

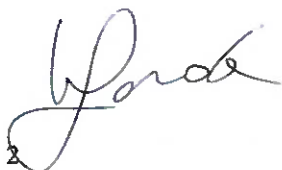
**AUGUST 2022 EDITION**

# **GUYANA FOOTBALL FEDERATION CONSTITUTION**



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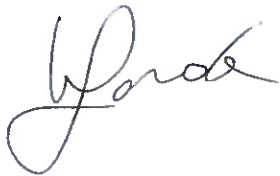


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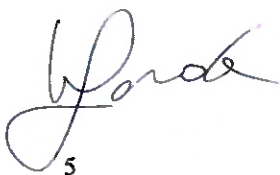
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## **A. DEFINITIONS**

The terms given below denote the following:

1. **GFF:** Guyana Football Federation:
2. **The Federation:** The Guyana Football Federation.
3. **FIFA :** Fédération Internationale de Football Association.
4. **CONCACAF:** Confederation of North, Central America and Caribbean Association Football.
5. **CFU:** Caribbean Football Union.
6. **GOA:** Guyana Olympic Association.
7. **Affiliate:** a natural person or entity that has been admitted into membership of a Member.
8. **Arbitration Tribunal:** an independent and duly constituted private court of justice acting instead of an Ordinary Court.
9. **Association:** a football association recognised as such by FIFA and by the relevant confederation. It is a member of FIFA, unless a different meaning is evident from the context
10. **Association Football:** the game controlled by FIFA and organised in accordance with the Laws of the Game. Moreover, this term shall also include Futsal and Beach soccer.
11. **CAS:** Court of Arbitration for Sport in Lausanne (Switzerland).
12. **Confederation:** a group of Associations recognised by FIFA and belonging to the same continent (or similar geographic area).
13. **Club:** A member of an association (that is a member of FIFA and of the relevant confederation) or a member of a league recognised by an association that enters at least one team in a competition.
14. **Congress:** the supreme and legislative body of the Federation.
15. **Congress Delegate:** a natural person representing a Member in the Congress.
16. **Council:** the strategic and oversight body of the Federation.
17. **The IFAB:** The International Football Association Board (IFAB)



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18. **Intermediary:** A natural or legal person who, for a fee or free 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.

19. **Member:** a legal person that has been admitted into membership of the Federation by the Congress.

20. **Officials:** A member of a body of the Federation (including the members of the Council, referee and assistant referee, a member of the executive body of a Member or a member of a Member, coach, trainer or any other person (except players) responsible for technical, medical and administrative matters at FIFA, a Confederation, a Member Association as well as other persons obliged to comply with the FIFA Statutes and regulations.

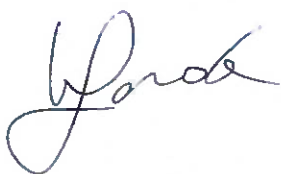
21. **Ordinary Courts:** state courts which hear public and private legal disputes.

22. **Player:** a football player licensed and or registered by the Federation.

23. **League:** an organisation that is subordinate to the Federation.

24. **Regional Association:** an organisation that is subordinate to the Federation.

**NB:** Terms referring to natural persons include both genders. Any term in the singular applies to the plural and vice versa.



## B. GENERAL PROVISIONS

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# 1

### Name, Headquarters and Legal Form

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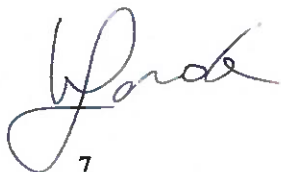
1.  
The Guyana Football Federation is a private organisation of an associative nature non profitable, established in compliance with the legislation and or laws of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana. It is formed for an unlimited period and to control football in all its forms in the Cooperative Republic of Guyana.
2.  
The Federation's Headquarters are located at 17 Dadanawa Street, Section 'K', Campbellville in Georgetown, Guyana.
3.  
The Federation it is a member of FIFA, Concacaf, CFU, and such other bodies as the Federation may deem necessary from time to time.
4.  
The flag of the Federation is green, gold, white, black and red.
5.  
The emblem of the Federation is a jaguar.
6.  
The logo of the Federation is a shield comprising the colours of the flag.
7.  
The abbreviation of the Federation is GFF.
8.  
The flag emblem, logo and Abbreviation are legally registered with the Registrar of the Supreme Court.

# 2

### Objectives

---

1.  
The objectives of the GFF are:
  - a) To improve the game of football constantly and promote, regulate and control it throughout Guyana in the light of fair play and its unifying, educational, cultural and humanitarian values, particularly through youth and development programmes;

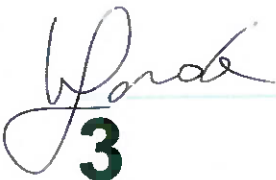


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- b) To organise competitions in association football, futsal and beach soccer at national level by defining precisely, as required, the areas of authority conceded to the various leagues of which it is composed;
- c) To draw up regulations and provisions and ensure their enforcement;
- d) To protect the interests of its Members;
- e) To respect and prevent any infringement of the Statutes/Constitution, regulations, directives and decisions of FIFA, of Concacaf, CFU and the Federation as well as the applicable 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 of preventing all methods or practices such as corruption, doping or match manipulation which might jeopardise the integrity of matches or competitions, players, officials and Members or give rise to abuse of the game of football, in particular association of football;
- g) To control and supervise all friendly football matches of all forms involving a member played throughout Guyana;
- h) To manage international sporting relations connected with association football, futsal and beach soccer and maintain a good and cooperative relationship with other member associations, Concacaf and FIFA;
- i) To host competitions at international and other levels;
- j) To control and supervise association football at National Level and to control and supervise football in all its forms including International football matches played throughout the territory of Guyana, in accordance with the relevant statutes and regulations of FIFA and of Concacaf;
- k) To promote and strengthen good governance principles and practices at national level and encourage its Members to adopt their own good governance principles;
- l) To promote the development of women's football and the full participation of women at all levels of football governance;
- m) To use its best efforts to ensure that the game of football is available to and resourced for all who wish to participate throughout the territory of GFF, regardless of gender and age.



**3**

**Human Rights**





The GFF is committed to respecting all internationally recognised human rights and shall strive to promote the protection of these rights.

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## 4

### **Neutrality, Institutional Independence Non-discrimination and Equality**

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1.  
The GFF is neutral in matters of politics and religion.
2.  
The Members of the GFF shall also be neutral in matters of politics and religion and shall ensure that their own members remain neutral.
3.  
The GFF shall remain independent and shall avoid any form of undue political interference. The Federation shall manage its affairs independently and shall ensure that its own affairs are not influenced by any third parties.
4.  
Discrimination of any kind against a country, private person or group of people on account of race, skin colour, ethnic, national or social origin, gender, language, religion, disability, political opinion or any other opinion, wealth, birth or any other status, sexual orientation or any other reason is strictly prohibited and punishable by suspension or expulsion.

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## 5

### **Promoting friendly relations**

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1.  
The Federation shall promote friendly relations between its Members, Affiliates, Leagues, Clubs, Officials and players and in society for humanitarian objectives.
2.  
The Federation shall provide the necessary institutional means to resolve any internal dispute that may arise between Leagues, Affiliates, Members, Clubs, Officials and Players.

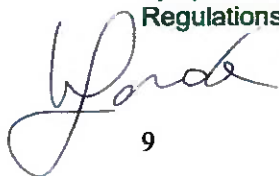
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## 6

### **Players**

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1.  
The status of players and the provisions for their registration and transfer shall be governed by specific regulations issued by the Council of the GFF in accordance with the current FIFA Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players. Due consideration shall be given to the



protection of contractual stability and the encouragement of player training and education by clubs.

2. Players shall be registered in accordance with the regulations of the GFF.

---

## 7

### Laws of the Game

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1. The GFF and each of its Members shall 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.
2. The GFF 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.
3. The GFF 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.

---

## 8

### Conduct of Bodies, Officials and Others

---

1. All bodies and Officials shall observe the Statutes, regulations, directives, decisions and the Code of Ethics of FIFA and Concacaf and of the GFF in their activities.
2. Every person and organisation involved in the game of association football, futsal and beach soccer in the territory of Guyana is obliged to observe the Statutes and regulations of FIFA, of Concacaf, of CFU, of the GFF and any other relevant statutes, as well as the principles of fair play, loyalty, integrity and sportsmanship.

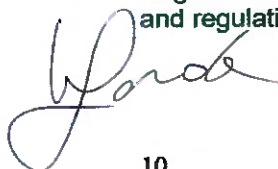
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## 9

### Official Language

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1. English is the official language of the GFF. Official documents and texts, including the Statutes and regulations of the Federation, shall be written in this language.



2.  
The official language of the Congress shall be English.

## C. MEMBERSHIP

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# 10

### Admission, Suspension and Expulsion

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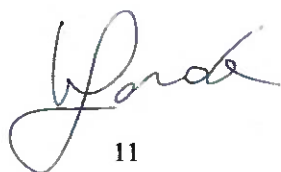
1.  
The Congress shall decide whether to admit, suspend or expel a Member.
2.  
Admission may be granted if the applicant fulfils the requirements of the Federation in accordance with these Statutes.
3.  
Membership is terminated by resignation or expulsion. Loss of membership does not relieve the Member from its financial obligations towards GFF or other Members of GFF, but leads to the loss of all rights in relation to the GFF.
4.  
The GFF 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.

# 11

### Members

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1.  
The Members of the GFF are:
  - a) The following Regional Associations:
    - i. Bartica Football Association;
    - ii. Berbice Football Association;
    - iii. East Bank Demerara Football Association;
    - iv. East Coast Demerara Football Association;
    - v. Essequibo/Pomeroon Football Association;
    - vi. Georgetown Football Association;
    - vii. Rupununi Football Association;
    - viii. Upper Demerara Football Association
    - ix. West Demerara Football Association.



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- b) The Clubs of the Elite League.
- c) The Guyana Football Coaches Association;
- d) The Guyana Football Referees' Council;
- e) The Women's Football Association.

2.

The following may be admitted as Members of the GFF: The Guyana Beach Soccer Association, the Guyana Futsal Association and Barima Waini Football Association.

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# 12

## Admission

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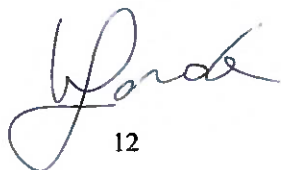
1.

Any legal person wishing to become a Member of the GFF shall apply in writing to the General Secretariat of the GFF.

2.

The application must be accompanied by the following mandatory items:

- a) A copy of its legally valid statutes or constitutional documents and, if applicable, regulations;
- b) A declaration that it will always comply with the statutes, regulations and decisions of the Federation, FIFA and Concacaf and ensure that these are also respected by its Affiliates, members, clubs, officials and players;
- c) A declaration that it will always comply with the Laws of the Game in force as laid down by The IFAB, as well as the Beach Soccer Laws of the Game and the Futsal 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 the Federation) any dispute of national dimension arising from or related to the Statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of the Federation only to CAS, which shall definitely settle the dispute to the exclusion of any ordinary court, unless expressly prohibited by the legislation in force in Guyana;
- e) A declaration that any dispute of international dimension arising from or related to the Statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of FIFA or of Concacaf shall be submitted in the last instance to CAS, as specified in the Statutes of FIFA and of Concacaf;
- f) A declaration that it recognises the arbitration tribunal that the Federation has recognised, as specified in these Statutes, as well as the jurisdiction of CAS, as specified in the Statutes of FIFA and of Concacaf, and its decisions;
- g) If applicable, a declaration that it undertakes to organise or participate in friendly matches or tournaments only with the prior consent of the Federation;



- h) A declaration that it will play all official home matches in Guyana;
- i) A declaration to the effect that the legal composition of the applicant guarantees that it can make decisions independently of any external entity;
- j) A copy of its annual audited financial statements, balance sheets and proposed budget;
- k) A list of its Affiliates/members (if any);
- l) A list of its officials as well as their business address, specifying those officials who are authorised signatories with the right to enter into legally binding agreements with third parties;
- m) A copy of the minutes of its last congress or constitutional meeting;
- n) A declaration that it is located and registered and or has a legal status on the territory of Guyana;
- o) A declaration to the effect that the members of its own bodies were elected or appointed as a result of a procedure that guarantees the complete independence of the election or appointment.

---

## 13

### Request and procedure for application of membership

---

1.  
The Council shall request the Congress either to admit or not to admit an applicant. The applicant may state the reasons for its application for the Congress.
2.  
The new Member shall acquire membership rights and duties as soon as it has been admitted by the Congress, its delegates are eligible to vote and be elected with immediate effect

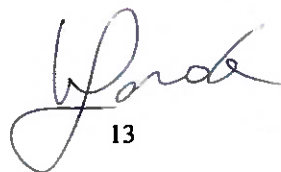
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## 14

### Members' rights

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1.  
The Members of the GFF have the following rights:
  - a) To take part in the Congress, to receive its agenda in advance, to be called to the Congress within the prescribed time, to exercise their rights to participate in the debates and discussions and to exercise their voting rights;
  - b) To draw up proposals for inclusion in the agenda of the Congress;



13



- c) To nominate candidates for the elections;
- d) To ratify the Executive Council's appointments of the members of all of the Independent Committees;
- e) To be informed of the affairs of the Federation through its official bodies;
- f) To take part in competitions (if applicable) and other sporting activities organised/approved by the GFF;
- g) To exercise all other rights arising from the Statutes and regulations of the GFF.

**2.**

The exercise of these rights is subject to other provisions in these Statutes and the applicable regulations of the GFF.

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# 15

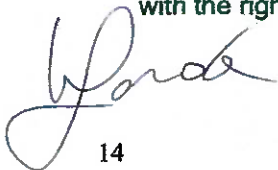
## Members' Obligations

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**1.**

The Members of the GFF have the following obligations:

- a) To comply fully with the Statutes/Constitution, regulations, directives and decisions of FIFA, Concacaf, and the Federation at all times and to ensure by a statutory clause that these are also respected by its Affiliate;
- b) To ensure the election of its decision-making bodies at least every four years;
- c) To take part in competitions (if applicable) or other sporting activities organised/approved by the Federation;
- d) To pay their membership subscriptions;
- e) To respect the Laws of the Game as laid down by IFAB and respect the Futsal and Beach Soccer Laws of the Game as laid down by FIFA and to further ensure that these are also respected by its Members through a statutory provision;
- f) To adopt a statutory clause specifying that any dispute of national dimension arising from or related to the Statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of the Federation may only be referred in the last instance (i.e. after exhaustion of all internal channels within the Federation) to CAS, which shall definitely settle the dispute to the exclusion of any ordinary court, unless expressly prohibited by the legislation in force in Guyana;
- g) To adopt a statutory clause specifying that any dispute of international dimension arising from or related to the Statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of FIFA or of Concacaf may only be submitted in the last instance to CAS, as specified in the Statutes of FIFA and of Concacaf;
- h) To immediately communicate to the Federation any amendment of its statutes/constitution and regulations as well as the list of its Officials or persons who are authorised signatories with the right to enter into legally binding agreements with third parties;





- i) Not to maintain any relations of a sporting nature with entities (e.g. clubs, Leagues) that are not Members or Affiliates nor with Members that have been suspended or expelled;
- j) To observe the principles of loyalty, integrity and good sporting behaviour as an expression of fair play through a statutory provision;
- k) To observe the mandatory items specified under article 9 paragraph 3 for the duration of their affiliation;
- l) To administer a register of its Affiliates and Officials which shall regularly be updated;
- m) To comply fully with all other duties arising from the Statutes/Constitution and other regulations of FIFA, Concacaf, CFU, GOA and the GFF;
- n) To ratify statutes that are in accordance with the requirements of this constitution and to submit them to the Federation for their approval;
- o). Not to publish any confidential correspondence exchanged with GFF, unless GFF has given its express written consent to do so;
- p) To manage their affairs independently and ensure that their own affairs are not influenced by any third parties in accordance with art. X of this constitution;
- q) To ensure that their bodies are either elected or appointed according to a procedure that guarantees the complete independence of the election or appointment.

## 2.

Violation of the above-mentioned obligations by any Member may lead to sanctions provided for in this constitution.

## 3.

Violation of par. 1 q) above may also lead to sanctions, even if the third-party influence was not the fault of the Affiliate concerned. Each Member of the GFF is responsible towards it for any and all acts of the members of their bodies caused by the gross negligence or wilful misconduct of such members.

# 16

## Suspension

### 1.

The Congress is responsible for suspending a Member. The Council may, however, without a vote of the Congress, temporarily suspend with immediate effect a Member that seriously and/or repeatedly violates its obligations as a Member. The suspension approved by the Council shall last until the next Congress, unless the Council has lifted it in the meantime.

### 2.

The presence of a majority (more than 50%) of the delegates representing the Members eligible to vote is necessary for a suspension to be valid, and the motion for suspension must be adopted by a three-quarter majority of the valid votes cast. A suspension of a Member by



the Council shall be confirmed at the next Congress. If it is not confirmed, the suspension shall be automatically lifted.

3.

A suspended Member may not exercise any of its membership rights, in particular the right to send a congress Delegate to the congress. Other Members may not entertain sporting contact with a suspended Member. The Disciplinary Committee and the Ethics Committee may impose further sanctions.

4.

Members that, despite due notification of the GFF, do not participate in the respective (sporting) activities of the GFF (if applicable) during one year shall be deprived of their voting rights at the Congress and the right to propose a slate of candidates to be elected, until the respective Member has fulfilled its obligation in this respect.

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## 17

### Expulsion

---

1.

The Congress may expel a Member if:

- a) It fails to fulfil its financial obligations towards the GFF;
- b) It seriously and or repeatedly violates the Statutes, regulations, directives or decisions of FIFA, Concacaf and the GFF.

2.

The presence of a majority (more than 50%) of the delegates representing the Members eligible to vote at the Congress is necessary for an expulsion to be valid, and the motion for expulsion must be adopted by a three-quarter majority of the valid votes cast

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## 18

### Resignation

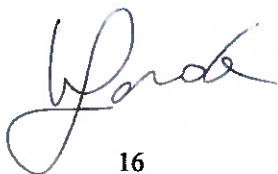
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1.

A Member may resign from the Federation with effect from the end of a calendar year. Notice of resignation must reach the General Secretariat no later than one month before the end of the calendar year and must be sent by registered letter.

2.

The resignation is not valid until the Member wishing to resign has fulfilled its financial obligations towards the Federation and the other Members.



# 19

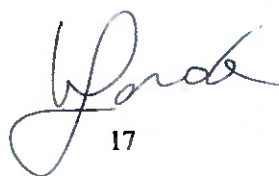
## **Independence of Members and their bodies**

1.  
Each member shall manage its affairs independently and with no undue influence from third parties.
2.  
The Members' bodies shall be either elected or appointed. The Members' statutes shall provide for a procedure that guarantees the complete independence of the election or appointment.
3.  
Any Members' bodies that have not been elected or appointed in compliance with the provisions of para. 2, even on an interim basis, shall not be recognised by the GFF.
4.  
Decisions passed by bodies that have not been elected or appointed in compliance with para. 2 shall not be recognised by the GFF.

# 20

## **Status of Clubs, Leagues, Regional Associations and other groups of clubs**

1.  
Clubs, leagues, regional associations or any other groups of clubs affiliated to the Federation shall be subordinate and recognised by the Federation. There shall only be one top- tier national league on the territory of Guyana. This constitution defines the scope of authority and the rights and duties of the entities mentioned above. The constitution of the Members shall be in line with the requirements and obligations of the Statutes and regulations of the Federation. The Federation 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.
2.  
The entities mentioned in par. 1 above shall take all decisions or any matters regarding their membership independently of the external body. The obligation applies regardless of their corporate structure.
3.  
In any case, no legal or natural person (including holding companies and subsidiaries) shall exercise control in any manner whatsoever over more than one club whenever the integrity of any match or competition could be jeopardised.



17



## D. HONORARY PRESIDENT AND HONORARY MEMBER

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# 21

### Honorary President and Honorary Member

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1.  
The Congress may bestow the title of honorary president or honorary member upon any person for meritorious service to football.
2.  
The Council shall make these nominations to the Congress.
3.  
The Honorary President or Honorary Member may take part in the Congress. They may join the debates but are not entitled to vote.

## E. ORGANISATION

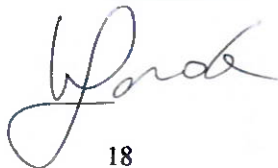
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# 22

### Bodies of the Federation

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1.  
The Congress is the supreme and legislative body.
2.  
The Council is the strategic and oversight body.
3.  
Standing and ad-hoc committees shall advise and assist the Council and the General Secretariat in fulfilling their duties.
4.  
The independent committees fulfil their functions in accordance with these Statutes and applicable regulations. The independent committees are the Electoral Committees and the Judicial Bodies.
5.  
The General Secretariat is the executive, operational and administrative body.
6.  
The judicial bodies are the Disciplinary Committee, the Ethics Committee and the Appeal Committee.



7.

The Club Licensing Body is in charge of the Club Licensing system within the Federation.

8.

The members of the bodies of the GFF shall be either elected, ratified or appointed by the GFF without any external influence and in accordance with the procedures described in this Constitution. The members of the bodies shall not have previously been found guilty of any criminal offence incompatible with the position.

9.

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.).

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## 23

### Dismissal of a member of a body

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1.

The Congress may dismiss a member of a body. The Council 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 Council shall be confirmed by the next Congress, unless the Council 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.

2.

The motion for dismissal must be justified and shall be sent to the members of the Council and/or to the Members of GFF along with the respective agenda.

3.

The member of the body in question has the right to defend himself in front of the Council and/or the Congress.

4.

The motion for dismissal shall be decided by means of secret ballot at the Council and/or the Congress. For the motion to be passed, a majority of more than 50% of the valid votes cast is required.

5.

The member dismissed (provisionally or not) is relieved of his functions with immediate effect.

## F. CONGRESS

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# 24

### Definition and Composition of the Congress

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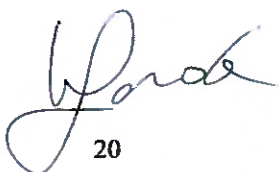
1.  
The Congress is a meeting at which all of the Members (acting through their Congress Delegates) regularly convene. Only a Congress that is duly convened has the authority to make decisions.
2.  
The Congress shall be constituted in accordance with the principles of representative democracy and shall take into account the importance of gender equality in football.
3.  
A Congress may be an Ordinary or Extraordinary Congress. The Congress may be held in person, by teleconference or by videoconference. Elective Congress shall be held in person.
4.  
The Council may appoint observers who take part in the Congress without the right to debate or to vote.
5.  
The President shall chair the Congress in compliance with the Statutes, Standing Orders of the Congress as well as any applicable regulations.

# 25

### Congress delegates and votes

---

1.  
The Congress is composed of 22 voting Congress delegates. Each member shall have one (1) vote and is entitled to be represented by a maximum of 2 Congress delegates to participate in the Congress. The number of votes is allocated as follows:
2.  
The composition of the Congress is as follows:
  - a) For each of the 9 Regional Associations: one (1) vote each with a total of 9 votes;
  - b) For each of the 10 Elite League clubs: one (1) vote each with a total of 10 votes;
  - c) For the Guyana Football Coaches Association: one (1) vote;
  - d) For the Guyana Football Referees' Council: one (1) vote;



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e) for the Women's Football Association: one (1) vote;

Once new Members are admitted to GFF, the number of voting Congress delegates may be changed and art. 22 paragraph 1 and 2 need to be amended accordingly.

3.  
Congress delegates must belong to the Member that they represent and be appointed or elected by the appropriate body of that Member. The Member shall inform the GFF in writing who will be its Congress delegates (and two alternates) at least 7 days before the respective Congress.

4.  
Each Member shall have one vote. A Congress Delegate may not belong to or represent more than one Member.

5.  
Only Congress Delegates present are entitled to participate and vote in the Congress. Attendance by teleconference or by videoconference shall constitute presence. Voting by proxy or by letter is not permitted at a Congress held in person, when a Congress is held by teleconference or videoconference, voting by correspondence and/or online is permitted. Elective Congresses shall be held in person.

6.  
The members of the Council and the General Secretary shall take part in the Congress without voting rights. During their terms of office, members of the Council and members of staff of the GFF shall not be appointed as delegates to the Congress.

7.  
The number of Clubs in the Elite League will be defined by the Regulations approved by the Council. There will be a system of promotion and relegation, established by the Regulations. The Clubs representing the Elite League that shall participate at the Congress are those ones participating in the Elite League at 31 December preceded year of the Congress.

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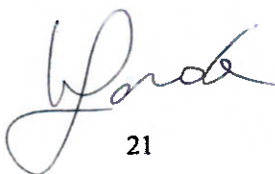
## 26

### Areas of Authority

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1.  
The Congress has the following Areas of Authority:

- a) Adopting or amending these Statutes, and the Standing Order of the Congress;
- b) Appointing two Members to check the minutes prior to approval at the next Congress as well as appointing scrutineers to count the votes and to assist the General Secretary in distributing the ballot papers issued for the elections;





- c) Approving the minutes of the last meeting;
- d) Electing the President, the vice- presidents and the members of the Council;
- e) Ratifying the chairpersons, the deputy chairpersons and members of the independent committees (i.e. judicial bodies, the Audit and Compliance officer and the Electoral Committee, upon proposal of the Council;
- f) Approving the audited financial statements, including the consolidated financial statements and the annual report;
- g) Approving the budget;
- h) Approving the activity report (containing the activities of the GFF since the last Congress);
- i) Appointing the independent and external auditors upon the proposal of the Council;
- j) Fixing the **membership** subscriptions upon proposal of the Council;
- k) Deciding, upon the nomination of the Council, whether to bestow the title of honorary president or honorary member;
- l) Admitting, suspending or expelling a Member;
- m) Passing decisions at the request of a Member in accordance with these Statutes;
- n) Dismissing a member of a body;
- o) Passing decisions at the request of a Member in accordance with these Statutes or passing any decision entrusted to the Congress in accordance with these Statutes;
- p) Dissolving the GFF.

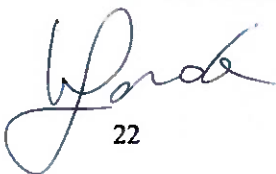
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## 27

### Quorum of the Congress

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1.  
Decisions passed by the Congress shall only be valid if a majority (more than 50%) of the delegates representing the Members eligible to vote are present.
2.  
If a quorum is not achieved, the Congress shall take place within 48 hours after the previously scheduled date, at the same time, place and with the same agenda.
3.  
A quorum is not required for the second meeting of the Congress. However, if any item on the agenda foresees decision regarding one of the following items, a quorum of a majority (more than 50%) of the Congress Delegates eligible to vote will be required:
  - a. The amendment of these Statutes;



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- b. The election of the President, the vice-presidents and the members of the Executive Committee;
- c. The ratification of the chairperson, deputy chairperson and members of the independent committees;
- d. The dismissal of a member of a body who was previously elected or ratified by the Congress;
- e. The suspension or expulsion of a Member;
- f. The dissolution of GFF.

**5.**

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. Delegates arriving after it has been declared that the Congress has been convened and composed in accordance with these Statutes may join the debates and may be entitled to vote.

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## 28

### Decisions of the Congress

---

1. A decision that requires a vote shall be reached by a show of hands or by means of an electronic count, unless decided otherwise by the Congress. If a show of hands does not result in a clear majority in favour of a motion, the vote shall be taken by calling the roll in alphabetical order.

**2.**

Unless otherwise stipulated in these Statutes, a majority (more than fifty percent) of the valid votes cast is sufficient for a decision to be valid. Invalid votes, blank ballot papers or electronic votes manipulated in any other way as well as abstentions shall be disregarded when calculating the majority.

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## 29

### Elections

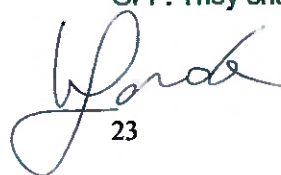
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**1.**

The Congress shall elect the members of the Council.

**2.**

Elections shall be conducted by secret ballot and in accordance with the Electoral Code of the GFF. They shall be organised and supervised by the Electoral Committee.



23



3. The elections for the positions within the Council shall take place by slate. Each slate must foresee one candidate per position. A candidate may not be listed in more than one slate. Each slate shall include at least two female candidates. Only Members may propose a slate.

4. Every slate in the election for the positions within the Council shall be proposed by at least 2 Members. Each Member shall support one list only. If a Member supports more than one list, none of its expressions of support shall be considered valid.

5. Persons proposed as candidates for the position of member of the Council, including the President of the GFF, and the chairpersons, deputy chairpersons and members of the independent committees, must cumulatively fulfil the following conditions:

- a. Citizenship of Guyana;
- b. No criminal record;
- c. Have been resident of Guyana for at least 6 months within the last 2 years' prior to the election;
- d. Be over the age of 18 years old on the date the elective Congress is held; and
- e. Not have been banned from football activity by the competent bodies of the GFF or have been banned from management activity or holding an office due to violation of the legislation of Guyana.

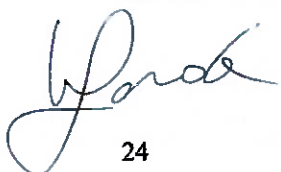
6. In order to be admitted, every slate in the election for the positions within the Council must be formally supported by at least two Members at the time of its submission. A Member may not submit more than one slate and each Member shall support one list only. If a Member supports more than one list, none of its expressions of support shall be considered valid.

7. For the election for the positions within the Council, a majority (more than 50%) of the valid votes cast is necessary for a slate to be elected. If there are more than two slates, whichever obtains the lowest number of votes is eliminated after each ballot until only two slates are left.

8. For the ratification of the chairpersons, deputy chairpersons and members of the independent committees (i.e. Audit and Compliance Officer, electoral committees and judicial bodies), the ratification may be conducted en bloc.

9. Blank ballot papers, invalid votes or electronic votes manipulated in any way as well as abstentions shall be disregarded when calculating the majority.

10. The Members shall be notified of the date and place of the relevant elective Congress at least forty-five (45) days in advance. Candidatures for any of the positions of the Council shall be sent to the General Secretariat at least thirty (30) days before the relevant elective Congress. The official list of candidates must be passed to the Members of GFF at least seven (7) days before the Congress at



which the Council shall be elected. The provisions of this paragraph shall also apply when elections take place during an Extraordinary Congress.

11.

Candidatures for any of the positions of the independent committees (i.e. Audit and Compliance Committee, electoral committees and judicial bodies) must be passed to the Members of GFF at least seven (7) days before the Congress at which the members in question shall be elected.

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## 30

### Ordinary Congress

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1.

The ordinary congress shall be held once a year.

2.

The Council shall fix the place and date. The Members shall receive the notification in writing at least forty-five (45) days in advance.

3.

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 thirty (30) days before the date of the Congress

4.

The formal convocation shall be made in writing at least seven (7) days before the date of the Ordinary Congress. This convocation shall contain the agenda, the activity report, the financial statements and the independent external auditors' report, the official slates of candidates (in case of an election or ratification) and any other relevant documents.

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## 31

### Ordinary Congress Agenda

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1.

The General Secretary shall draw up the agenda based on proposals from the Council and the Members.

2.

The Congress agenda shall include the following mandatory items (in chronological order):

a) A declaration that the Congress has been convened and composed in compliance with the Constitution;

b) Approval of the agenda;

- c) An address by the President;
- d) Appointment of Members to check the minutes;
- e) Appointment of scrutineers;
- f) Approval of the minutes of the preceding Congress;
- g) Suspension or expulsion of Members (if applicable);
- h) 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 auditors' report;
- j) Approval of the audited financial statements;
- k) Approval of the budget;
- l) Votes on proposals for amendments to these Statutes and the Standing Orders of the Congress (if applicable);
- m) Discussion of proposals submitted by the Members and the Council in accordance with the procedure stipulated under art. 31 par. 3 of these Statutes;
- n) Appointment of the independent external auditors (if applicable) upon proposal of the Council;
- o) Dismissal of a member of a body of GFF (if applicable);
- p) Election of the President, vice-presidents and members of the Council (if applicable);
- q) Ratifications of the members of the independent committees, i.e. the Audit and Compliance Officer, electoral committees and judicial bodies (if applicable);
- r) Admission for membership (if applicable).

**3.**

The Congress shall not take a decision on any point not included in the agenda. However, the agenda of an Ordinary Congress may be altered, provided that a majority (more than 50%) of the Congress Delegates representing the Members present at the Congress and eligible to vote agrees to such a motion.

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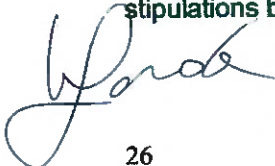
## 32

### **Extraordinary Congress**

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**1.**

The Council may convene an Extraordinary Congress at any time in accordance with the stipulations below.



2.  
The Council shall convene an Extraordinary Congress if more than fifty percent (50%) of the Congress Delegates representing the Members of the GFF make such a request in writing. The request shall specify the items to be included in the agenda. An Extraordinary Congress shall be held within thirty (30) days of receipt of the request by the Members or the respective decision of the Council. If an Extraordinary Congress is not convened in due time, the Congress Delegates representing the Members who requested it may convene the Extraordinary Congress themselves. In doing so, they shall inform all the Members of the GFF and the Council of the date and location of the Extraordinary Congress, along with the items to be included in the agenda in accordance with par. 5 below. As a last resort, the Members may request assistance from FIFA and Concacaf.

3.  
When an Extraordinary Congress is convened on the initiative of the Council It must draw up the agenda. When an Extraordinary Congress is convened upon the request of Members the agenda shall consist of the items raised by those Members.

4.  
The Members shall be notified of the place, date and agenda at least twenty-eight (28) days before the date of an Extraordinary Congress.

5.  
The agenda of an Extraordinary Congress must not be altered under any circumstances.

## 33

### **Amendments to the Statutes, the Standing Orders of the Congress**

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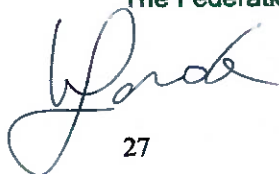
1.  
The Congress is responsible for amending these Statutes, and the Standing Orders of the Congress.

2.  
Any proposals for an amendment to these Statutes, the Standing Orders of the Congress, must be submitted in writing with a brief explanation to the General Secretariat by a Member or by the Council. A proposal submitted by a Member is valid, provided it has been supported in writing by at least three other Members.

3.  
For a vote on an amendment to the Statutes and to the Standing Orders of the Congress to be valid, a majority (more than 50% percent) of the Congress Delegates representing the Members eligible to vote must be present.

4.  
A proposal for an amendment to these Statutes and to the Standing Orders of the Congress shall be adopted only if more than two-thirds of the Congress Delegates representing the Members present and eligible to vote to agree to it.

5.  
The Federation shall inform FIFA and Concacaf of any amendment to its Constitution.



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# 34

## Minutes

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1.  
The General Secretary shall be responsible for recording the minutes at the Congress. The minutes shall be checked by those Congress Delegates designated and finally approved at the next Congress.

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# 35

## Effective dates or decisions

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1.  
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 or unless otherwise stipulated in these Statutes.

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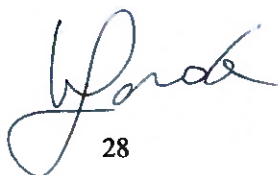
## G. Council

# 36

## Composition

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1.  
The Council shall consist of 9 members, at least 2 women shall be part of the Council:
  - a. 1 President,
  - b. 3 vice-presidents (First, Second and Third Vice President), and
  - c. 5 ordinary members.
2.  
The members of the Council shall be elected by the Congress and in accordance with art 29 of this Statutes. They shall undergo an integrity check (Annexe X), to be conducted by the Ethics Committee, prior to their election or re-election.
3.  
The mandate of the members of the Council 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. The mandate is for four years, subject to exceptional circumstances (force majeure) which lead to a postponement of election.

4.

No person may serve as President for more than three terms of office (whether consecutive or not). All other members (including any vice-president) of the Council may serve for no more than three terms of office (whether consecutive or not). Any partial term of office of more than 24 months shall count as one full term.

5. All members of the Council shall fulfil the prerequisites stipulated in art. 29 par 5 of this Constitution.

6.

A member of the Council shall not be at the same time a member of an independent committee and a judicial body, and may not be appointed/elected as a delegate representing a Member at the Congress.

7.

A position of the Council shall be considered vacant in case of death, resignation or if a member of the Council (subject to the other members of the Council) by a simple majority does not participate in four regular consecutive meetings.

8.

If a position or up to 50% of the positions of the Council become vacant, the Council shall fill the position(s) in question until the next Congress, when replacement(s) for the position(s) will be elected for the remaining period of office, upon proposal by the Council.

9.

If more than 50% (fifty percent) of the positions of the Council become vacant, the General Secretary shall convene an Extraordinary Congress within 21 days in order to proceed to new elections for a new mandate. In the meantime, the Council shall be considered dissolved and the General Secretary shall take care of the daily affairs of GFF until new elections are held.

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## 37

### Meetings

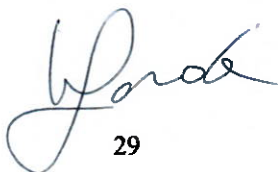
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1.

The Council shall meet at least six (6) times a year. In exceptional circumstances, a member of the Council may attend a meeting of the Council via teleconference, video conference or any other similar method. Council members that attend a meeting via any of the aforementioned methods shall be considered as present.

2.

The President shall convene the Council meetings. If more than 50% of the Council members request a meeting, the President shall convene it so that the meeting is held within twenty-one (21) days of the receipt of the request. If the President does not convene the requested meeting within the aforementioned deadline, the requesting members of the Council shall convene it





themselves, but must send the agenda to all members of the Council at least five (5) days before the meeting in line with par.3 below.

3.

The President, assisted by the General Secretariat, shall compile the agenda. Each member of the Council is entitled to propose items for inclusion in the agenda. The members of the Council must submit the items they wish to be included in the agenda for the meeting to the General Secretariat at least seven (7) days before the meeting. The convocation must be sent out to the members of the Council at least five (5) days before the meeting. The convocation shall contain the required documents to enable the members to prepare properly for the meeting.

4.

The General Secretary shall take part in the meetings of the Council in a consultative role and without voting rights.

5.

The meetings of the Council shall not be held in public. The Council 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 Council.

6.

The President may also convene the Council on an urgent basis to deal with any matter requiring immediate settlement between two meetings of the Council. In such cases, the deadlines mentioned in par. 3 above may be either reduced or disregarded if the urgency so requires, and decisions may be either reduced or disregarded if the urgency so requires, and decisions may be passed through other modern means of written communication (e.g. emails or messaging apps).

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## 38

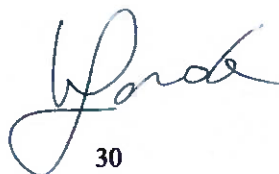
### Powers of the Council

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1.

The Council shall have the following powers:

- a) Passing 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 this Constitution;
- b) Preparing, with the assistance of the General Secretariat, and convening the Ordinary and Extraordinary Congress of the GFF;
- c) Appointing the chairpersons, deputy chairpersons and members of the standing committees;
- d) Shall appoint the chairperson, deputy chairperson and members of the judicial bodies, the Audit and Compliance Officer and the Electoral Committee and submit the appointment to the Congress for its formal ratification;



- e) Deciding to set up ad-hoc committees if necessary, at any time;
- f) Approving and issuing regulations for the organisation of standing committees and ad-hoc committees;
- g) Appointing or the dismissal of the General Secretary on the proposal of the President.
- h) Proposing the independent and external auditors to the Congress;
- i) Approving and issuing regulations governing the conditions of participation in and the staging of competitions organised by the Federation, including the playing schedule.
- j) Appointing the coaches for the representative teams and other technical staff;
- k) Approving and issuing the regulations stipulating how the GFF shall be organised internally;
- l) Ensuring that the Statutes are applied and adopting the executive arrangements required for its application;
- m) Dismissing a member of a body or suspending a Member of the GFF provisionally until the next congress.
- n) Delegating tasks arising out of its area of authority to other bodies of the Federation.
- o) Appointing observers who take part in the Congress without the right to debate or to vote.

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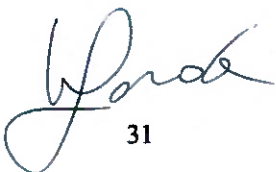
## 39

### Quorum and Decisions

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1.  
A quorum of the Council is achieved if at the beginning of its meeting more than 50% of its members are present. If an item on the agenda foresees a decision regarding a provisional suspension of a Member of the GFF, a quorum of at least three quarters of the members of the Council shall be required. Attendance by videoconference shall constitute presence.
2.  
The Council shall reach decisions by a majority (more than 50%) of the valid votes cast. In the event of a provisional suspension of a Member of the GFF, the Council shall reach decisions by a majority of more than two thirds of the valid votes cast.
3.  
Each member of the Council has one vote. Voting by proxy or by letter is not permitted; however, if a member of the Council is attending a meeting of the Council via teleconference, video conference or any other similar method, he/she may vote accordingly.
4.  
Any member of the Council must withdraw from the debate and from taking a decision if there is any risk or possibility of a conflict of interest.

24



5.

The decisions taken shall be recorded in the minutes.

6.

The decisions taken by the Council shall come into effect immediately, unless the Council decides otherwise.

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## 40

### Dismissal of a member of a body previously elected or ratified by the Congress

1.

The Congress may dismiss an elected or ratified member of a body. The Council may place the dismissal of such member of a body on the agenda for the Congress. Any Council member may submit a proposal to place such a motion for dismissal on the agenda of the Congress.

2.

The motion for dismissal must be justified. It will be sent to the Members along with the agenda.

3.

The member in question has the right to speak in his own defence.

4.

The Congress shall reach a decision by means of secret ballot.

5.

The person dismissed is relieved of his functions with immediate effect.

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## H. PRESIDENT

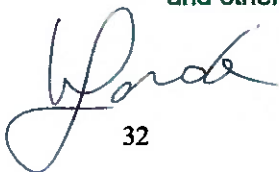
## 41

### President

1.

The President is primarily responsible for:

- a) Implementing the decisions passed by the Congress and the Council through the general secretariat;
- b) Ensuring the effective functioning of the bodies of the Federation in order that they achieve the objectives described in this Constitution;
- c) Supervising the work and operations of the General Secretariat;
- d) Relations between the GFF and its Members, FIFA, Concacaf, CFU, GOA, political bodies and other organisations;



e) Ensuring that the statutory objectives, mission, strategic direction, policies and values of GFF are sustainably pursued and fostering a positive image of GFF.

3.

Only the President may propose to the Council the appointment of the General Secretary. The President may however also propose to the Council the dismissal of the General Secretary.

4.

The President shall preside over the Congress, the Council and those committees of which he has been appointed chairperson.

5.

The President shall have an ordinary vote on the Council.

6.

If the President is absent or unavailable, the first vice-president shall deputise. If the first vice-president is absent or unavailable, the second vice-president shall deputise.

7.

If the position of the President becomes vacant in the sense of art. 36 par. 7 of these Statutes, the longest-serving vice-president shall deputise until the next Congress. This Congress shall elect a new President for the remaining period of office.

8.

If the position of the President becomes vacant, the highest-ranking available Vice President shall deputise until next Congress. This congress shall elect a new president for the remaining term of the mandate.

9.

Any additional powers of the President shall be contained in the internal organisation regulations of the GFF.

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## 42

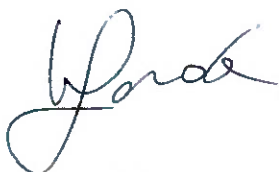
### Representation and Signature

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1.

The President represents the Federation generally. The Council may set up internal organisation regulations regarding the joint signature of officers, in particular, in case of the President's absence and concerning all important business of the GFF.

## I. GENERAL SECRETARIAT



# 43

## General Secretariat

1.

The General Secretariat is the executive, operational and administrative body and shall carry out all the administrative work of the GFF under the direction of the General Secretary. The members of the General Secretariat are bound by the internal organisational regulations of the GFF and shall fulfil the given tasks with the greatest efficiency and in good faith.

# 44

## General Secretary

1.

The General Secretary is the chief executive of the GFF.

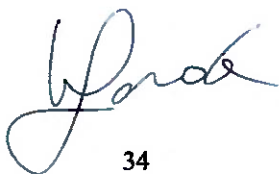
2.

The General Secretary shall be appointed by the Council upon proposal of the President and employed on the basis of an agreement governed by private law and shall have the necessary professional qualifications and/or experience.

3.

Shall be responsible for:

- a) Implementing decisions passed by the Congress and Council in compliance with the President's directives;
- b) Attending the Congress and meetings of the Council and the standing and ad-hoc committees;
- c) Organising the Congress and meetings of the Council and other bodies;
- d) Compiling the minutes for the meetings of the Congress, Council, and standing and ad-hoc committees;
- e) Managing and keeping the accounts of the GFF properly;
- f) The correspondence of the GFF;
- g) Relations with the Members, committees, FIFA, Concacaf, CFU and the GOA, under the direction of the President;
- h) Organising the general secretariat;
- i) The appointment and dismissal of staff working in the general secretariat;
- j) Proposing the appointment of managerial staff to the President;



k) Monitoring compliance by the GFF employees with any internal regulations and directives and reports regularly (or in cases of emergency, immediately) to the Audit and Compliance officer on the findings of his compliance monitoring;

l) Providing the electoral committees with logistic and operative support for the elections.

4.

Any additional responsibilities and duties assigned to the General Secretary shall be stipulated in the Internal Organisation Regulations of the GFF.

5.

The General Secretary may not be a Congress delegate or a member of any body of the GFF.

## J. STANDING COMMITTEES

# 45

### Standing Committees

1.

The standing committees of the GFF are:

a) Finance Committee;

b) Competitions Committee

c) Technical and Development Committee;

d) Referees' Committee;

e) Marketing Committee;

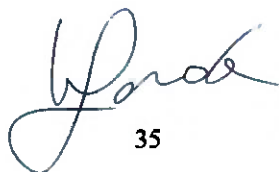
2.

The chairpersons, deputy chairpersons and members of the standing committees may be members of the Council with the exception of those for the Referees Committee, who may not belong to the Council. The chairmen of the committees shall regularly report to the Council on the committee's work, either orally or in writing. The members of each standing committee shall be appointed and removed by the Council at any time without the approval of the Congress. Failure to attend committee meetings is especially regarded as a reason for removing a member.

Standing committees are to be composed in such a way that the members, together, have the knowledge, abilities, and specialists experience that is necessary for the due completion of their tasks and duties. The Council shall ensure appropriate female representation on standing committee.

3.

The members of the standing committees shall be designated for a term of office of two years. They may be re-elected. They may be removed or reinstalled at any time.





4.  
Each chairperson shall represent his standing committee and conduct business in compliance with the relevant provisions of the Internal organisation regulations approved by the Executive Committee.
5.  
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 Council. Meetings may take place in person or by videoconference. If a meeting cannot be convened within an appropriate period of time, decisions may be passed by other methods (e.g. circular resolution)
6.  
Each committee may propose to the Council amendments to the relevant provisions of the Internal Organisation Committee that concern its committee.
7.  
The committees shall meet whenever pending matters so require. The chairman and the General Secretary shall draw up an annual plan to fix dates for meetings.
8.  
If a vote is needed on any matter, a majority (more than fifty percent) of the valid votes cast is required for the decision to be adopted. Each member of the respective committee has one vote. Votes are conducted openly. If any member is directly involved in a matter, either personally or on account of interests he/she represents; he/she shall abstain from voting. Any such involvement shall be made known to the chair before the start of the meeting.
9.  
The Council and each standing committee, the latter with the approval of the Council, may, if necessary, set up a bureau and/or sub-committee to settle urgent matters. Any discussions and decisions of the bureau and/or sub-committee shall be reported to the relevant standing committee as soon as it is practicable to do so.

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## 46

### Finance Committee

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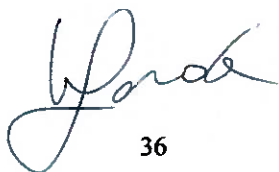
1.  
The Finance Committee shall monitor the financial management of GFF and advise the Council on financial matters and asset management. It shall analyse the budget and the financial statements prepared by the General Secretary and submit them to the Council for approval. It shall consist of a chairperson, a deputy chairperson and a member.

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## 47

### Competitions Committee

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1.

The Competitions Committee shall advise on GFF's competitions of association football, futsal and beach soccer at any level within GFF and if required by the Council of the GFF organised in compliance with the provisions of these Statutes and the regulations applicable to GFF's competitions. It shall consist of a chairperson, a deputy chairperson and a member.

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## 48

### Technical and Development Committee

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1.

The Technical and Development Committee shall primarily analyse the basic aspects of football training and technical development in football. It shall also be in charge of GFF's development programmes, devising and proposing appropriate strategies, monitoring these strategies and analysing the support and programmes provided to the Members of GFF and providing advice to the Council on technical and development matters in general. It shall consist of a chairperson, a deputy chairperson and a member.

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## 49

### Referees' Committee

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1.

The Referees Committee shall implement the Laws of the Game as well as the Futsal Laws of the Game and the Beach Soccer Laws of the Game. It shall appoint the referees and assistant referees for matches in competitions organised by GFF, organise refereeing matters within GFF in collaboration with the administration and monitor the education and training of referees. It shall consist of a chairperson, a deputy chairperson and a member, at least 2 of the members shall be ex-referees.

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## 50

### Marketing Committee

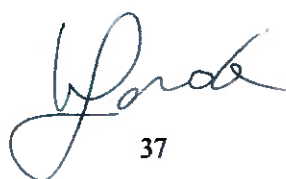
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1.

The Marketing Committee shall deal with the working conditions for the media at events of the Federation and maintain relations with media organisations. It shall further advise the Council with regard to drafting and implementing contracts between the Federation and its marketing/television partners and analyse marketing and television strategies that have been devised.

2.

The committee's main duties are as follows:



- a) To advise the General Secretariat and committees on public relations work and on collaborating with the media;
- b) To develop proposals for publications and if necessary, to assist in devising and preparing them;
- c) To advise the respective organising committees on determining the organisational requirements for media work at the Federations events;
- d) To draw up guidelines for working with the media;
- e) To monitor the methods of preparing and issuing accreditation to media representatives and the organisation of media activities at the Federation's events;
- f) To nurture collaboration with international organisations in the media sector;
- g) To observe developments in the media sector and make proposals for tackling new challenges;
- h) To deal with all media issues concerning the Federation and football in Guyana;
- i) To propose to the Council any measures deemed necessary to enhance and protect the interests and/or image of the Federation in commercial contracts;
- j) To advise the Council and generally on matters relating to marketing/television contracts;
- k) To analyse the marketing and television strategies that have been devised by the responsible division within the General Secretariat;
- l) To deal with other matters relating to marketing or television.

3.

The Marketing Committee shall consist of a chairman and four members.

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## 51

### **Ad-hoc committees**

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1.

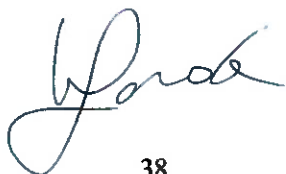
The Council may, if necessary, create ad-hoc committees for special duties and for a limited period of time. The Council shall appoint a chairman and a number of members as necessary. The duties and functions are defined in special regulations drawn up by the Council. An ad-hoc committee shall report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

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## 52

### **Club licensing bodies**

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1.  
The club licensing bodies shall be in charge of the club licensing system within the GFF in accordance with the Club Licensing Regulations of the Federation and Concacaf.
2.  
The club licensing bodies consist of a first instance body and an appeal body.
3.  
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.
4.  
The Council shall issue regulations regarding a club licensing system governing the participation of clubs in the competitions of GFF and Concacaf, in compliance with the minimum requirements of the club licensing system as set up by Concacaf and FIFA.

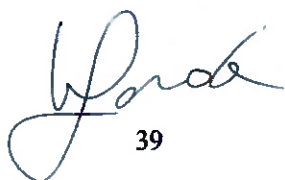
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## 53

### Independent Committees

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1.  
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 the GFF and in accordance with its Statutes and regulations.
2.  
The chairpersons, deputy chairpersons and members of the independent committees shall be elected by the Congress upon proposal of the Council and may only be relieved of their duties by the Congress. They shall not be members of any other body of GFF.
3.  
The mandate of all members of the independent committees shall last for four years. They may be re-elected.
4.  
The chairpersons, vice-chairpersons and members of the Audit and Compliance and the Electoral Committees as well as the chairperson and vice-chairperson of the judicial bodies shall comply with the independence criteria as defined in par. 5 below.
5.  
The persons mentioned in par. 2 above as well as any of their immediate family members may not exercise or have exercised during the four years preceding their initial terms any executive function at the Federation, one of the Federation's Members, a league or a club (including any of their affiliated companies/organisations), nor have or have had in the four years preceding their initial term any material business relationship with the Federation, one of the Federation'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, siblings, 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.



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# 54

## Audit and Compliance Officer

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1.  
The Audit and Compliance Officer 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 GFF.
2.  
The Audit and Compliance Officer shall advise, assist and oversee the Council in monitoring GFF's financial and compliance matters, set up compliance mechanisms and monitor compliance with the relevant regulations of GFF. He/ She shall also supervise the General Secretariat in financial and compliance issues. The Audit and Compliance Officer 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 Officer shall furthermore monitor GFF's financial and compliance matters and suggest to the appropriate bodies any action that he/ she deems necessary as a result of such monitoring. The Audit and Compliance Officer shall, with the assistance of the General Secretariat, implement a compliance programme within GFF.
3.  
Details on the Audit and Compliance Officer's responsibilities, its internal cooperation and other procedural matters are stipulated in the Internal Organisation Regulations of GFF.
4.  
The Audit and Compliance Officer shall be elected by the Congress for a period of 4 years and may only be relieved of his/ her duties by the Congress. He/ She shall not belong to any other body of GFF and it shall undergo an integrity check, to be conducted by the Ethics Committee, prior to his/her election or re-election and shall fulfil the independence requirements contained in par. 5 below.
5.  
If the Audit and Compliance Officer permanently ceases to perform his/her official function during his/her term of office, the Council shall appoint a replacement to serve until the next Congress.

## K. OTHER BODIES

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# 55

## Electoral Committees

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1.  
The electoral committees are the bodies in charge of organising and supervising the election process in accordance with the Electoral Code of GFF. The electoral committees consist of the Electoral Committee (the first instance body) and the Appeal Committee (the second instance body).



**The composition and function of the electoral committees shall be governed by the Electoral Code of GFF.**

## 56

**The judicial bodies of the Federation are:**

- The judicial bodies are to be composed in such a way that its members, together, have the knowledge, abilities and specialist experience that is necessary for the due completion for their tasks. The chairpersons of the judicial bodies shall be qualified to practice law.

**All members of the judicial bodies (including the chairpersons and deputy chairpersons) shall undergo an integrity check prior to their ratification which shall be conducted by the Ethics Committee.**

If a member of a judicial body permanently ceases to perform his official function during his term of Office, the Council shall appoint a replacement to serve until the next Congress where a replacement shall be ratified by the Congress upon appointment by the Council.

**Any member of a judicial body must withdraw from the debate and from taking a decision if there is any risk or possibility of conflict of interests. He/she shall communicate such possible conflict prior to the respective meeting.**

**Meetings of the judicial bodies are confidential.**

The responsibilities and function of the judicial bodies shall be stipulated in the Disciplinary and Ethics Code of the Federation.

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# 57

## Disciplinary Committee

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1.  
The Disciplinary Committee shall consist of a chairperson, deputy chairperson and three members.
2.  
The responsibilities and functions of the Disciplinary Committee shall be governed by the Disciplinary Code of the Federation, which shall be issued by the Council and comply with the Disciplinary Code of FIFA.
3.  
The disciplinary Committee may pronounce the sanctions described in these Statutes and the Disciplinary Code of the GFF with respect to Members, Affiliates, Officials, Players, Clubs, Intermediaries and licensed match agents.
4.  
These provisions do not affect the powers of the Congress and the Council with regard to the suspension and expulsion of Members. Any suspension by the Council must be approved at the next Congress failing which the suspension will come to an end.

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# 58

## Ethics Committee

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1.  
The Ethics Committee shall consist of a chairperson, deputy chairperson and three members.
2.  
The function of the Ethics Committee shall be governed by the Code of Ethics of the GFF, which shall be issued by the Council and comply with the Code of Ethics of FIFA.
3.  
The Ethics Committee may pronounce the sanctions described in this Statutes, the Ethics Code of the GFF and the Ethics Code of the FIFA on Officials, Players, Affiliates, intermediaries and licensed match agents.

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# 59

## Appeal Committee

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1.  
The function of the Appeal Committee shall be governed by the Disciplinary and Ethics Code as well as the Electoral Code of GFF.
2.  
The Appeal Committee is responsible for hearing appeals against decisions from the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee and the Electoral Committee that are not declared final by the relevant regulations of GFF.
3.  
Decisions pronounced by the Appeal Committee may only be referred to an independent and duly constituted arbitration tribunal in accordance with the provisions in these Statutes.

## 60

### Disciplinary Measures

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The disciplinary measures are primarily:

1.  
For natural and legal persons:

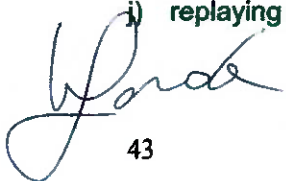
- a) a warning;
- b) a reprimand;
- c) a fine;
- d) the return of awards.

2.  
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 a stadium;
- f) a ban on taking part in any football-related activity;
- g) social work;
- h) compliance training.

3.  
For legal persons:

- a) a transfer ban;
- b) playing a 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 from a competition;
- g) a forfeit;
- h) deduction of points;
- i) relegation to a lower division;
- j) replaying a match.



24

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# 61

## Arbitration

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1.

Disputes within the GFF or disputes affecting Members of the GFF, 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 the Federation) to the Court of Arbitration of Sport (CAS) in Lausanne, Switzerland, which shall settle the dispute definitively to the exclusion of any ordinary court, unless expressly prohibited by the legislation in Guyana.

2.

Disputes of international dimension arising from or related to the Statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of FIFA or Concacaf may only be submitted in the last instance to CAS as specified in the Statutes of FIFA and of Concacaf.

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# 62

## Jurisdiction

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1.

The Federation shall have jurisdiction on internal national disputes, i.e. disputes between parties belonging to the Federation.

2.

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

3.

The Federation shall ensure its full compliance and that of all those subject to its jurisdiction with any final decision passed by a FIFA body, a Concacaf body, or CAS.

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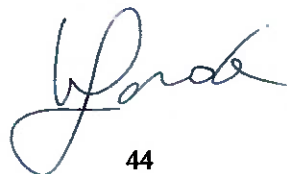
## M. FINANCE

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# 63

## Financial period

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1.  
The financial period of the GFF shall be one year and shall begin on 1 January and end on 31 December.
2.  
The revenue and expenses of the GFF shall be managed so that they balance out over the financial period. The GFF's major duties in the future shall be guaranteed through the creation of reserves.
3.  
The General Secretary is responsible for drawing up the annual consolidated accounts of the GFF with its subsidiaries as at 31 December.

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## 64

### Revenue

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1.  
The Revenue of the GFF arises specifically from:
  - a) Members' annual subscriptions;
  - b) Receipts generated by the marketing of rights to which the GFF is entitled;
  - c) Fines imposed by the authorised bodies;
  - d) Other subscriptions and receipts in keeping with the objectives pursued by the GFF;
  - e) Donations;
  - f) Funding from FIFA and Concacaf;
  - g) Any other revenue related to football activities.

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## 65

### Expenses

---

1.  
GFF shall bear:
  - a) The expenses stipulated in the budget;
  - b) Other expenses approved by the Congress and expenses that the Council is entitled to incur within the scope of its authority;
  - c) All other expenses in keeping with the objectives pursued by the GFF.



45



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# 66

## Independent External Auditors

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1.

The Independent External Auditors appointed by the Congress shall audit the accounts approved by the Council in accordance with the appropriate principles of accounting and present a report to the Congress. The auditors shall be appointed for a period of one year. This mandate may be renewed.

---

# 67

## Membership Subscriptions

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1.

Membership subscriptions are due on 1 February of each year. The annual subscription for new or provisional Members for the year in question shall be paid within 30 days of the close of the Congress at which they are admitted.

2.

The Congress shall fix the amount of the annual subscription every year on the recommendation of the Council. It shall be the same for every Member.

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# 68

## Settlement

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1.

GFF may debit any Member's assets and accounts to settle claims.

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# 69

## Levies

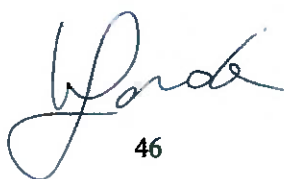
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1.

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

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## N. COMPETITIONS AND RIGHTS IN COMPETITIONS AND EVENTS



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# 70

## Competitions

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1.  
The GFF owns, organises and coordinates amongst others the following official competitions held within the territory of Guyana:

- a. Elite League;
- b. Super League (women and men);
- c. Inter Association at all age group levels (women and men);
- d. Futsal and Beach Soccer League (women and men);
- e. Futsal and Beach Soccer KO (women and men);
- f. School leagues and KOs.

The following competition is in the process of being established and may become a future official competition within the territory of Guyana: Guyana Professional Football League

2.  
The Council shall determine which competition will be the superior national league in the territory of Guyana. There shall only be one superior national league.

3.  
The Council may delegate to the GFF's subordinate Regional Associations, Leagues, Members, Affiliates or others the authority to organise competitions (e.g by means of a proper and comprehensive agreement). The competitions organised by them shall not interfere with those competitions organised by the GFF. Competitions organised by the GFF shall take priority.

4.  
The Council may issue special regulations to this end.

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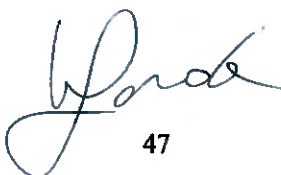
# 71

## Rights

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1.  
The GFF is the original owner 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, audio/visual and radio recording, reproduction and broadcasting rights, multimedia rights, marketing and promotional rights and incorporeal rights such as emblems and rights arising under copyright law.

2.  
The Council shall decide how and to what extent these rights are utilised and draw up special regulations to this end. The GFF shall ensure that the sale of such rights is carried out in a transparent manner and in compliance with the Statutes and regulations of the GFF as well as mandatory national laws.



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# 72

## Authorisation

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1.

The GFF 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. The Council shall issue special regulations to this end.

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## O. INTERNATIONAL MATCHES AND COMPETITIONS

# 73

## International matches and competitions

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1.

The authority for organising international matches and competitions between representatives' teams, Association teams and between Leagues and/or scratch teams lies solely with FIFA, the confederation (s) and/or the other Association concerned. No such match or competition shall take place without the prior permission of FIFA, the confederation (s) and/or the other Association (s) concerned in accordance with the FIFA Regulations Governing International Matches.

2.

The Federation is bound to comply with the international match calendar compiled by FIFA.

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# 74

## Contacts

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1.

GFF, its Members, Affiliates, Players, Official, Intermediaries and match agents shall not play matches or make sporting contacts with associations (and/or its affiliated entities) that are not members of FIFA or with provisional members of a Confederation without the approval of FIFA.

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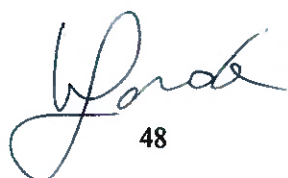
# 75

## Approval

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1.

Clubs, leagues or any other group of clubs that are affiliated to the Federation may only join another association with the authorisation of the Federation, the other association, the respective confederation(s) and FIFA.





2.

Clubs, leagues or any other group of clubs that are affiliated to the Federation cannot participate in competitions on the territory of another association without the authorisation of the Federation, the other Association(s), FIFA and the respective confederation (s) according to the FIFA Regulations Governing International Matches.

## **P. FINAL PROVISIONS**

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# **76**

### **Unforeseen contingencies and force majeure**

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1.

The Council shall have the power to decide on all cases of force majeure and on all matters not provided for in this Constitution, such decisions to be made according to right and justice taking into account the relevant regulations of FIFA and Concacaf.

# **77**

### **Publication of corporate documents**

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1.

The GFF 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 Council meetings;

# **78**

### **Dissolution**

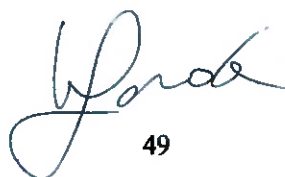
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1.

Any decision relating to the dissolution of the GFF must be obtained at a Congress specially convened for the purpose. Any decision relating to the dissolution of GFF requires a majority of two thirds of all of the Members of GFF.

2.

If the Federation is disbanded, its assets shall be transferred to FIFA. It shall hold these assets



in trust as “bonus pater familiae” until the GFF is re-established. The final Congress may, however, choose another recipient for the assets on the basis of a majority of at least two thirds of its members.

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# 79

## Enforcement

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1.

The amendments to the Statutes were adopted at the Extraordinary Congress on the 27th August, 2022 in Providence, East Bank Demerara, Guyana, and comes into force immediately on conclusion of the said Congress.



President  
Wayne S. Forde



General Secretary  
Ian Alves

For the GFF  
Georgetown, August 27<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

## **ANNEX**

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### **Transitional Provisions:**

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1. The requirement to undergo an integrity check as mentioned in art. X par. X of these Statutes and the criteria defined in art. X par. X of these Statutes shall not apply to the members of the Council that are in place at the time of adoption of these Statutes but shall be complied with by any candidate running for any of the position on the Council following the adoption of these Statutes.
2. The term limits as defined in article 36 (4) of these Statutes shall only apply as from the elections of the members of the Council which shall take place following the adoption of these Statutes.
3. Upon adoption of these Statutes, the Council shall appoint the members of the Standing Committees as defined under article 45 of these Statutes.
4. Within twelve (12) months upon the adoption of these Statutes, the Congress shall elect the relevant members of the independent committees as defined under articles 55 to 59 of the Statutes that are not already in office. Within this same period, the Congress shall also dismiss the relevant members of the independent committees that do not comply with the independence criteria mentioned under articles X to X of these Statutes and elect the relevant number of members to fill the positions.
5. The GFF shall have one year as from the adoption of these Statutes to ensure that the Code of Ethics, Disciplinary Code, Internal Regulations of the GFF are brought in line with the provisions of these Statutes.

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### **Part 1: General provisions**

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1. The integrity checks with regard to candidates for, and holders of, official positions within GFF that are subject to such checks (candidates or holders") shall be conducted by the relevant body in accordance with the provisions of these Statutes and this annexe.
2. Candidates or holders are obliged to comply with the screening and self-disclosure process as outlined in parts 2 and 3 below. Prior to the screening process, every candidate or holder shall give his written consent to said process through a form provided by the relevant body conducting the integrity check. If such written consent is not provided, the candidate or holder shall be deemed not to have passed the integrity check.
3. Candidates or holders shall act in good faith at all times and shall fully collaborate to establish the relevant facts upon reasonable notice. If the candidate or holder concerned does not cooperate with the body competent to conduct the integrity check, the candidate or holder shall be deemed not to have passed the integrity check.
4. The candidate or holder shall be deemed not to have passed the integrity check, if he:
  - a) has been subject to criminal convictions or disciplinary sanctions by a state court, in particular if the offence in question was a substantive issue and not a minor infraction or procedural misconduct;
  - b) has been found guilty and/or sentenced by the FIFA Ethics Committee or any other sporting body with a sanction that would seriously put into question the discharge of the office concerned.
5. Subject to the relevant provisions regarding disclosure and forwarding of the information and related data obtained in the context of integrity checks in accordance with this annexe, all such information and related data must be treated as strictly confidential by the body conducting the integrity check concerned.

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## Part 2: Screening process

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1. At the beginning of the screening process, every candidate or holder shall undergo an identification check ("ID check"). In this context, the candidate or holder shall submit a valid copy of his passport to the body in charge of performing the integrity check. The ID check shall include verification/identification of the following elements:
  - a) name(s) and surname(s);
  - b) address of residence;
  - c) date and place of birth;
  - d) nationality/nationalities.
2. Every candidate or holder shall complete the questionnaire contained in part 3 below.
3. The body in charge of performing the integrity check may conduct independent research and/or investigations in order to obtain further relevant information on a particular candidate or holder, which may include information on intermediaries and related parties, mandates, potential conflicts of interest and significant participations as well as civil and criminal proceedings/investigations.

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## Part 3: Questionnaire

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First name(s):	
Surname(s):	
Address of residence:	
Date and place of birth:	
Nationality/nationalities:	
Profession:	

1. Have you previously been convicted by a final decision of any intentional indictable offence or of any offence corresponding to a violation of the rules of conduct set out in part II section 5 of the FIFA Code of Ethics?

No ☐ Yes ☐

If yes, please specify:

2. Has a sports governing body ever imposed any disciplinary or similar sanction or measure on you in the past for actions which amount to a violation of the rules of conduct set out in part II section 5 of the FIFA Code of Ethics?

No ☐ Yes ☐

If yes, please specify:

3. Are you the subject of any pending civil, criminal or disciplinary proceedings or investigations?

No ☐ Yes ☐

If yes, please specify:

4. I am fully aware that I am subject to the provisions of the Disciplinary and Ethics Code of GFF and to the provisions of the Statutes and other regulations of GFF that may address integrity issues, and I fully comply with such provisions.

5. I currently hold the following positions in football:

6. The following facts and circumstances may give rise to potential conflicts of interest regarding me (cf. in particular art. 23 par. 9 of these Statutes):

7. Remarks and observations which may be of potential relevance in the context of the integrity check:

8. I am fully aware and agree that this questionnaire is made available to the members of the appropriate body of GFF.

9. I am fully aware and confirm that I must notify the body conducting the integrity check of any relevant facts and circumstances arising after the integrity check has been completed.

10. I am fully aware and confirm that I am obliged to collaborate fully to establish the relevant facts with regard to the integrity check to which I am subject. In particular, I will comply with requests for

any documents, information or any other material of any nature held by me. In addition, I will comply with the procurement and provision of documents, information or any other material of any nature not held by me but which I am entitled to obtain.

11. I am fully aware and confirm that the body conducting the integrity check may also request information on possible sanctions (questions 1 and 2 above) directly from FIFA or the relevant confederation as well as from other institutions such as the Court of Arbitration for Sport in Lausanne, Switzerland, or the International Olympic Committee. In this regard, I hereby release the relevant institutions from any obligation of confidentiality relating to the information concerned.

12. I am fully aware and confirm that the body conducting the integrity check may collect further information on me in accordance with part 2 par. 3 of this annexe.

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(Place and date)

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(Signature)