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# STATUTES



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فرساتون بولا سيفق كېغساءن نكارا بروني دارالسلام  
National Football Association of Brunei Darussalam



## فرساتون بولا سيثق كبحسان نكرا بروني دارالسلام

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## DEFINITIONS

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The terms given below denote the following:

- 1 “Absolute majority”** means “more than fifty (50%) of the valid votes cast”.
- 2 “AFC”** means “Asian Football Confederation”.
- 3 “AFF”** means “Association of South East Asian Football Federation”.
- 4 “Arbitration Tribunal”** means “an independent and duly constituted private court of justice acting instead of an Ordinary Court”.
- 5 “Association”** means “a football Association recognized by FIFA and by the relevant confederation. It is a member of FIFA, unless a different meaning is evident from the context”.
- 6 “Association Football”** means “the game controlled by FIFA and organized in accordance with the Laws of the Game”.
- 7 “CAS (TAS)”** means “Court of Arbitration for Sport (Tribunal Arbitral du Sport) based in Lausanne (Switzerland)”.
- 8 “Club”** means “a member of an Association (that is a member of FIFA and of the relevant confederation) or a member of a league recognized”.
- 9 “Confederation”** means a group of Associations recognized by FIFA and belonging to the same continent (or similar geographic area).
- 10 “Congress”** means “The supreme body of NFABD”.
- 11 “Delegate”** means “a natural person validly representing a Members at the Congress”.
- 12 “District Football”** means “the controlling body for football within the country or territory recognized by the NFABD”.
- 13 “Executive Committee”** means “the executive body of NFABD”.
- 14 “FIFA”** means “Fédération Internationale de Football Association”.



**15 “IFAB”** means “the International Football Association Board (IFAB)”.

**16 “Intermediary”** means “a natural or legal person who, for a fee of charge, represents players and/or clubs in negotiations with a view to concluding an employment contract or represents clubs in negotiations with a view to concluding a transfer agreement”.

**17 “Laws of The Game”** means “the laws of Association Football issued by the IFAB in accordance with the relevant provisions of the FIFA Statutes”.

**18 “League”** means “an organization that is subordinate to an Association”.

**19 “Member”** means “a legal or natural person that has been admitted into membership of NFABD by the Congress”.

**20 “NFABD”** means “National Football Association of Brunei Darussalam”.

**21 “Officials”** means “board members (including the members of the Executive Committee), committee members, referee and assistant referee, coach trainer, team officials, match officials and any other person responsible for technical, medical and administrative matters in FIFA, a Confederation, an Association, a League or a Club”.

**22 “Ordinary courts”** means “state courts which hear public and private legal disputes”.

**23 “Player”** means “a football player licensed by NFABD”.

**24 “Regulation”** means “without limitation, the rules, regulations, codes, instructions and directives as promulgated by the Executive Committee”.

**25 “Simple majority”** means “more than fifty percent (50%) of the valid votes cast”.

**NB:** References to natural persons include both genders. The singular case applies to the plural and vice-versa.



## I. GENERAL PROVISIONS

### ARTICLE 1 Name, headquarters, legal form

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<sup>1</sup>The National Football Association of Brunei Darussalam, NFABD, is a private organisation of an associative nature registered as per Chapter 8 (3) term 203 of Societies Act, Law and in compliance with the legislation of Brunei Darussalam. It is formed for an unlimited period.

<sup>2</sup>The headquarters are at NFABD House, Jalan Pusat Persidangan, Bandar Seri Begawan BB4313, Brunei Darussalam.

<sup>3</sup>NFABD is a member of FIFA, AFC and AFF.

<sup>4</sup>The emblem of NFABD is as attached in Appendix A.

<sup>5</sup>The abbreviation of the National Football Association of Brunei Darussalam is NFABD.

<sup>6</sup>The emblem and abbreviation are legally registered with The Registrar of Societies, Brunei Darussalam.

### ARTICLE 2 Objectives

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The objectives of NFABD are:

- a) to improve the game of football constantly and promote, regulate and control it throughout the territory of Brunei Darussalam in the light of fair play and its unifying, educational, cultural and humanitarian values, particularly through youth and development programs;
- b) to organise competitions in Association Football in all its forms at a national level, by defining precisely, as required, the areas of authority conceded to the various Leagues of which it is composed;
- c) to draw up regulations and provisions and ensure their enforcement;



- d) to protect the interests of its Members;
- e) to respect and prevent any infringement of the statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of FIFA, AFC, AFF and NFABD as well as the Laws of the Game and to ensure that these are also respected by its Members.
- f) To promote integrity, ethics and fair play with a view to preventing all methods or practices, such as corruption, doping or match manipulation, which might jeopardise the integrity of matches, competitions, players, officials and Members or give rise to abuse of Association football, futsal or beach soccer;
- g) To prevent all methods or practices which might jeopardise the integrity of matches or competitions or give rise to abuse of Association Football.
- h) To control and supervise all friendly football matches of all forms played throughout the territory of Brunei Darussalam;
- i) To promote and strengthen good governance principle and practices at national level and encourage its Members to adopt their own good governance principles;
- j) To promote the development of women's football and the full participation of women at all level of football governance;
- k) To control and supervise association football, futsal and beach soccer at national level and to control and supervise all forms of international football matches played throughout the territory of NFABD, in accordance with the relevant Statutes and regulations of FIFA and AFC.
- l) To manage international sporting relations connected with Association Football in all its forms;
- m) To host competitions at international and other levels;
- n) To utilise NFABD's funds in economic activities in order to fulfill the objectives of NFABD as stipulated hereinabove in this article.





## **ARTICLE 3      Human rights**

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NFABD is committed to respecting all internationally recognized human rights and shall strive to promote the protection of these rights.

## **ARTICLE 4      Non-discrimination and equality**

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Discrimination of any kind against a country, private person or group of people on account of ethnic origin, gender, language, religion, political or any other reason is strictly prohibited and punishable by suspension or expulsion and/or other disciplinary measures

## **ARTICLE 5      Neutrality and institutional independence**

---

<sup>1</sup> NFABD is neutral in matters of politics and religion.

<sup>2</sup>The Members of NFABD shall also be neutral in matters of politics and religion and shall ensure that their own members remain neutral.

<sup>3</sup>NFABD shall remain independent and shall avoid any form of undue political interference. NFABD shall manage its affairs independently and shall ensure that its own affairs are not influenced by any third parties.

## **ARTICLE 6      Promoting friendly relations**

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<sup>1</sup>NFABD shall promote friendly relations between its Members, Clubs, Officials and Players and in society for humanitarian objectives.

<sup>2</sup>NFABD shall provide the necessary institutional means to resolve any internal dispute that may arise between Members, Clubs, Officials and Players of NFABD.



## **ARTICLE 7     Players**

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<sup>1</sup>The status of Players and the provisions for their transfer shall be regulated by the Executive Committee of NFABD in accordance with the FIFA Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players.

<sup>2</sup>Players shall be registered in accordance with the regulations of NFABD.

## **ARTICLE 8     Laws of the Game**

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<sup>1</sup>NFABD and each of her Members play Association Football in compliance with the Laws of the Game issued by IFAB. Only IFAB may lay down and alter the Laws of the Game.

<sup>2</sup>NFABD and each of its Members shall play futsal in accordance with the Futsal Laws of the Game issued by FIFA. Only FIFA may lay down and alter the Futsal Laws of the Game.

<sup>3</sup>NFABD and each of its Members shall play beach soccer in accordance with the Beach Soccer Laws of the Game issued by FIFA. Only FIFA may lay down and alter the Beach Soccer Laws of the Game.

## **ARTICLE 9     Conduct of bodies, Officials and others**

---

<sup>1</sup>All bodies and officials of NFABD shall observe the Statutes, regulations, directives, decisions and the Code of Ethics of FIFA, AFC, AFF and NFABD in their activities.

<sup>2</sup>Every person and organisation involved in the game of association football, futsal and beach soccer in the territory of NFABD is obliged to observe the Statutes and regulations of FIFA, of AFC, of NFABD and any other relevant statutes, as well as the principles of fair play, loyalty, integrity and sportsmanship.



## ARTICLE 10 Official language

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<sup>1</sup>The official languages of NFABD shall be Bahasa Melayu and English. Official documents and texts shall be written in either of these languages. In the event of any divergence between the interpretation of texts in different languages, the text written in English shall be regarded as authoritative.

<sup>2</sup>The official language at the Congress shall be Bahasa Melayu and English.

## II. MEMBERSHIP

### ARTICLE 11 Admission, suspension and expulsion

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<sup>1</sup>The Congress shall decide whether to admit, suspend or expel a Member.

<sup>2</sup>Admission may be granted if the applicant fulfils the requirements of NFABD in accordance with these Statutes.

<sup>3</sup>Membership is terminated by resignation or expulsion. Loss of membership does not relieve the Member from its financial obligations towards NFABD or other Members of NFABD but leads to cancellation of all rights in relation to NFABD.

<sup>4</sup>NFABD shall ensure that all relevant stakeholders are represented within its Congress. The interests of women's football shall also be adequately represented in the Congress.

### ARTICLE 12 Members

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The Members of NFABD are:

- a) All Clubs in top division National League;
- b) District Football Associations;
- c) All Clubs in Futsal League;



- d) All Clubs in Beach Soccer League;
- e) Referees' Group;
- f) Coaches' Group;
- g) Women's Football Group.

## **ARTICLE 13    Admission**

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<sup>1</sup>Any legal entity wishing to become a Member of NFABD shall apply in writing to the General Secretariat of NFABD.

<sup>2</sup>The application must be accompanied by the following mandatory items:

- a) a copy of its legally valid statutes or constitutional document and, if applicable, regulations;
- b) a declaration that it will always comply with the Statutes, regulations and decisions of NFABD, FIFA, AFC and AFF and ensure that these are also respected by its own Members, Clubs, Officials and Players;
- c) a declaration that it will comply with the Laws of the Game in force; as laid down by the IFAB, as well as the Futsal Laws of the Game and the Beach Soccer Laws of the Game as laid down by FIFA;
- d) a declaration that it will refer in the last instance (i.e. after exhaustion of all internal channels within NFABD) any dispute of national dimension arising from or related to the Statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of NFABD only to an independent and duly constituted arbitration tribunal, which shall definitely settle the dispute to the exclusion of any ordinary court, unless expressly prohibited by the legislation in force in Brunei Darussalam;





- e) a declaration that it recognizes the arbitration tribunal that NFABD has recognized, as specified in these Statutes, as well as the jurisdiction of the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS), as specified in the Statutes of FIFA and AFC, and its decisions;
- f) a declaration that it is located and registered in the territory of Brunei Darussalam;
- g) a declaration that it will play all official home matches in the territory of Brunei Darussalam;
- h) a declaration to the effect that the legal composition of the applicant guarantees that it can make decisions independently of any external entity;
- i) a list of Officials, specifying those who are authorized signatories with the right to enter into legally binding agreements with third parties;
- j) a declaration that it undertakes to organize or participate in friendly matches only with the prior consent of NFABD;
- k) a copy of the minutes of its last congress or constitutional meeting;
- l) if applicable, a declaration that it will play all official home matches on the territory of Brunei Darussalam.

<sup>3</sup>This article shall not affect the status of existing/founding Members.

#### **ARTICLE 14 Request and procedure of application**

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<sup>1</sup>The procedure for admission shall be regulated by special regulations approved by the Executive Committee of NFABD.

<sup>2</sup>The Executive Committee shall request the Congress either to admit or not to admit an applicant. The applicant may state the reasons for its application to the Congress.



<sup>3</sup>The new Member shall acquire membership rights and duties as soon as it has been admitted. Its delegates are eligible to vote and be elected with immediate effect.

## **ARTICLE 15    Members' rights**

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<sup>1</sup>The Members of NFABD have the following rights:

- a) to take part in the Congress of NFABD, to know its agenda in advance, to be called to the Congress within the prescribed time and to exercise their voting rights;
- b) to draw up proposals for inclusion in the agenda of the Congress;
- c) to nominate candidates for elections and/or appointment to the relevant bodies of NFABD;
- d) to be informed of the affairs of NFABD through its official bodies;
- e) to take part in competitions (if applicable) and/or other sports activities organized by NFABD;
- f) to exercise all other rights arising from the Statutes and regulations of NFABD;

<sup>2</sup>The exercise of these rights is subject to other provisions in these Statutes and the applicable regulations of NFABD.

## **ARTICLE 16    Members' obligations**

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<sup>1</sup>The Members of NFABD have the following obligations:

- a) to comply fully with the Statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of FIFA, AFC and NFABD at all times and to ensure that these are also respected by its members;
- b) to ensure the election of its decision-making bodies at least every 4 years;
- c) to take part in the competitions and other sports activities organized by NFABD;



- d) to pay their membership subscriptions;
- e) to respect the Laws of the Game as laid down by IFAB, as well as the Futsal Laws of the Game and the Beach Soccer Laws of the Game as laid down by FIFA, and to ensure that these are also respected by its members through a statutory provision;
- f) to adopt a statutory clause specifying that any dispute requiring arbitration involving itself or one of its members and relating to the Statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of FIFA, AFC and NFABD or the League(s) shall come solely under the jurisdiction of the appropriate Arbitration Tribunal of FIFA, AFC, AFF or NFABD and that any recourse to Ordinary Courts is prohibited;
- g) to communicate to NFABD any amendment of its Statutes and regulations as well as the list of its Officials or persons who are authorized signatories, with the right to enter into legally binding agreements with third parties;
- h) to manage their affairs independently and ensure that their own affairs are not influenced by any third parties in accordance with Art. 20 (Independence of Members and their bodies) of these Statutes;
- i) to ensure that their bodies are either elected or appointed according to a procedure that guarantees the complete independence of the election or appointment;
- j) to communicate to NFABD any amendment to its statutes and regulations as well as the list of its officials who are authorized signatories with the right to enter into legally binding agreements with third parties;
- k) not to maintain any relations of a sporting nature with entities that are not recognized or with Members that have been suspended or expelled;
- l) to observe the principles of loyalty, integrity and good sporting behaviors as an expression of fair play through a statutory provision;
- m) to observe the mandatory items specified under article 13 paragraph 2 for the duration of their affiliation;



- n) to administer a register of members which shall regularly be updated;
- o) to comply fully with all other duties arising from the Statutes and other regulations of FIFA, AFC, AFF and NFABD;
- p) to ratify statutes that are in accordance with the requirements of these statutes;

<sup>2</sup>Violation of the above-mentioned obligations by any Member may lead to sanctions provided for in these Statutes.

<sup>3</sup>Violation of par. 1 h) above may also lead to sanctions, even if the third-party influence was not the fault of the Member concerned. Each Member of NFABD is responsible towards it for any and all acts of the members of their bodies caused by the gross negligence or willful misconduct of such members.

## **ARTICLE 17    Suspension**

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<sup>1</sup>The Congress is responsible for suspending a Member. The Executive Committee may, however, suspend a Member that seriously violates its obligations as a Member with immediate effect. The suspension approved by the Executive Committee shall last until the next Congress, unless the Executive Committee has lifted it in the meantime.

<sup>2</sup>The presence of a majority (more than 50%) of the delegates representing the Members eligible to vote is necessary to suspension to be valid. A suspension of a Member by the Congress or the Executive Committee shall be confirmed at the next Congress by a 3/4 (three-quarters) majority of the votes taken. If it is not confirmed, the suspension is automatically lifted.

<sup>3</sup>A suspended Member shall lose its membership rights. Other Members may not entertain sporting contact with a suspended Member. The Disciplinary Committee may impose further sanctions.





<sup>4</sup>Members which do not participate in the sports activities of NFABD for 2 (two) consecutive years shall be suspended from voting at the Congress and their representatives shall not be elected or appointed until they have fulfilled their obligations in this respect.

## **ARTICLE 18    Expulsion**

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<sup>1</sup>The Congress may expel a Member if:

- a) it fails to fulfill its financial obligations towards NFABD;
- b) it seriously and repeatedly violates the Statutes, Codes, Rules, Regulations and Standing Orders or decisions of FIFA, AFC, AFF and NFABD;
- c) it ceases to have the legal status of a Football Association in the country or territory;
- d) it ceases to be a member of NFABD.

<sup>2</sup>The presence of an absolute majority (more than 50%) of Members entitled to vote at the Congress is necessary for an expulsion to be valid, and the motion for expulsion must be adopted by a 3/4 (three-quarters) majority of the Members present and eligible to vote.

## **ARTICLE 19    Resignation**

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<sup>1</sup>A Member may resign from NFABD with effect from the end of a calendar year. Notice of resignation must reach the general secretariat no later than 3 (three) months before the end of the calendar year.

<sup>2</sup>The resignation is not valid until the Member wishing to resign has fulfilled its financial obligations towards NFABD and the other Members of NFABD.

## **ARTICLE 20    Independence of Members and their bodies**

---

<sup>1</sup>Each Member shall manage its affairs independently and with no undue influence from third parties.



<sup>2</sup>The Members' bodies shall be either elected or appointed. The Members' Statutes shall provide for a democratic procedure that guarantees the complete independence of the election or appointment.

<sup>3</sup>Any Members' bodies that have not been elected or appointed in compliance with the provisions of par. 2 above, even on an interim basis, shall not be recognized by NFABD.

<sup>4</sup>Decisions passed by bodies that have not been elected or appointed in compliance with par. 2 above shall not be recognized by NFABD.

## **ARTICLE 21 Status of Clubs, Leagues, District Football Associations and other groups of Clubs**

<sup>1</sup>Clubs, Leagues, District Football Associations or any other groups of Clubs affiliated to NFABD shall be subordinate to and recognized by NFABD. There shall only be one top-tier national league on the territory of Brunei Darussalam.

<sup>2</sup>These Statutes define the scope of authority and the rights and duties of the entities mentioned in par.1 above. Their statutes and regulations shall be in line with the requirements and obligations of the Statutes and regulations of NFABD. NFABD shall have the primary responsibility to regulate matters relating to refereeing, the fight against doping, the registration of players, club licensing, the imposition of disciplinary measures, including for ethical misconduct, as well as measures required to protect the integrity of competitions.

<sup>3</sup>The entities mentioned in par.1 above shall take all decisions on any matters regarding their membership independently of any external body. This obligation applies regardless of their corporate structure.

<sup>4</sup>In any case, no natural or legal person (including holding companies and subsidiaries) shall exercise control over more than one Club or group whenever the integrity of any match or competition could be jeopardized.



### III. HONORARY PRESIDENT AND HONORARY MEMBERS

#### ARTICLE 22 Honorary president and honorary member

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<sup>1</sup>The Congress may bestow the title of honorary president or honorary member upon any persons for meritorious service to football.

<sup>2</sup>The Executive Committee shall make these nominations.

<sup>3</sup>The honorary president or the honorary member may take part in the Congress. They may join the debates but are not entitled to vote.

### IV. ORGANISATION

#### ARTICLE 23 Bodies

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<sup>1</sup>The Congress is the supreme and legislative body.

<sup>2</sup>The Executive Committee is the executive body.

<sup>3</sup>The General Secretariat is the executive, operational and administrative body.

<sup>4</sup>Standing and ad-hoc committees shall advise and assist the Executive Committee in fulfilling its duties. Their duties, composition and function are defined in these Statutes and/or special regulations drawn up by the Executive Committee.

<sup>5</sup>The Club Licensing bodies are in charge of the club licensing system within NFABD.

<sup>6</sup>The independent Committees fulfill their functions in accordance with these Statutes and applicable regulations. The Independent Committees are the Audit and Compliance Committee and the Electoral Committee.



<sup>7</sup>The Judicial bodies are the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee and the Appeals Committee.

<sup>8</sup>The bodies shall be either elected or appointed by NFABD itself without any external influence and in accordance with the procedures described in these Statutes. The members of the bodies shall not have previously been found guilty of any criminal offence incompatible with the position.

<sup>9</sup>Any member of the bodies must withdraw from the debate and from taking a decision if there is any risk or possibility of a conflict of interest. In particular, members of the bodies shall always be aware of, and comply with, the relevant provisions of the FIFA Code of Ethics on conflicts of interest and adjust their conduct as necessary (e.g. abstain from performing their duties, notify the chairperson in cases of potential conflicts of interest, etc.).

## **ARTICLE 24    Dismissal of a member of a body**

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<sup>1</sup>The Congress may dismiss a member of a body. The Executive Committee may also dismiss a member of a body provisionally, with the exception of the members of the Independent Committees. The provisional dismissal approved by the Executive Committee shall be confirmed by the next Congress, unless the Executive Committee has lifted it in the meantime. If the next Congress is of an elective nature, a dismissed member shall be allowed to be an elective candidate (provided that he fulfils the relevant eligibility criteria) on a conditional basis depending on the final decision of the Congress on his dismissal which shall be taken before the election.

<sup>2</sup>The motion for dismissal must be justified and shall be sent to the members of the Executive Committee and/or to the Members of NFABD along with the respective agenda.

<sup>3</sup>The member of the body in question has the right to defend himself in front of the Executive Committee and/or the Congress.



<sup>4</sup>The motion for dismissal shall be decided by means of secret ballot at the Executive Committee and/or the Congress. For the motion to be passed, a majority of 2/3 (two-thirds) of the valid votes cast is required.

<sup>5</sup>The member dismissed (provisionally or not) is relieved of his functions with immediate effect.

## V. CONGRESS

### ARTICLE 25 Definition and composition of the Congress

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<sup>1</sup>The Congress is the meeting at which all of the Members of NFABD regularly convene. It represents the supreme and legislative authority of NFABD. Only a Congress that is duly convened has the authority to make decisions.

<sup>2</sup>The Congress shall be constituted in accordance with the principle of representative democracy and shall take into account the importance of gender equality in football.

<sup>3</sup>A Congress may be Ordinary or Extraordinary Congress.

<sup>4</sup>The President shall chair the Congress business in compliance with NFABD Statutes as well as any applicable regulations.

<sup>5</sup>The Executive Committee may appoint observers who take part in the Congress without the right to debate or to vote.

<sup>6</sup>The honorary presidents or honorary members may take part in the Congress. They may join the debates but are not entitled to vote.



## ARTICLE 26 Delegates and votes

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<sup>1</sup>The Congress is composed of 29 delegates allocated as follows:

- a) **All 15 (fifteen) Clubs in top division National League – 1 (one) delegate with only 1 vote per Club;**
- b) **Brunei Muara District Football Association – 1 (one) delegate with 1 vote;**
- c) **Tutong District Football Association – 1 (one) delegate with 1 vote;**
- d) **Belait District Football Association – 1 (one) delegate with 1 vote;**
- e) **Temburong District Football Association – 1 (one) delegate with 1 vote;**
- f) **for the Referees' Group, 1 (one) delegate with only 1 vote;**
- g) **for the Coaches' Group, 1 (one) delegate with only 1 vote;**
- h) **for each of the 3 (three) highest-ranked Clubs in top division Futsal League based on the results of the Competition of the season prior to the Congress – 3 (three) delegate with only 1 vote per club;**
- i) **for each of the 3 (three) highest-ranked Clubs in top division Beach Soccer League based on the results of the Competition of the season prior to the Congress – 3 (three) delegate with only 1 vote per club;**
- j) **For the Women's Football group – 1 (one) delegate with 1 vote.**

<sup>2</sup>Delegates must belong to the Member that they represent and be appointed or elected by the appropriate body of that Member. They must also be able to produce evidence of this upon request.



<sup>3</sup>Each delegate may be represented by a maximum of 1 (one) additional delegate without right to vote.

<sup>4</sup>Voting by proxy or by letter is not permitted.

<sup>5</sup>The Executive Committee and the General Secretary shall take part in the Congress without voting rights. During their terms of office, members of the Executive Committee may not be appointed as delegates for their association.

## **ARTICLE 27    Area of authority**

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The Congress has the following authority:

- a) adopting or amending these Statutes and the Standing Orders of the Congress;
- b) appointing 3 (three) Members to check the minutes and approving the minutes of the last meeting;
- c) electing the President and the Deputy President and members of the Executive Committee;
- d) electing the chairpersons, the deputy chairpersons and members of the independent committees (i.e. Audit and Compliance Committee, Electoral Committees and Judicial bodies), upon proposal of the Executive Committee;
- e) appointing the scrutineers; to count the votes and to assist the General Secretary in distributing the ballot papers issued for the elections;
- f) approving the annual audited financial statements, including the consolidated financial statements and the annual report;
- g) approving the budget;
- h) approving the NFABD activity report;



- i) appointing the independent and external auditors upon the proposal of the Executive Committee;
- j) fixing the membership subscriptions; upon proposal of the Executive Committee
- k) deciding, upon the nomination of the Executive Committee, whether to bestow the title of honorary president or honorary member;
- l) admitting, suspending or expelling a Member;
- m) dismissing a member of a body of NFABD;
- n) dissolving NFABD;
- o) passing decisions at the request of a Member in accordance with these Statutes.

## ARTICLE 28 Quorum of the Congress

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<sup>1</sup>The quorum for the Congress shall be the absolute majority (more than 50%) of the Members who are entitled to vote.

<sup>2</sup>If a quorum is not achieved, a second Congress shall take place 24 hours (twenty-four) after the first, with the same agenda.

<sup>3</sup>A quorum is not required for the second meeting unless any item on the agenda proposes the amendment of the Statutes of NFABD, the election of the President and election of the Deputy President and members of the Executive Committee, the dismissal of one or a number of members of a body of NFABD, the expulsion of a Member of NFABD or the dissolution of NFABD.

<sup>4</sup>Once it is declared that the Congress has been convened and composed in accordance with these Statutes, the quorum shall not be influenced by delegates departing.





## ARTICLE 29 Decisions of the Congress

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<sup>1</sup>Unless otherwise stipulated in the Statutes, a majority (more than 50%) of the Members entitled to vote is sufficient for a vote to be valid. The number of valid votes counted shall decide the majority. Spoiled or blank voting slips or any other forms of abstentions are disregarded in calculating the majority.

<sup>2</sup>A decision that requires a vote shall be reached by a show of hands, lifting of flags or by means of electronic count. If a decision reached by either a show of hands, lifting of flags or by means of electronic count does not result in a clear majority in favour of a motion, the vote shall be taken by calling the roll in alphabetical order.

## ARTICLE 30 Elections

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<sup>1</sup>Elections shall be conducted by secret ballot.

<sup>2</sup>Elections shall be conducted in accordance with the Electoral Code of NFABD and shall be supervised by the Electoral Committee.

<sup>3</sup>Where a candidate has no opponent for the seat, they may be elected by acclamation.

<sup>4</sup>No voting by letter or proxy is permitted.

<sup>5</sup>The election for the position of the Executive Committee shall take place by position. At least one position shall be reserved for a female candidate. Every candidate in the election for the position of the Executive Committee shall be proposed by at least 2 (two) Members. Each Member shall support one candidate for each given position only. If a Member supports more than one candidate for a given position, none of its expression of support for that position shall be considered valid.



<sup>6</sup>The position of the President shall be elected as follows:

- a) where there are two (2) candidates on the first ballot, a simple majority (more than 50%) of the valid votes cast of the Members who are present and eligible to vote is necessary; and
- b) where there are more than two (2) candidates on the first ballot, two-thirds (2/3) of the votes of the Members who are present and eligible to vote are necessary. Should no candidate receive two-thirds (2/3) of the votes on the first ballot, all candidates move to the second ballot. From the second ballot (if required) onwards, a simple majority (more than 50%) of the valid votes cast of the Members who are present and eligible to vote is necessary. If no candidate is elected, the candidate obtaining the lowest number of votes shall be eliminated from the subsequent ballot. This process shall continue (if required) until two (2) candidates remain and a simple majority is achieved.

<sup>7</sup>The other positions listed in Article 37b and 37c shall be elected as follows:

- a) where there is one (1) position available on the first ballot, a simple majority (more than 50%) of the valid votes cast of the Members who are present and eligible to vote is necessary. If no candidate is elected, the candidate obtaining the lowest number of votes shall be eliminated from the subsequent ballot. All subsequent ballots shall require the same simple majority to be achieved. This process shall continue until two (2) candidates remain and a simple majority is achieved;
- b) where there is more than one (1) position available on the first ballot, a simple majority (more than 50%) of the valid votes cast by the Members who are present and eligible to vote is necessary. Where:
  - i. at least one (1) candidate is elected but not all positions are filled, all remaining candidates shall move into the subsequent ballot;



- ii. no candidate is elected, the candidate obtaining the lowest number of votes shall be eliminated from the subsequent ballot;
- c) all subsequent ballots shall require the same simple majority to be achieved. This process shall continue until two (2) candidates remain and a simple majority is achieved.

<sup>8</sup>The Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson, and members of the judicial bodies shall be elected by the Congress by a simple majority (more than 50% percent).

## ARTICLE 31 Ordinary Congress

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<sup>1</sup>The Ordinary Congress shall be held every year.

<sup>2</sup>The Executive Committee shall fix the place and date. The Members shall be notified in writing at least 90 (ninety) days in advance.

<sup>3</sup>Any proposal that a Member wishes to submit to the Congress shall be sent to the general secretariat in writing, with a brief explanation, at least 60 (sixty) days before the date of the Congress.

<sup>4</sup>The formal convocation shall be made in writing at least 30 (thirty) days before the date of the Congress. This convocation shall contain the agenda, the NFABD activity report, the financial statements and the auditors' report and any other relevant documents.

## ARTICLE 32 Ordinary Congress agenda

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<sup>1</sup>The General Secretary shall draw up the agenda based on proposals from the Executive Committee and the Members. Any proposal that a Member wishes to submit to the Congress shall be sent to the general secretariat in writing, with a brief explanation, at least 2 (two) months before the date of the Congress.



<sup>2</sup>The Congress agenda shall include the following mandatory items:

- a) a declaration that the Congress has been convened and composed in compliance with the Statutes of NFABD;
- b) approval of the agenda;
- c) an address by the President;
- d) appointment of Members to check the minutes;
- e) appointment of scrutineers;
- f) suspension or expulsion of Members (if applicable);
- g) approval of the minutes of the preceding Congress;
- h) NFABD activity report (containing the activities since the last Congress);
- i) presentation of the consolidated and revised balance sheet and the profit and loss statement, as well as the Independent and external auditor's report;
- j) approval of the audited financial statements;
- k) approval of the budget;
- l) admission for membership (if applicable);
- m) votes on proposals for amendments to the Statutes, the regulations governing the application of the Statutes and the standing orders of the Congress (if applicable);
- n) discussion of proposals submitted by the Members and the Executive Committee;
- o) appointment of independent auditors (if applicable) upon the proposal of the Executive Committee;
- p) dismissal a person or body (if applicable);



q) election of the President, Deputy President and members of the Executive Committee (if applicable).

<sup>3</sup>The agenda of an Ordinary Congress may be altered, provided  $\frac{3}{4}$  (three-quarters) of the Members present at the Congress and eligible to vote agree to such a motion.

<sup>4</sup>The Congress shall not make a decision on any point not included in the agenda.

### ARTICLE 33 Extraordinary Congress

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<sup>1</sup>The Executive Committee may convene an Extraordinary Congress at any time.

<sup>2</sup>The Executive Committee shall convene an Extraordinary Congress if at least 50% (fifty percent) of the Members of NFABD make such a request in writing. The request shall specify the items for the agenda. An Extraordinary Congress shall be held within 30 (thirty) days of receipt of the request. If an Extraordinary Congress is not convened, the Members who requested it may convene the Congress themselves. As a last resort, the Members may request assistance from FIFA and AFC.

<sup>3</sup>The Members shall be notified of the place, date and agenda at least 15 (fifteen) days before the date of the Extraordinary Congress.

<sup>4</sup>When an Extraordinary Congress is convened on the initiative of the Executive Committee, it must draw up the agenda. When an Extraordinary Congress is convened upon the request of Members, the agenda must contain the points raised by those Members.

<sup>5</sup>The agenda of an Extraordinary Congress may not be altered.

### ARTICLE 34 Amendments to the Statutes

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<sup>1</sup>The Congress is responsible for amending the Statutes and Standing Orders of the Congress.



<sup>2</sup>Any proposals for an amendment to the Statutes must be submitted in writing with a brief explanation to the general secretariat by a Member or by the Executive Committee. A proposal submitted by a Member is valid, provided it has been supported in writing by at least 2 (two) other Members.

<sup>3</sup>For a vote on an amendment to the Statutes to be valid, an absolute majority (more than 50%) of the Members eligible to vote must be present.

<sup>4</sup>A proposal for an amendment to the Statutes shall be adopted only if  $\frac{3}{4}$  (three-quarters) of the Members present and eligible to vote agree to it.

## ARTICLE 35 Minutes

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The General Secretary shall be responsible for recording the minutes at the Congress. The minutes shall be checked by those Members designated and finally approved at the next Congress.

## ARTICLE 36 Effective dates of decisions

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Decisions passed by the Congress shall come into effect immediately after the close of the Congress, unless the Congress fixes another date for a decision to take effect.

# VI. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

## ARTICLE 37 Composition

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<sup>1</sup>The Executive Committee consists of 12 members, at least one of which shall be a woman:

- a) 1 President;
- b) 1 Deputy President;
- c) 10 members.



<sup>2</sup>The President, the Deputy President and the members of the Executive Committee shall be elected by the Congress in accordance with Art. 30 of these Statutes. Every candidate in the election of Executive Committee members must be proposed by at least one Member.

<sup>3</sup>Their mandates shall immediately begin after the end of the Congress which has elected them and expire at the end of the Congress at which their successors are elected.

<sup>4</sup>No person may serve as President for more than three terms of office (whether consecutive or not). All other members (including any Deputy President) of the Executive Committee may serve for no more than three terms of office (whether consecutive or not). Any partial term of office shall count as one full term.

<sup>5</sup>The members of the Executive Committee shall have already been active in football, must not have been previously found guilty of a criminal offence and have residency within the territory of Brunei Darussalam.

<sup>6</sup>Candidatures must be sent to the general secretariat of NFABD. The official list of candidates shall undergo an integrity check, to be conducted by the Electoral Committee, prior to their election or re-election.

<sup>7</sup>A Member of the Executive Committee may not at the same time be a member of an Independent Committee Judicial bodies of NFABD and may not be appointed/elected as a delegate representing a Member at the Congress.

<sup>8</sup>If a position or up to less than 50% (fifty percent) of the positions of the Executive Committee become vacant, the Executive Committee shall fill that position(s) until the next Ordinary Congress, when a replacement will be elected for the remaining term of mandate.

<sup>9</sup>If more than 50% (fifty percent) of the positions of the Executive Committee become vacant, the General Secretary shall convoke an Extraordinary Congress within 30 (thirty) days in order to elect the replacements for the remaining term of mandate.



<sup>10</sup>Any position within the Executive Committee shall be considered vacant in case of death, resignation or if the member concerned is permanently prevented from performing his official function.

## ARTICLE 38 Meetings

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<sup>1</sup>The Executive Committee shall meet at least 4 (four) times a year.

<sup>2</sup>The President shall convene the Executive Committee meetings. If a majority (more than 50%) of the Executive Committee members request a meeting, the President shall convene it within 21 days of the receipt of the request. If the President does not convene the requested meeting by the aforementioned deadline, the other members of the Executive Committee shall convene it themselves, but must send the agenda to all members of the Executive Committee at least 5 (five) days [or another period to be fixed by the Association] before the meeting in line with par. 3 below.

<sup>3</sup>The President, assisted by the General Secretariat shall compile the agenda. Each member of the Executive Committee is entitled to propose items for inclusion in the agenda. The members of the Executive Committee must submit the points they wish to be included in the agenda for the meeting to the General Secretariat at least 14 days before the meeting. The agenda must be sent out to the members of the Executive Committee at least 7 (seven) days before the meeting.

<sup>4</sup>The General Secretary shall take part in the meetings of the Executive Committee in a consultative role and without voting rights. If the General Secretary is unable to attend a meeting, he may nominate a representative to attend the meeting on his behalf, subject to the approval of the Executive Committee.

<sup>5</sup>The meetings of the Executive Committee shall not be held in public. The Executive Committee may, however, invite third parties to attend. Those third parties shall not have voting rights, and may only express an opinion with the permission of the Executive Committee.





<sup>6</sup>The President may also convene the Executive Committee meeting on an urgent basis to deal with any matter requiring immediate settlement between two meetings of the Executive Committee. If the members of the Executive Committee cannot meet physically, decisions may be passed through other modern communications (e.g. emails, conference call or messaging apps).

## ARTICLE 39 Powers of the Executive Committee

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The Executive Committee:

- a) shall pass decisions on all cases that do not come within the sphere of responsibility of the Congress or are not reserved for other bodies by law or under these Statutes;
- b) with the assistance of the General Secretariat, shall prepare and convene the Ordinary and Extraordinary Congress of NFABD;
- c) shall appoint the Chairpersons, Deputy Chairpersons and members of the Standing Committees;
- d) to propose to the Congress the individuals to be elected or dismissed as Chairpersons, Deputy Chairpersons and members of the Judicial bodies and Independence Committees. (Ref. Art. 27 par. d of these Statutes);
- e) may decide to set up ad-hoc committees if necessary, at any time;
- f) Approving and issuing the regulations for the organization of Standing Committees and Ad hoc Committees;
- g) shall appoint or dismiss the General Secretary on the proposal of the President;
- h) shall propose the independent and external auditors to the Congress;
- i) appointing replacements for vacancies in the independent committees until the next Congress;



- j) shall decide the place and dates of and the number of teams participating in the competitions of NFABD;
- k) shall appoint the coaches for the representative teams and other technical staff;
- l) shall approve and issue the Internal Organisations Regulations of NFABD;
- m) shall ensure that the Statutes are applied, and adopt the executive arrangements required for their application;
- n) may dismiss a person or body or suspend a Member of NFABD provisionally until the next Congress;
- o) may delegate tasks arising out of its area of authority to other bodies of NFABD or third parties;
- p) may appoint observers who may take part in the Congress without the right to debate or to vote.

## ARTICLE 40 Decisions

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<sup>1</sup>The Executive Committee shall not engage in valid debate unless 50% + 1 of its members are present.

<sup>2</sup>The Executive Committee shall reach decisions by a simple majority (more than 50%) of the Members present. In the event of tied vote, the President shall have the casting vote. Voting by proxy or letter is not permitted.

<sup>3</sup>Any member of the Executive Committee must withdraw from the debate and from taking a decision if there is any risk or possibility of a conflict of interests.

<sup>4</sup>The decisions taken shall be recorded in the minutes.

<sup>5</sup>The decisions taken by the Executive Committee shall come into effect immediately, unless the Executive Committee decides otherwise.



## VII. PRESIDENT

### ARTICLE 41 President

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<sup>1</sup>The President represents NFABD generally.

<sup>2</sup>He is primarily responsible for:

- a) implementing the decisions passed by the Congress and the Executive Committee through the General Secretariat;
- b) ensuring the effective functioning of the bodies of NFABD in order that they achieve the objectives described in these Statutes;
- c) supervising the work of the General Secretariat;
- d) relations between NFABD and its Members, FIFA, AFC, AFF, political bodies and other organisations.

<sup>3</sup>Only the President may propose to the Executive Committee the appointment of the General Secretary. The President may however also propose to the Executive Committee the dismissal of the General Secretary.

<sup>4</sup>The President shall preside over the Congress, the Executive Committee meetings and those committees of which he has been appointed chairperson.

<sup>5</sup>The President shall have an ordinary vote on the Executive Committee and, whenever votes are equal, shall have a casting vote.

<sup>6</sup>If the President is absent or unavailable, the Deputy President shall deputise. In case the Deputy President is absent or unavailable as well, the longest-serving Executive Committee member shall deputise.



<sup>7</sup>If the position of the President becomes vacant in the sense of Art. 37 Composition par. 9 of these Statutes, the Deputy President shall deputise until the next Congress. This Congress shall elect a new President for the remaining period of office.

<sup>8</sup>If the position of the President becomes vacant in the sense of Art. 37, par. 8 or 9 of these Statutes, the Deputy President shall represent him until the next Congress. This Congress shall elect a new President for the remaining period of office., if necessary.

<sup>9</sup>Any additional powers of the President shall be outlined and to be included in the Internal Organisation Regulations of NFABD.

## **ARTICLE 42 Representation and signature**

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The President represents NFABD generally and is entitled to sign for NFABD. The Executive Committee shall adopt special provisions in the internal organisation regulations of NFABD regarding the joint signature of office holders.

## **VIII. GENERAL SECRETARIAT**

### **ARTICLE 43 General Secretariat**

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The General Secretariat is the executive, operation and administrative body and shall carry out all the work of NFABD under the direction of the General Secretary. The members of the General Secretariat are bound by the Internal Organisational Regulations of NFABD and shall fulfil the given tasks in good faith.

### **ARTICLE 44 General Secretary**

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<sup>1</sup>The General Secretary is the chief executive of NFABD.

<sup>2</sup>The General Secretary shall be appointed by the Executive Committee upon proposal of the President on the basis of an agreement governed by private law and shall have the necessary professional qualifications and/or experience.



<sup>3</sup>The General Secretary shall be responsible for:

- a) implementing decisions passed by the Congress and the Executive Committee in compliance with the President's directives;
- b) attending the Congress and meetings of the Executive Committee, Emergency Committee and the standing and ad-hoc committees;
- c) organising the Congress and meetings of the Executive Committee and other bodies;
- d) compiling the minutes for the meetings of the Congress, Executive Committee, Emergency Committee and standing and ad-hoc committees;
- e) managing and keeping the accounts of NFABD properly;
- f) the correspondence of NFABD;
- g) the relations with the Members, committees, FIFA, AFC and AFF;
- h) organising the general secretariat;
- i) the appointment and dismissal of staff working in the general secretariat;
- j) proposing managerial staff to the President;
- k) providing the electoral committees with logistic and operative support for the elections;

<sup>4</sup>Any additional responsibilities and duties assigned to the General Secretary shall be stipulated in the Internal Organisation Regulations of NFABD.

<sup>5</sup>The General Secretary may not be a Congress delegate or a member of any body of NFABD.



## IX. EMERGENCY COMMITTEE

### ARTICLE 45 Emergency Committee

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<sup>1</sup>The Emergency Committee shall deal with all matters requiring immediate settlement between two meetings of the Executive Committee. The Committee shall consist of the President of NFABD, the Deputy President, and 4 (four) members chosen from amongst the Executive Committee Members and appointed by the Executive Committee itself for a period of 4 (four) years.

<sup>2</sup>The President shall convene the Emergency Committee meetings. If a meeting cannot be convened within an appropriate period of time, decisions may be passed through other means of communication. Such decisions shall have immediate legal effect. The President shall notify the Executive Committee immediately of the decisions passed by the Emergency Committee.

<sup>3</sup>All decisions taken by the Emergency Committee shall be ratified by the Executive Committee at its next meeting.

<sup>4</sup>If the President is unable to attend a meeting, the Deputy President shall deputise.

## X. STANDING COMMITTEES

### ARTICLE 46 Standing Committees

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<sup>1</sup>The Standing Committees of NFABD are:

- a) Finance & Internal Audit Committee;
- b) Competitions Committee;
- c) Technical and Development Committee;
- d) Referees' Committee;
- e) Legal Committee;



- f) Players' Status Committee;
- g) Media & Marketing Committee;
- h) Security and Integrity Committee;
- i) Women's Football Committee.

<sup>2</sup>Chairpersons, deputy chairpersons and members of the Standing Committees may be members of the Executive Committee, with the exception of those of the Referees Committee, who may not belong to the Executive Committee.

<sup>3</sup>The members of each Standing Committee shall be appointed by the Executive Committee upon proposal of the Members of NFABD or the President. The Executive Committee shall ensure appropriate female representation on Standing Committees.

<sup>4</sup>The chairpersons, deputy chairpersons and the members of the Standing Committees shall be designated for a term of office of 4 (four) years.

<sup>5</sup>Each chairperson shall represent his standing committee and conduct business in compliance with the relevant organisation regulations drawn up by the Executive Committee.

<sup>6</sup>Each chairman shall fix the dates of meetings in collaboration with the General Secretary, ensure that all tasks are carried out and report back to the Executive Committee.

<sup>7</sup>Each committee may propose amendments to its regulations to the Executive Committee.

## **ARTICLE 47 Finance & Internal Audit Committee**

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<sup>1</sup>The Finance Committee shall monitor the financial management and advise the Executive Committee on financial matters and asset management. It shall analyse the budget of NFABD and the financial statements prepared by the General Secretary and submit them to the Executive Committee for approval.



<sup>2</sup>The Internal Audit Committee shall ensure the completeness and reliability of the financial accounting and review the external auditors' report at the request of the Executive Committee. It shall consist of a chairman, a deputy chairman and as many members as deemed necessary.

#### **ARTICLE 48    Competitions Committee**

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The Competitions Committee shall organise the competitions in the aspect of men's and boys' football, futsal, women's football and beach soccer for NFABD in compliance with the provisions of these Statutes and the regulations applicable to NFABD competitions. The Committee shall also deal with general issues in football but primarily with its structure as well as relations between Clubs, Leagues, Members, AFF, AFC and FIFA. It shall consist of a chairman, a deputy chairman and as many members as deemed necessary.

#### **ARTICLE 49    Technical and Development Committee**

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The Technical and Development Committee shall primarily analyse the basic aspects of football training and technical development which shall be inclusive but not limited to technical aspect of the national competitions, coaching education and courses required towards the setup and establishment of grassroots, youth and national teams. The committee shall also deal with all medical aspects of football. It shall consist of a chairman, a deputy chairman and as many members as deemed necessary.

#### **ARTICLE 50    Referees' Committee**

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The Referees' Committee shall implement the Laws of the Game. It shall appoint the referees for matches in competitions organised by NFABD, organise refereeing courses and matters within NFABD in collaboration with the administration of NFABD and monitor the education and training of referees. It shall consist of a chairman, a deputy chairman and as many members as deemed necessary.





## **ARTICLE 51    Legal Committee**

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The Legal Committee shall analyse basic legal issues relating to football and the evolution of the Statutes and regulations of NFABD and its Members. It shall consist of a chairman, a deputy chairman and as many members as deemed necessary.

## **ARTICLE 52    Players' Status Committee**

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<sup>1</sup>The Players' Status Committee shall set up and monitor compliance with transfer regulations in accordance with the FIFA Regulations for the Status and Transfer of Players and determine the status of Players for various competitions of NFABD. The Executive Committee may draw up special regulations governing the Players' Status Committee's powers of jurisdiction. The Players' Status Committee shall consist of a chairman, a deputy chairman and as many members as deemed necessary.

<sup>2</sup>Players' status disputes involving NFABD, its Members, Players, Officials and match and players' agents shall be settled by an Arbitration Tribunal in accordance with these Statutes.

## **ARTICLE 53    Media & Marketing Committee**

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The Media Committee shall deal with the working conditions for the media at NFABD events and maintain relations with media organisations. It shall consist of a chairman, a deputy chairman and as many members as deemed necessary. The Committee shall advise the Executive Committee with regard to drafting and implementing contracts between NFABD and its marketing/television partners and analyse marketing and television strategies that have been devised.

## **ARTICLE 54    Security and Integrity Committee**

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The committee shall deal with strategies against match manipulation to protect the integrity of football. The committee shall issue and monitor compliance with Stadium Safety and Security Regulations and monitor relevant developments in the area of stadium security.



## ARTICLE 55 Ad-hoc Committees

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The Executive Committee may, if necessary, create ad-hoc committees for special duties and a limited period of time. The Executive Committee shall appoint a chairman, a deputy chairman and the members. The duties and function are defined in special regulations drawn up by the Executive Committee. An ad-hoc committee shall report directly to Executive Committee.

## XI. CLUB LICENSING BODIES

### ARTICLE 56 Club Licensing Bodies

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<sup>1</sup>The Club Licensing Bodies shall be in charge of the club licensing system within NFABD in accordance with the Club Licensing Regulations of AFC and FIFA.

<sup>2</sup>The Club Licensing Bodies consist of a first instance body and an appeal body.

<sup>3</sup>Decisions passed by the club licensing appeal body may only be appealed before an independent and duly constituted arbitration tribunal in accordance with the provisions in these Statutes.

<sup>4</sup>The objective of the Club licensing system is to safeguard the credibility and integrity of Club competitions, to improve the level of professionalism of NFABD, to promote sporting values in accordance with the principles of fair play as well as safe and secure match environments and to promote transparency in the finances, ownership and control of Clubs.

<sup>5</sup>The Executive Committee of NFABD shall issue Club licensing regulations governing the Club licensing system. Inter alia, the Club licensing regulations shall stipulate to which Clubs the system applies. As a minimum, the Club licensing system must be implemented in respect of Clubs playing in the National League and top-division Clubs which qualify for AFC Club competitions on sporting merit.

## XII. INDEPENDENT COMMITTEES

The Independent Committees are:

- a) the Audit and Compliance Committee
- b) the Electoral Committees

The Independent Committees as well as their individual members shall conduct their activities and perform their duties entirely independently but always in the interests of NFABD and in accordance with its Statutes and regulations.

### ARTICLE 57 Audit and Compliance Committee

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<sup>1</sup>The Audit and Compliance Committee shall ensure the completeness and reliability of the financial accounting and review the financial statements, the consolidated financial statement and the independent and external auditors' reports. The Audit and Compliance Committee shall consist of a chairperson, a deputy chairperson and 3 (three) members. Its members shall be knowledgeable and experienced in financial and/or regulatory and legal matters and may not be involved in any decision affecting the operations of NFABD.

<sup>2</sup>The Audit and Compliance Committee shall advise, assist and oversee the Executive Committee in monitoring NFABD's financial and compliance matters, set up compliance mechanisms and monitor compliance with the relevant regulations of NFABD. It shall also supervise the General Secretariat in financial and compliance issues. The Audit and Compliance Committee shall ensure the completeness and reliability of the financial accounting and review the consolidated financial statements and the independent and external auditor's report. The Audit and Compliance Committee shall furthermore monitor NFABD's financial and compliance matters and suggest to the appropriate bodies any action that it deems necessary as a result of such monitoring. The Audit and Compliance Committee shall, with the assistance of the General Secretariat, implement a compliance programme within NFABD.



<sup>3</sup>Details on the Audit and Compliance Committee's responsibilities, its internal cooperation and other procedural matters are stipulated in the Internal Organisation Regulations of NFABD.

<sup>4</sup>The chairperson, deputy chairperson and members of the Audit and Compliance Committee shall be elected by the Congress for a period of 4 (four) years and may only be relieved of their duties by the Congress. They shall not belong to any other body of NFABD and they shall undergo an integrity check, to be conducted by the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee, prior to their election or re-election and shall fulfil the independence requirements contained in par. 5 below.

<sup>5</sup>The chairperson and deputy chairperson of the Audit and Compliance Committee as well as any of their immediate family members may not exercise or have exercised during the 4 (four) years preceding their initial terms any executive function at NFABD, one of NFABD's Members, a league or a club (including any of their affiliated companies/organisations), nor have or have had in the 4 (four) years preceding their initial term any material business relationship with NFABD, one of NFABD's Members, a league or a club (including any of their affiliated companies/organisations). "Immediate family member" shall mean, with respect to a person, such person's spouse or domestic partner, parents, grandparents, uncles, aunts, children (including any stepchild or adopted child), grandchildren, son-, daughter-, father- or mother-in-law, and including anyone else, whether by blood or otherwise, with whom the individual has a relationship akin to a family relationship for which such person provides financial support.

<sup>6</sup>If the chairperson, the deputy chairperson or a member of the Audit and Compliance Committee permanently ceases to perform his official function during his term of office, the Executive Committee shall appoint a replacement to serve until the next Congress.



## ARTICLE 58 Electoral Committees

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<sup>1</sup>The Electoral Committees are the bodies in charge of organizing and supervising the election process in accordance with the Electoral Code of NFABD. The Electoral Committees consist of the Electoral Committee (the first instance body) and the Election Appeal Committee (the second instance body).

<sup>2</sup>The Electoral Committee shall consist of a chairperson, deputy chairperson and the number of members deemed necessary. The chairperson and the deputy chairperson shall have legal qualifications.

<sup>3</sup>The chairpersons, deputy chairpersons and other members of the Electoral Committees shall be elected by the Congress upon proposal of the Executive Committee and shall not be members of any other body of NFABD.

<sup>4</sup>The composition and function of the Electoral committees shall be governed by the Electoral Code of NFABD.

<sup>5</sup>The members of the Electoral Committee shall act in good faith at all times and observe the utmost impartiality when carrying out their duties.

## XIII. JUDICIAL BODIES

### ARTICLE 59 Judicial bodies

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<sup>1</sup>The Judicial bodies of NFABD are:

- a) the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee
- b) the Appeals Committee

<sup>2</sup>the responsibilities and functions of these bodies shall be stipulated in the Disciplinary Code and Ethics Code of NFABD, which shall comply with the FIFA Disciplinary Code and FIFA Ethics Code.



<sup>3</sup>The Judicial Bodies are to be composed in such a way that the members, together, have the knowledge, abilities and specialist experience that is necessary for the due completion of their tasks and duties. The chairpersons and deputy chairpersons of the judicial bodies shall be qualified to practice law.

<sup>4</sup>All members of the judicial bodies (including the chairpersons and deputy chairpersons) shall undergo an integrity check prior to their election or re-election.

<sup>5</sup>The decision-making powers of other committees remain unaffected.

<sup>6</sup>The chairpersons, deputy chairpersons and other members of the judicial bodies shall be elected by the Congress upon proposal of the Executive Committee and shall not be members of any other body of NFABD.

<sup>7</sup>If the chairperson, the deputy chairperson or a member of a judicial body permanently ceases to perform his official function during his term of office, the Executive Committee shall appoint a replacement to serve until the next Congress, in which the Congress shall appoint a new member of the respective judicial body for the remaining period.

## **ARTICLE 60    Disciplinary Committee**

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<sup>1</sup>The Disciplinary Committee shall consist of a chairman, deputy chairman and the number of members deemed necessary. The chairman and the deputy chairman shall have legal qualifications.

<sup>2</sup>The function of this body shall be governed by the Disciplinary Code of NFABD. The committee shall pass decisions only when at least three members are present. In certain cases, the chairman may rule alone in accordance with the Disciplinary Code of NFABD.

<sup>3</sup>The committee may pronounce the sanctions described in these Statutes and the Disciplinary Code of NFABD on Members, Officials, Players, Clubs and match and players' agents.



<sup>4</sup>These provisions are subject to the disciplinary powers of the Congress and the Executive Committee with regard to the suspension and expulsion of Members.

## **ARTICLE 61 Appeals Committee**

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<sup>1</sup>The Appeals Committee shall consist of a chairman, deputy chairman and the number of members deemed necessary. The chairman and deputy chairman shall have legal qualifications.

<sup>2</sup>The function of this body shall be governed by the Disciplinary Code of NFABD. The committee shall pass decisions only when at least three members are present. In certain cases, the chairman may rule alone in accordance with the Disciplinary Code of NFABD.

<sup>3</sup>The Appeals Committee is responsible for hearing appeals against decisions from the Disciplinary Committee that are not declared final.

## **ARTICLE 62 Disciplinary measures**

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The disciplinary measures are primarily:

<sup>1</sup>for natural and legal persons:

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

<sup>2</sup>for natural persons:

- a) a caution;
- b) an expulsion;
- c) a match suspension;



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

<sup>3</sup>for legal persons:

- a) a transfer ban;
- b) playing match without spectators;
- c) playing a match on neutral territory;
- d) a ban on playing in a particular stadium;
- e) annulment of the result of the match;
- f) expulsion;
- g) a forfeit;
- h) deduction of points;
- i) relegation to a lower division;
- j) replay of a match.

## **ARTICLE 63 Arbitration**

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<sup>1</sup>Disputes within NFABD or disputes affecting Members of NFABD, leagues, members of leagues, clubs, members of clubs, players and officials may only be referred in the last instance (i.e. after exhaustion of all internal channels within NFABD) to an independent and duly constituted arbitration tribunal, which shall settle the dispute definitively to the exclusion of any ordinary court, unless expressly prohibited by the legislation in Brunei Darussalam.





<sup>2</sup>Dispute of international dimension arising from or related to the Statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of FIFA or AFC may only be submitted in the last instance to CAS as specified in the Statutes of FIFA and of AFC.

## **ARTICLE 64 Jurisdiction**

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<sup>1</sup>NFABD shall have jurisdiction on internal national disputes, i.e. disputes between parties belonging or affiliated to NFABD.

<sup>2</sup>FIFA and/or AFC shall have jurisdiction on international disputes, i.e. disputes between parties belonging to different Associations and/or Confederations, in accordance with the relevant regulations.

<sup>3</sup>NFABD shall ensure its full compliance and that all of those subject to its jurisdiction with any final decision passed by a FIFA body, an AFC body, the arbitration tribunal recognized by NFABD or CAS.

## **XIV. FINANCE**

### **ARTICLE 65 Financial Period**

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<sup>1</sup>The financial period of NFABD shall be 1 (one) year and shall begin on every before 1<sup>st</sup> January and end 31<sup>st</sup> December.

<sup>2</sup>The revenue and expenses of NFABD shall be managed so that they balance out over the financial period. NFABD's major duties in the future shall be guaranteed through the creation of reserves.

<sup>3</sup>The General Secretary is responsible for drawing up the annual consolidated accounts of NFABD with its subsidiaries as at 31<sup>st</sup> December.

### **ARTICLE 66 Revenue**

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The revenue of NFABD arises specifically from:

a) Members' annual subscriptions:



- b) receipts generated by the marketing of rights to which NFABD is entitled;
- c) fines imposed by the authorised bodies;
- d) other subscriptions and receipts in keeping with the objectives pursued by NFABD.
- e) donations;
- f) any other revenue related to football activities;
- g) funding from FIFA, AFC and AFF

## **ARTICLE 67    Expenses**

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NFABD bears:

- a) the expenses stipulated in the budget;
- b) other expenses approved by the Congress and expenses that the Executive Committee is entitled to incur within the scope of its authority;
- c) all other expenses in keeping with the objectives pursued by NFABD.

## **ARTICLE 68    Independent and External Auditors**

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The independent auditors appointed by the Congress shall audit the accounts approved by the Finance and Internal Audit Committee in accordance with the appropriate principles of accounting and present a report to the Congress. The auditors shall be appointed for a period of 2 (two) years. This mandate may be renewed.



## **ARTICLE 69 Membership subscriptions**

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<sup>1</sup>Membership subscriptions are due on 1st January annually. The annual subscription for new Members for the year in question shall be paid within 30 (thirty) days of the close of the Congress at which they are admitted.

<sup>2</sup>The Congress shall fix the amount of annual subscription once in every 4 years on the recommendation of the Executive Committee. It shall be the same for every Member amounting One Hundred Brunei Dollars (BND100.00).

## **ARTICLE 70 Settlement**

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NFABD may debit any Member's assets to settle claims.

## **ARTICLE 71 Levies**

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NFABD may demand that a levy be paid by its Members for matches.

# **XV. COMPETITIONS AND RIGHTS IN COMPETITIONS AND EVENTS**

## **ARTICLE 72 Competitions**

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<sup>1</sup>NFABD organises and coordinates the following official competitions held within its territory:

1. The National League
2. The League Cup
3. The Futsal League
4. The Hassanal Bolkiah Trophy
5. any other tournament(s) as decided by the Executive Committee of NFABD.

<sup>2</sup>All football team/ clubs/ association must be affiliated to District Football Association to enter any official competitions.



<sup>3</sup>The Executive Committee may delegate to NFABD's subordinate Leagues the authority to organize competitions. The competitions organized by the Leagues shall not interfere with those competitions organized by NFABD. For avoidance of doubt, if there is conflict, competitions organized by NFABD shall take priority.

<sup>4</sup>The Executive Committee may issue special regulations to this end.

## **ARTICLE 73 Club licensing**

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The Executive Committee shall issue regulations regarding a club licensing system governing the participation of clubs in the competitions of NFABD and AFC, in compliance with the minimum requirements of the club licensing system as set up by AFC and FIFA.

## **ARTICLE 74 Rights**

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<sup>1</sup> NFABD and its Members are the original owners of all of the rights emanating from competitions and other events coming under their respective jurisdiction, without any restrictions as to content, time, place and law. These rights include, among others, every kind of financial rights, audiovisual and radiorecording, reproduction and broadcasting rights, multimedia rights, marketing and promotional rights and incorporeal rights such as emblems and rights arising under copyright law.

<sup>2</sup>The Executive Committee shall decide how and to what extent these rights are utilised and draw up special regulations to this end. The Executive Committee shall alone decide whether these rights shall be utilised exclusively, or jointly with a third party or entirely through a third party.

## **ARTICLE 75 Authorisation**

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NFABD and its Members are exclusively responsible for authorising the distribution of image and sound and other data carriers of football matches and events coming under their respective jurisdiction, without any restrictions as to content, time, place and technical and legal aspects.



## XVI. INTERNATIONAL MATCHES AND COMPETITIONS

### ARTICLE 76 International Matches and Competitions

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<sup>1</sup>The authority for organising international matches and competitions between Association teams and between Leagues and/or Club teams lies solely with FIFA and AFC. No match or competition shall take place without the prior permission of the FIFA. In addition, permission from the relevant Confederation may be required in accordance with the FIFA regulations governing international matches.

<sup>2</sup>NFABD is bound by the International match calendar compiled by FIFA.

### ARTICLE 77 Contacts

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NFABD, its Members, players, officials, licensed match agents and intermediaries may not play matches or make sporting contacts with the Association that are not members of FIFA or with provisional members of a Confederation without the approval of FIFA.

### ARTICLE 78 Approval

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<sup>1</sup>Clubs, Leagues or any other group of Clubs that are affiliated to NFABD may only join another association with the authorisation of NFABD, the other association, the respective confederation and FIFA.

<sup>2</sup>Clubs, leagues or any other group of clubs that are affiliated to NFABD cannot participate in competitions on the territory of another association without the authorisation of NFABD, the other association, FIFA and the respective confederation according to the FIFA Regulations Governing International Matches.



## XVII. FINAL PROVISIONS

### ARTICLE 79 Unforeseen contingencies and force majeure

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The Executive Committee shall have the power to decide on all cases of force majeure and on all matters not provided for in these Statutes; such decisions shall take into account the relevant regulations of FIFA and of AFC, as well as any applicable mandatory laws.

### ARTICLE 80 Publication of corporate documents

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NFABD shall make available on its official website the following documents and information:

- a) Statutes and Standing Orders of the Congress;
- b) Electoral Code;
- c) Disciplinary and Ethics Code;
- d) Internal Organisation Regulations;
- e) most important/key decisions;
- f) its strategy;
- g) agenda for Executive Committee and Congress meetings;
- h) circular letters.

### ARTICLE 81 Dissolution

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<sup>1</sup>Any decision relating to the dissolution of NFABD requires a majority of 2/3 two- thirds of all of the Members of NFABD, which must be obtained at a Congress specially convened for the purpose.

<sup>2</sup>If NFABD is disbanded, its assets shall be transferred to a protem committee. It shall hold these assets in trust as “bonus pater familiae” until NFABD is re- established. The final Congress may, however, choose another recipient for the assets on the basis of a two-thirds majority.



## **ARTICLE 82   Enforcement**

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These Statutes were adopted at the NFABD Ordinary Congress in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam on the 14 day of November 2020. They supersede all previous texts and come into force in accordance with Article 36 of these Statutes.

On behalf of the NFABD Congress 2020:

  
**Pengiran Matusin Matasan**  
President

  
**Mohammad Shahnnon Mohd. Salleh**  
General Secretary



## TRANSITORY PROVISIONS

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1. An election for all positions listed in Article 37.1 of these Statutes shall be held during the NFABD Election Congress in 2023.

The elected term shall be in accordance with the time period set out in the NFABD Statutes.

2. The term of all current Chairpersons, Deputy Chairpersons and members of the judicial bodies appointed shall remain for the period 2019-2023 until the NFABD Election Congress in 2023.





## APPENDIX A

### NFABD emblem



**APPENDIX B****NFABD emblem with slogan**

*Committed : United*



فرساتون بولا سيقق كبخساءن نكارا بروني دارالسلام  
**National Football Association of Brunei Darussalam**