitration/ proceedings, and deliver its determination as the Arbitrator or such Board or such Standing Committee or the Committee or the PSC may deem fit.
- 37.10 The power of the Director, Competitions, the Arbitrator or the Board of three (3) Arbitrators or such Standing Committee or the Committee or the PSC to forfeit the deposit under Rule 37.1 shall be in addition to the power conferred on the Director, Competitions, the Arbitrator or the Board of three (3) Arbitrators or such Standing Committee or the Committee or the PSC to determine the difference, dispute or question. Any form of misconduct during the conduct of the proceedings found by the Director, Competitions or the Arbitrator or the Board of Arbitrators or such Standing Committee or the Committee or the PSC or the Appeal Committee may be referred to the FAS Exco.

### **38. Procedure and Appeals**

- 38.1 The Director, Competitions, the Arbitrator or the Board of Arbitrators or the Committee or any of the Standing Committees of the FAS (save for the PSC) imposing any decision or penalty on any Club, Player or Official or Member shall inform in writing any Club or person against whom action is being taken of any such decision as soon as practicable thereafter.
- 38.2 Any Club or person against whom action is being taken (save for the decision of the PSC) may, within seven (7) working days (excluding Saturdays, Sundays and Public Holidays) of being informed of such a decision, require the body or person taking such action to specify in writing the findings of fact leading to the decision and the reasons for the decision. A fee of Dollars One Thousand (SGD\$1000.00) shall accompany such request. Any such requirement shall be met within seven (7) working days of its receipt and shall be accompanied by copies of all materials which were before the body or person making the decision, or such of that material as such body or person may consider relevant to the decision.
- 38.3 Any Club or person on whom a decision and/or penalty has been imposed pursuant to these Rules may appeal against such decision and/or against the penalty so imposed. Any such appeal shall be made and conducted in accordance with the provisions of this Rule.
- 38.4 A notice of appeal shall be in writing and shall be lodged with Director, Competitions with a copy to the Secretary of the Appeal Committee within seven (7) working days of the receipt of the decision, or where a request for the reasons for the decision has been made within seven (7) working days of the receipt of those reasons, and shall be accompanied by a deposit of Dollars One Thousand (SGD\$1000.00). This amount shall be refunded to the appellant if the appeal is successful.
- 38.5 At the same time that the notice of appeal is lodged there shall also be lodged with the Director, Competitions with a copy to the Secretary of the Appeal Committee:
- 38.5.1 a statement of the grounds of appeal; and

- 38.5.2 if leave is sought to present any fresh evidence to the Appeal Committee, particulars of such evidence and of the reasons why it was not presented to the earlier decision-maker, and
  - 38.5.3 particulars of any fact or circumstances which do not appear from the statement or accompanying documents upon which the appellant is seeking to rely.
- 38.6 The Appeal Committee shall be elected by the FAS Congress. No persons so appointed shall have taken part in any previous proceedings relating to the same matter. The decision of the Appeal Committee shall be final and binding on all parties concerned.
- 38.7 Upon the application of either party, or of its own motion, the Appeal Committee may hold-preliminary hearings for the purpose of:
- 38.7.1 deciding any application for leave to call fresh evidence;
  - 38.7.2 giving any other instructions which it considers necessary for the conduct of the proceedings; and the Appeal Committee may at any time extend or abridge all or any time limits governing appeals and may permit amendments to documents lodged by the parties on such terms as it thinks fit.
- 38.8 No fresh evidence shall be presented to the Appeal Committee without its leave. Save in the exceptional circumstances, no such leave shall be given unless:
- 38.8.1 the evidence was not available at the time of the hearing appealed against despite the exercise of reasonable diligence;
  - 38.8.2 it is credible evidence; and
  - 38.8.3 it is relevant.
- 38.9 An appeal shall be by way of re-hearing on the documents, except where the Appeal Committee gives leave to present fresh evidence and save that the parties shall be entitled to make oral representations to the Appeal Committee at the hearing. Subject to Rule 38.8 above, no party may be represented at the hearing of any appeal by solicitor or counsel acting in his capacity as such.
- 38.10 The Appeal Committee, like the PSC, may conduct the hearing in such a manner and at such times as it considers desirable and/or suitable. If either party fails to attend at the hearing, the Appeal Committee, like the PSC, may proceed in its absence. The Appeal Committee and/or the PSC shall not be bound by any enactment or rule of law relating to the inadmissibility of evidence in proceedings before any court of law.
- 38.11 An Appeal Committee shall have power:
- 38.11.1 to allow or dismiss the appeal;
  - 38.11.2 to vary the decision and/or penalty in such a manner as it shall think fit, including the power to increase, decrease or remit any penalty included in such decision except when such penalty shall be specified in these Rules when the Appeal Committee shall impose such penalty if it finds the case proved;
  - 38.11.3 to remit the matter with such directions as it thinks fit for re-hearing and determination by the earlier decision making body;
  - 38.11.4 to make such further or other order as it thinks fit, including an order to forfeit the deposit.

- 38.12 An Appeal Committee shall not be bound to allow an appeal on the ground of misdirection or wrong evaluation of evidence, unless in the opinion of the said Committee, substantial injustice, including a miscarriage of justice, has thereby been occasioned.
- 38.13 An Appeal Committee may take account of facts or matters which have become evident or have occurred since the date of the decision appealed against where, pursuant to leave given to call fresh evidence, evidence has been given about such matters.
- 38.14 Where an Appeal Committee dismisses an appeal or varies the decision, the Appeal Committee may order the deposit to be forfeited towards the costs of the appeal, and may make any further order for the payment of costs.

### **39. Powers of the Director, Competitions, the Arbitrator or Board of Arbitrators or the Committee or Standing Committee of the FAS**

- 39.1 Upon finding an offence, or a breach of these Rules or if misconduct is proved, the Director, Competitions, the Arbitrator, the Board of Arbitrators or the Committee or any such Standing Committee of FAS or the PSC shall be entitled to take such action and to impose such penalties by way of reprimand, fine, suspension, deduction of points, or other penalty (or combinations thereof) as the Director, Competitions, the Arbitrator, the Board of Arbitrators or the Committee or any such Standing Committee or the PSC may think fit in the circumstances.
- 39.2 The Committee or such Standing Committee of the FAS shall only be entitled to recommend expulsion of a Club to the FAS Exco, and such power shall also avail to the Appeal Committee, but no Club shall be expelled from the League without the sanction of a resolution passed at a Meeting of the Exco of the FAS. There shall be no right of appeal against a resolution to expel, passed as aforesaid, by the FAS Exco.
- 39.3 The Director, Competitions, Arbitrator, Board of Arbitrators or the Committee or the Standing Committees of the FAS or the PSC shall be entitled to order any Club, Player, Official or Member for any such offence against or breach of these Rules of these Sections or misconduct, and, where applicable, cancel or refuse registrations of Players which are contrary to these Rules or Rules laid down by any of the Standing Committees of the FAS.

### **40. Sanctions / Penalties**

- 40.1 Disciplinary sanctions and penalties which may be imposed by the FAS, the Committee, any of the Standing Committees of the FAS, or the Arbitrator or Board of three (3) Arbitrators or the PSC or the Appeal Board on Players, Clubs, Officials and Members of the Clubs shall include:
- 40.1.1 a caution;
  - 40.1.2 a censure;
  - 40.1.3 a fine;
  - 40.1.4 suspension for a specified number of matches and/or a specified period;
  - 40.1.5 a ban on participating or being involved in a game in any capacity whatsoever;
  - 40.1.6 cancellation of a match (requiring a replay, if any);

- 40.1.7 deduction or cancellation of points;
  - 40.1.8 a win by default, in which case a score of three (3)-nil (0) shall be given, unless the goal difference attained in the match is greater in favour of the non-infringing Club;
  - 40.1.9 a ban from the stadium/stadia or on terms;
  - 40.1.10 matches to be played with the exclusion of the public or on certain conditions;
  - 40.1.11 a ban from taking part in the current and/or future competition or any part thereof;
  - 40.1.12 a cancellation/refusal of registration of a Player or on terms;
  - 40.1.13 withdrawal of any or all financial privileges given by the FAS or on terms.
- 40.2 In determining any disciplinary sanction or penalty to be imposed, the FAS, the Committee or any of the Standing Committees of the Board, or the Arbitrator or Board of Arbitrators or the PSC, and the Appeal Board may be guided by the list of disciplinary measures as specified in the regulations of the Federation Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) and/or AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Code.

#### **41. Competition Specific Sanctions / Penalties**

- 41.1 A Player who is expelled for any of the sending-off offences stated under Law 12 in The Laws of The Game shall be suspended for the following two (2) matches. However, under these same laws, in the case where he is being sent off for receiving a second caution in the same match, he shall only serve a one (1) match suspension.
- 41.2 A Team Official who has been sent off by the referee shall be suspended from the touchline for the following one (1) match, and his/her case may be referred to the Disciplinary Committee for further sanctions.
- 41.3 Subject to the provisions of 41.1 above, a player who has accumulated two (2) red cards in the course of the competition shall at the discretion of Director, Competitions be fined up to Three Hundred Dollars (SGD\$300.00) and/or referred to the Disciplinary Committee, who may after due inquiry impose sanctions and/or penalties over and above the mandatory sanctions and/or penalties on him.
- 41.4 A Player and/or Team Official who has received four (4) yellow card cautions in the course of the competition shall automatically be suspended for the following one (1) match in the said competition. If the Player and/or Team Official receives a further three (3) yellow card cautions in the course of the same competition, he shall automatically be suspended for the following one (1) match in that competition. If he receives a further two (2) yellow card cautions in the course of the same competition, he shall be suspended for the following one (1) match in the said competition and pay a composition fine of Three Hundred Dollars (SGD\$300.00).
- 41.5 In the event the said Player and/or Team Official fails or is unable to pay the composition fine within the next seven (7) days, the said Player and/or Team Official shall be referred to the Disciplinary Committee. Until then, the said Player and/or Team Official shall not be allowed to play and/or participate in the competition until he has paid the composition fine and/or served the suspension imposed by the Disciplinary Committee, who may after due inquiry impose other sanctions and/or penalties over and above the mandatory penalties.

- 41.6 When disciplinary action is taken against any player by way of a composition fine or referred to the Disciplinary Committee for further sanctions, the yellow/red cards accumulated by the said player shall not be considered for further sanctions.
- 41.7 The Club, Player and/or Team Official shall be responsible for monitoring the record on the yellow and red cards accumulated by their respective players and Team Officials in the respective tournaments.
- 41.8 The Director, Competitions or any of the Standing Committees of the FAS (including the Committee) or the Arbitrator of the Board of Arbitrators or the PSC or the Appeals Committee may refer to the Committee (and the Committee itself may consider) any misconduct by any Player, and the Committee may after due inquiry, impose any further sanctions and penalties over and above the mandatory penalties. When disciplinary action is taken against any player by way of a composition fine or referred to the Disciplinary Committee for further sanctions, the yellow/red cards accumulated by the said player shall not be considered for further sanctions.
- 41.9 When a player has to appear before or sanctioned by the Disciplinary Committee for any reason whatsoever, the said player may be given an option whether the player is required to attend the Disciplinary Inquiry personally or submit his plea with his mitigation if he is not challenging the charge/s against him where he need not have to appear before the Committee. The Committee, in this case, shall have the absolute power to impose sanction in the player's absentia. The team/player shall be informed of the outcome accordingly. When a player has to appear before the Committee, he shall be accompanied by a Club representative where the player is registered.
- 41.10 All sanctions and/or penalties shall commence with immediate effect except in cases where the Tournament Committee or the Director, Competitions may otherwise decide, and all fines including composition fines imposed shall be paid in full within seven (7) days from the date the penalty/sentence is imposed before the said Player can participate in any match of a competition in which the offence was committed. A fine, including composition fines imposed on a Player/Official shall be paid in full within seven (7) days from the date the penalty/sentence is imposed. For the purpose of these Rules, all tournaments organised by the FAS shall fall under the Rules.
- 41.11 All sanctions and/or penalties under this Rule shall be served out or complied with in full during the competition in which the offence or offences were committed by the Player/Official. If the sanctions and/or penalties cannot be fully served or complied with in full, it shall be deferred only to the following season of the same competition where the said Player is registered and eligible to play.
- 41.12 Red card and yellow card cautions shall not be accumulated to the following season of the competition or to any other competition organised by the League.
- 41.13 Any disciplinary measures imposed by the Referee on the field of play are final with exceptions being made for possible modifications arising from corrections made to the Referee's Report or if obvious proven mistakes have been made.
- 41.14 If the referee sanctions (either caution or expulsion) at least five (5) members of the same team during a match, the team is deemed to have failed to conduct itself properly

(i.e., Team Misconduct) and the Club shall be fined Five Hundred Dollars (SGD\$500.00).

#### **42. Compounding Offences**

42.1 Without prejudice to the Rules hereinbefore, the Director, Competitions is empowered to compound any offence, misconduct or breach of these Rules of these Sections committed by a Player, Team Official or Club to a maximum limit of Five Thousand Dollars (SGD\$5,000.00) and/or a suspension of up to a maximum of two (2) matches and/or awarding a win by default, in which case a score of three (3)-nil(0) shall be given, unless the goal difference attained in the match is greater in favour of the non-infringing Club.

#### **43. Disputes Involving League Clubs**

43.1 Any dispute, question or difference or matter affecting Clubs, Officials or Players or Members shall be referred to the Director, Competitions who has powers to adjudicate, determine or resolve it himself or refer the same as per the provisions of these Rules.

#### **44. Prohibition to Recourse to Ordinary Court**

44.1 Pursuant to Article 59 of the FIFA Statutes adopted at the Extraordinary Congress in Zurich on 26 February 2016 and which came into force immediately after adoption, clubs and members are prohibited from taking a dispute to ordinary courts of law and are required to submit any disagreement to the jurisdiction of the Association (FAS), the Asian Football Confederation (AFC) or FIFA.



## **SECTION K: ADMINISTRATION**

### **45. Awards**

45.1 The FAS shall award the following:

45.1.1 2023 FAS COE Under-17 League

45.1.1.1	Winner	: 40 medals (Gold)
45.1.1.2	Runner-up	: 40 medals (Silver)
45.1.1.3	2 <sup>nd</sup> Runner-up	: 40 medals (Bronze)
45.1.1.4	Fair Play	: 1 Trophy
45.1.1.5	Top Goalscorer	: 1 Trophy

### **46. Special Instructions**

46.1 The FAS shall issue any instructions necessitated by special circumstances which might arise in the organization of matches.

### **47. Decisions**

47.1 All decisions made in accordance with these Regulations, except where expressly identified otherwise, are final and binding.

### **48. Amendments**

48.1 The FAS reserves the right to make amendments to any part of these Regulations for any reason whatsoever. Such amendments shall be duly communicated in due course.

### **49. Force Majeure**

49.1 The FAS Exco is the only body capable of declaring a Force Majeure event.

### **50. Matters Not Provided For**

50.1 Matters not provided for in these Regulations shall be decided by the FAS Exco and FAS Competitions Department. Such decisions are final and binding and not appealable.

### **51. Closing Provisions**

51.1 The FAS 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.

***2023 FAS COE Under-17 League Regulations***

*Correct as at 24 May 2023*