

Regulations of Bangladesh Championship League 2020-21

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DEFINITIONS

The terms in Capital letters used in these Regulations (as hereinafter defined) shall have the following meaning(s):

<i>Accommodation</i>	Hotels or any other locations providing accommodation to guests for the Competition.
<i>Accreditation or Accredited</i>	The giving of authority to a person or a group of persons, involving certification, which allows the accredited person(s) to undertake specified activities within the Controlled Access Areas.
<i>AFC</i>	Asian Football Confederation.
<i>Appeal Committee</i>	The committee responsible for deciding appeals against any of the Disciplinary Committee's decisions.
<i>BCL</i>	Bangladesh Championship League.
<i>BFF</i>	Bangladesh Football Federation.
<i>BFF Committees & Sub Committees</i>	Committees & Sub Committees including the BFF Executive Committee, BFF Professional League Management Committee, Disciplinary Committee, Appeals Committee, Referees Committee, Technical Committee, Finance Committee, Marketing Committee, Competitions Committee and such other committees & Sub Committees of the BFF as advised by BFF from time to time.
<i>BFF Delegation</i>	Any officials appointed by BFF, including but not limited to the Head of Delegation, Head of Administration, General Coordinator, Match Commissioner, Referee Instructor/Assessor, Referee, Assistant Referees, Fourth Official, Media Officer, Security Officer, Medical Officer and Technical Study Group Officer.
<i>BPL</i>	Bangladesh Premier League.
<i>BFF Professional League Management Committee</i>	The BFF Professional League Management Committee consisting of a Chairman, Deputy Chairman and members whose duties are to organize and manage Federation Cup, Bangladesh Premier League, Bangladesh Championship League, Independence Cup and Youth Competition on behalf of the BFF including making decisions on any matters related to these Competitions; to arrange the groups, venues and dates for the competitions and matches and delegate, if necessary, the organization of the same to any Member or Committee; to appoint officials for its competitions; to recommend to the Executive Committee amendments or alterations to the Rules, Regulations and Instructions for competition and matches; to submit reports on competitions and matches to the Secretariat.
<i>BFF Headquarters</i>	BFF House, Dhaka, Bangladesh.

<i>BFF Logo(s)</i>	The official logo of BFF, and/or such other official logo, which shall be the only marks used by BFF.
<i>BFF Website</i>	www.bff.com.bd
<i>Best Category Ticket</i>	The best tickets available in the best category seats entitling the ticket holder to sit in the sector immediately adjacent to the VIP area whether in or directly opposite Area to the main stand.
<i>Broadcast Affiliates</i>	Any entity, including the Host Broadcaster, which has acquired from BFF directly or from BFF's Marketing Partner any rights in respect of the Broadcast Rights of the Competition.
<i>Broadcast Rights</i>	The right to broadcast the Competition and the right of access to the Stadia to the exclusion of all others, for the purposes of producing a live television and/or radio signal and/or recordings of the Competition in any form of audio and/or audio-visual medium and the right to license the right to exhibit such live signal and/or recordings and/or part thereof by any and all forms of television and/or radio and/or any media now existing or as may be developed in the future, including, all forms of terrestrial, cable and satellite television, IPTV, broadband (fixed and/or wireless), Internet and Interactive Television on a world-wide basis.
<i>Competition</i>	Bangladesh Championship League which shall include the Matches as set out in the Match Schedule, activities on the field of play (other than matches), opening ceremonies, presentation or closing ceremonies, press conferences or official functions connected therewith.
<i>Competition Data</i>	Any and all information related to the Competition, including Fixture Lists, Image Rights, information and/or statistics about the Participating Members and/or Participating Players, information and/or statistics about their participation and/or performance in the Competitions, match analysis, referee decisions, and any other information in relation to the Competition.
<i>Competition Marks</i>	Any and all current and future competition Trademarks and/or logos, copyrights and/or designs whether or not registered or applied for and whether registered in part or in whole including any and or present and future names, designations, symbols, logos or identifying music or sounds of BFF or the Competition, the BFF Fair Play name and device mark, the official logo, the Competition Trophy and other artistic and autographic representations in one, two or three dimensional proportions used by or in Association with the Competition.

<i>Competition Website</i>	The official website in relation to a Competition Operated exclusively by BFF with a dedicated URL registered, owned and maintained by BFF, at BFF's sole expense, for use exclusively by BFF.
<i>Complimentary Tickets</i>	Tickets which are supplied without charge.
<i>Controlled Access Areas</i>	The locations of the Matches and other events, such as (without limitation) Stadia and their fences and perimeters, the aerial space above the Stadia, and all other locations associated with the Competitions, including the media centers, international broadcast centers, Official Training Sites, designated official hotels (including but not limited to the official hotels for the Participating Club Associations), hospitality and VIP areas and facilities, other areas to which admission is regulated by the accreditation system, and surrounding and adjacent areas to the locations described above.
<i>Commercial Affiliates</i>	Any entity to which BFF directly or indirectly has granted or will grant any aspect of the Commercial Rights in respect of the Competition, including but not limited to Official Sponsors, Official Supporters, Official Licensees and Official Media Partners.
<i>Club Licensing</i>	Refers to the BFF Club Licensing Regulations.
<i>DFA</i>	District Football Association.
<i>Disciplinary Committee</i>	The committee to deal with all disciplinary matters as governed by the BFF Disciplinary Code.
<i>Financial Obligation</i>	Undertaking from the Club to meet its Financial Requirements.
<i>FIFA</i>	The Federation International de Football Association.
<i>Force Majeure</i>	Any event affecting the performance or any provision of this Agreement arising from or attributable to acts, events, omissions or accidents which are beyond the reasonable control of a party, and shall include but not be limited to abnormally inclement weather, flood, lightning, storm, fire, explosion, earthquake, structural damage, epidemic or other natural disaster, failure or shortage of power supplies, war, terrorist action, military operations, riot, crowd disorder, strike, lock-outs or other industrial action, or civil commotion.
<i>Host Broadcaster</i>	The organization appointed by BFF directly or indirectly to ensure and provide the production of the broadcast signals of the Matches and other events of the Competition, and the provision of all related services in accordance with the Broadcast Rights.
<i>IFAB</i>	'International Football Association Board' – the Game of football as regulated by the Laws of the Game.
<i>Levy</i>	The amount of money payable to BFF.
<i>LTC</i>	Local Transfer Certificate.

<i>Match(es)</i>	Each football match(es) in its entirety (including extra time) of the Competition, and including any delayed, deferred Matches and/or replays.
<i>Match Schedule</i>	The published schedule containing details of the Competition (which details shall include but not be limited to the names of the clubs, Venues, Stadia, and details of the Match kick-off times).
<i>Media</i>	All members of the written press, on-line editors, photographers, television news crews and the representatives of the Broadcast Rights Holders entitled to media accreditation as determined by BFF.
<i>Neutral Venue</i>	Where the match is being played as a neutral venue and appointed to assist to organize stage and host the competition.
<i>Official</i>	Office bearers and members of various committees, sub-committees, managers, coaches, trainers, match commissioners, referees, asst. referees, referee assessors, medical officers and staffs of Bangladesh Football Federation and Bangladesh Championship League participating clubs.
<i>Official Functions</i>	Any official event organized in connection with the Competitions, including but not limited to press conferences, official dinners or lunches and banquets.
<i>Player Status Committee</i>	The committee to monitor compliance with transfer regulations of players.
<i>Participating Players</i>	Those players registered and participating in the competition and any other players under the authority of BFF during the Competition.
<i>Regulations</i>	Those regulations controlled and published by BFF to be used in connection with the Competition.
<i>Season</i>	Football Season would start for 2020-21 from December 7, 2020 to October 31, 2021.
<i>SAFF</i>	South Asian Football Federation.
<i>Sponsorship Rights</i>	An association with the Competition and/or BFF (subject to the special provisions regarding the development of BFF Logo as set out in this Agreement and/or the BFF Guidelines) by any combination of Commercial Rights, including title sponsor of the Competitions or any of them such as “Bangladesh Championship League” sponsored / presented by Company A” and/or such other designation as mutually agreed by the parties.
<i>Stadia</i>	The official stadia (or any stadium) and the airspace and surrounding areas for the Matches, whether under the control of the Hosting Team or otherwise, used for the Matches, including without limitation parking facilities, VIP and hospitality areas, concourses, concession areas, fencing and entrances.

Team's Official Delegation

The Participating Club's Official Delegation will comprise of a maximum of 35 (thirty five) players and a maximum of 9(nine) officials who are named in the Final Registration for the Competition.

Training Sites

Training sites designated by the Home Clubs for use by the away teams throughout the duration of the Competition.

Ticketing

All operational measures to provide tickets to all spectators of every Match and for Official Functions of the Competition allowing them to enter the Stadia and for a Venue. Ticketing shall include the management of operation necessary for the production, sale, distribution, delivery and payment of the tickets of the Competition.

Venues

The immediately surrounding area in which the Stadia are located and all the venues of BCL will be approved by BFF.

For the purposes of this Regulation and provided the context so permits:

- (a) The singular shall include the plural and vice versa.
- (b) The masculine gender shall include the feminine and vice versa.
- (c) Reference to persons shall include any legal person or corporation.

References to BFF shall where the context permits include its successors and permitted assigns and, in relation to the availability of the Commercial Rights, its respective members, BFF and Professional League Management committee.

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Bangladesh Football Federation will adopt different regulations/guidelines to address the COVID-19 pandemic for the 'Bangladesh Championship League 2020-21'. The different regulations/guidelines will remain in effect for as long as FIFA/AFC/BFF considers them appropriate. Due to the continuously evolving understanding of COVID-19, BFF may modify or supplement this regulation at any time.

Furthermore, Bangladesh Football Federation will also follow the recommendations provided in the 'AFC Match Operations Protocol during COVID-19 Pandemic' (see **appendix 16**) to minimize the risk of COVID-19 transmission. Bangladesh Football Federation also recommends the new AFC Match Operations Protocol as a guideline for the teams and will be followed in all 'Bangladesh Championship League 2020-21' matches until further notice. All stakeholders related to 'Bangladesh Premier League 2020-21' will also follow the 'Guidelines for Prevention and Control of Covid-19'(see **appendix 17**) introduced by BFF.

Each Participating Club is responsible for compliance with the above-mentioned regulations as well as any of the further applicable laws, regulations, guidelines and decisions issued by the BFF in relation to COVID-19.

SECTION 1: REPRESENTATION

1. The Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF)

- 1.1 The BFF stages the Bangladesh Championship League (hereafter the “Competition”) for senior men’s Semi professional club teams (as per eligibility) once every year according to BFF Calendar.
- 1.2 Any rights associated with the Competition, which has not been granted by these Regulations and/or specific agreements to a Participating Club in the Competition, belong to BFF.
- 1.3 The current BFF Statutes, all BFF Regulations, Guidelines, Circulars and Codes are binding for all parties participating and involved in the preparation, and organization of the Competition. Any reference in these Regulations to the BFF Statutes refers to the Statutes valid at the time of entry and to all relevant BFF Regulations, Guidelines, Circulars and Codes.
- 1.4 Clubs are not authorized to represent BFF or the Competition without BFF’s prior written approval.
- 1.5 BFF will appoint match officials including Match Commissioner (**See Appendix 6**), Referee Instructor/Assessor, Referee, General Coordinator, Media Officer (hereafter the “BFF Organizing Team”) for each match of the Competition for the purpose of match organization.
- 1.6 All Players and Officials registered for participation in this Competition shall undertake to ensure their presence at the BFF Awards ceremony if they are nominated for an award. Any player or official failing to do so shall be referred to the BFF Disciplinary Committee.
- 1.7 The Bangladesh Football Federation has the absolute authority as per ‘BFF Club Licensing Regulations 2020-21’ to decide which clubs shall play in the Bangladesh Championship League. In the season 2019-20 the league was cancelled for COVID-19 pandemic. Thus, in the current season 2020-21 the same 13 (thirteen) teams of the season 2019-20 will take part i.e. a maximum of 13 (thirteen) teams shall be eligible to participate in the ‘Bangladesh Championship League 2020-21’.
- 1.8 BFF shall follow the Regulations, Circulars, Recommendations and Policies of FIFA & AFC for the organization of the ‘Bangladesh Championship League 2020-21’ in all the ways.

2. Participating Clubs

- 2.1 The obligations and responsibilities of the Participating Clubs are stipulated in the Participating Team Agreement (PTA) (**See Appendix 12**), its annexes and amendments, Club Licensing Regulations and other BFF regulations, guidelines and circulars and any other agreements reached between BFF and the Participating Clubs.
- 2.2 Each club taking part in the Competition shall ensure, as a condition of its participation in the Competition that every member of its delegation (players and officials) complies with the Participating Team Agreement to be issued by BFF.
- 2.3 The eligible club shall complete the Participating Team Agreement in full

and also responsible to ensure that the original copy of the Participating Team Agreement submit to the BFF Secretariat not later than the deadline communicated to the Club before the commencement of the league matches. If the Participating Team Agreement does not reach the BFF Secretariat by the deadline, the participation of the eligible Club will be cancelled.

- 2.4 Participating Team Agreement (filled and signed by authorized official along with official seal) submitted to the BFF Secretariat by email, fax and courier post will be valid and taken into consideration.
- 2.5 The clubs selected by the Bangladesh Football Federation to participate in the Bangladesh Championship League shall comply with the 'BFF Club Licensing Regulations 2020-21' established/adopted by the Bangladesh Football Federation or which are published by BFF. Failure of a club to comply with these regulations prior to the start of the season may render the club ineligible to participate in the Bangladesh Championship League. Failure of a club to comply with these regulations during a season shall result in sanctions to be determined by Bangladesh Football Federation or BFF Professional League Management Committee, including possible exclusion from the Bangladesh Championship League for the subsequent season / seasons.
- 2.6 All clubs selected by the Bangladesh Football Federation to participate in the Bangladesh Championship League shall apply to register their clubs with the Bangladesh Football Federation under the Club Licensing Regulation and on the official Club Licensing Application Manual supplied by the Bangladesh Football Federation. Sample of this Club Licensing Application Manual is enclosed to these rules as **Appendix 1**.

3. Security and Safety

- 3.1 BFF are responsible for devising, planning and implementing adequate security and safety for the Competition at every relevant location (covering all Controlled Access Areas) which shall cover for all relevant persons at all times, including but not limited to the following:
 - All participating Club's players and official
 - BFF Match Officials
 - Media
 - Commercial Partners
 - Fans and spectators
- 3.2 A detailed and highly relevant security plan shall be issued in the form of a binding declaration on all parties involved and shall include but not be limited to the stadium and its vicinity. This security plan shall be based on the principles outlined in the FIFA Safety Guidelines.
- 3.3 In the interests of the safety of players, away teams, match officials and BFF officials, BFF must provide access to the field of play that guarantees the safe entry and exit of these persons.

SECTION 2: TECHNICAL REGULATIONS

4. Matches played in accordance with the Laws of the Game

- 4.1 All Matches shall be played in accordance with the Laws of the Game laid down and published by the International Football Association Board (IFAB).
- 4.2 In case of any discrepancy in the interpretation of the Laws of the Game, the English version shall prevail and is authoritative.
- 4.3 In accordance with the temporary amendment to Law 3 (See Appendix 15) approved by The International Football Association Board, 5 (five) substitutions are permitted for competitions scheduled to be completed by 31 July 2021 as follows:
- During the match, each team:
 - may use a maximum of five substitutes
 - has a maximum of three substitution opportunities*
 - may additionally make substitutions at half-time
 - Where extra time is played, each team:
 - may use an additional substitute (whether or not the team has used its maximum number of substitutes)
 - has one additional substitution opportunity* (whether or not the team has used its maximum number of substitution opportunities)
 - may additionally make substitutions:
 - in the period before the start of extra time
 - at half-time in extra time

If a team has not used its maximum number of substitutes or substitution opportunities, the unused substitutions and opportunities may be used in extra time.

* Where both teams make a substitution at the same time, this will count as a used substitution opportunity for each team.

- 4.4 If there are fewer than 7 (seven) players on either of the teams, the Match shall be abandoned. In this case, the BFF Professional League Management Committee (and if required the BFF Disciplinary Committee) shall decide on the consequences.
- 4.5 A club must report to the Match Commissioner at least one and a half hour before the start of the match.

5. Duration of Matches

Each Match shall last 90 (ninety) minutes, comprising of two periods of 45 (forty-five) minutes, with an interval of 15 (fifteen) minutes in between from the whistle ending the first period to the whistle starting the second period.

6. Cancellation of Matches

- 6.1 If the Match cannot commence on time due to Force Majeure or any other incidents such as, but not limited to, the field is not fit for play, weather conditions, floodlight failure, etc. the following procedures must be followed:

- i. The Match must first be delayed for a minimum of 30 (thirty) minutes, unless the Referee decides that the Match can commence earlier, before a decision to reschedule the Match is taken.
- ii. At the discretion of the Referee, another delay of a maximum of 30 (thirty) minutes shall be allowed if in his opinion this extra period of delay will allow the Match to commence. Otherwise, at the end of this second 30 (thirty) minutes period, the Referee must declare the Match to have been cancelled.
- iii. In the case of a cancelled Match, the BFF or the Professional League Management Committee of BFF shall decide within 2 (two) hours of the Referee's decision to cancel the Match whether the Match can be rescheduled, taking sporting and organizational considerations into account, or whether any other action and decision is needed to continue with the Competition. Any disciplinary sanctions resulting from the cancelled Match shall remain in force.

6.2 No appeals may be lodged against decisions stated in **(Art. 6.1)**.

7. Abandonment of Matches

7.1 If the Match is stopped by the Referee before the end of normal time or during any extra time because of any Force Majeure or any other incidents such as, but not limited to, the field is not fit for play, weather conditions, floodlight failure, etc. the following procedures must be followed:

- i. The Match is automatically suspended for the duration of 30 (thirty) minutes to allow conditions to improve sufficiently to restart the Match, unless the referee decides that the Match can be resumed earlier.
- ii. At the discretion of the Referee, another suspension of a maximum of 30 (thirty) minutes shall be allowed if in his opinion this extra period of suspension will allow the Match to be resumed. Otherwise, at the end of this second 30 (thirty) minutes period, the Referee must declare the Match to have been abandoned.
- iii. In the case of a cancelled match, the BFF or the Professional Football League Committee of BFF shall decide within 2 (two)hours of the Referee's decision to cancel the match whether the match can bere scheduled, taking sporting and organizational considerations into account, or whether any other action and decision is needed to continue with the Competition. Any disciplinary sanctions resulting from the cancelled match shall remain in force.
- iv. In the case a match is abandoned as a result of force majeure for any reason after it has already kicked off, the match shall recommence with the same score at the minute at which play was interrupted rather than being replayed in full.

The following principles shall apply to the recommencement of the match:

- the match shall recommence with the same players on the pitch and substitutes available as when the match was initially abandoned;
- no additional substitutes may be added to the 'Match Starting List';
- the teams can make only the number of substitutions to which they were still entitled when the match was abandoned;
- players sent off during the abandoned match cannot be replaced;
- any sanctions imposed before the match was abandoned remain valid for the remainder of the match;

- the kick-off time, date (foreseen for the following day) and location shall be decided by the BFF or the Professional League Management Committee of BFF;
- Any matters requiring further decision shall be treated by the BFF or the Professional League Management Committee of BFF.

7.2 No appeals may be lodged against decisions stated in (**Art. 7.1**).

8. Refusal to Play

If it is not possible to start the match in time or to continue after the start due to the refusal of either one or both participating teams, the referee at his discretion waiting up to 15 (fifteen) minutes shall declare the match abandoned. The Disciplinary Committee of BFF based on the report of the referee and match commissioner shall take action against the club/clubs concerned as per the BFF Disciplinary Code.

9. Stadiums (Stadia)

- 9.1 The Stadiums for the matches in the Competition shall be Birshrestha Shahid Shipahi Mohammad Mostofa Kamal Stadium and any other venues decided by BFF or the Professional League Management Committee of BFF.
- 9.2 BFF will ensure that no Matches and/or other activities are held at the Stadium(s) nominated for the Matches at least 3 (three) days prior to the Competition, unless written permission has been given by the BFF. Unless specified or directed by BFF otherwise, the Stadium shall be made available for use for the Competition as of 7 (seven) working days prior to the first Match of the Competition until 1 (one) day after the last Match of the Competition.
- 9.3 The facilities (stadia) used for all Bangladesh Championship League matches must meet the standards set out by BFF (**See Appendix 2**). BFF or BFF Professional League Management Committee has the authority to reject any

- proposed match venue if it does not meet the required standard.
- 9.4 In particular, the venue must have a good quality playing surface and dimension according to the FIFA standard.
 - 9.5 The stadium for each match shall provide a safe and secure environment for players, coaches, referees, match officials, the media and fans.
 - 9.6 BFF should ensure that the field of play is in good playable conditions.
 - 9.7 The BFF Match Commissioner will inspect the stadium prior to the match day and ensure that all arrangements are in accordance with the Laws of the Game. If the conditions of the Field of Play including the dimension of goal and field are not met by the Laws of the Game, the BFF Match Commissioner will issue instructions to rectify.
 - 9.8 However, if prior to the match kick-off time, **Art. 9.7** is still not complied with, BFF will take necessary steps.

10. Team Bench and Technical Area

- 10.1 Only 7 (seven) officials and 9 (nine) substitute players, from the registered 9 (nine) officials and 35 (thirty-five) players, are allowed to sit on the substitute bench. Registration and Presence of the following 2 (two) officials on each match day are mandatory:
 - i. Team Manager
 - ii. Head Coach

Along with the presence of 2 (two) above mentioned officials BFF recommend a team Doctor in the team bench to sit by considering the COVID-19 situation.

Apart from the 2 (two) officials above, the participating teams may register up to 7 (seven) more officials out of the following officials:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| i. Head of Delegation/Team Leader | viii. Equipment Manager |
| ii. Assistant Manager | ix. Security Officer |
| iii. Assistant Coach | x. Fitness Coach /Trainer |
| iv. Goalkeeper Coach | xi. Doctor |
| v. Media Officer | xii. Technical Director |
| vi. Interpreter | xiii. Physiotherapist |
| vii. Video Analyst | xiv. Masseur |

- 10.2 The names of all the officials and players and their function must be listed on the match starting list. No officials of participating clubs can be registered as player or vice versa.
- 10.3 All officials and players on the team bench must wear their accreditation card at all times. The accreditation cards shall always be available for inspection prior to the start of the match. Failure to carry the accreditation card at stadium will result the official/ player concerned being fined minimum BDT 5,000 (five thousand taka only).

- 10.4 All persons on the bench must wear kits that are contrasting with the kit of the players and referees on the pitch. These kits must comply with the AFC Equipment Regulations.

11 Warming up

- 11.1 The Participating Clubs shall be entitled to warm up on the field of play before the Match if the weather permits.
- 11.2 During actual play, a maximum of 6 (six) players from each team may warm up at the same time but without a ball (except for the goalkeeper), behind the goal closest to their substitutes' bench or in a space determined by the Match Commissioner. (i.e. warm up may be arranged next to each team bench) The players may be assisted by 2 (two) officials from the team bench.

12 Footballs

The balls chosen for the competition shall conform with the Laws of the Game and bear one of the following standard qualities:

- FIFA APPROVED,
- FIFA INSPECTED or
- INTERNATIONAL MATCH BALL STANDARD.

13 Match Schedule

- 13.1 All matches are played according to the BFF Calendar which shall be approved by the Professional league Management Committee of BFF.
- 13.2 The matches of the club / clubs participating in the AFC and FIFA matches during the progress of the League shall be re-scheduled by the Professional League Management Committee of BFF with the approval of Bangladesh Football Federation. Players as will be required to participate in the national football team shall be governed by FIFA regulations (**See Appendix 11**).
- 13.3 No fixture can be postponed except by Professional Football League Committee of BFF or on the day of the fixture by the referee, as defined in **Law 5** of the Laws of the Game.
- 13.4 Any club which fails to fulfill a scheduled fixture shall be deemed to have forfeited that fixture by the score line of 3 (three) goals to 0 (zero) and shall be liable to further sanctions to be determined by BFF or BFF Professional Football League Committee.
- 13.5 All clubs shall fulfill (postponed) fixtures at the time rescheduled by the Professional League Management Committee of BFF. Clubs shall be informed about the rescheduled match at least 1 (one) day before the match.
- 13.6 All Matches shall be played according to the dates, stadium and kickoff times as set by the BFF or the Professional League Management Committee of BFF.

14 Referees and Match Commissioner

- 14.1 BFF Referees Committee shall appoint a referee, 2 (two) assistant referees and a fourth official to every match in the Bangladesh Championship League. BFF Referees Committee has the sole and complete authority in this regard.
- 14.2 The referees shall be appointed from a panel of referees who have attended the Advanced Referees Course and have passed the full FIFA Fitness Test conducted by the Referees Committee of BFF prior to the commencement of the league. Protest against the allotment of the match officials by any participating club of the Bangladesh Championship League is not allowed in any way.
- 14.3 BFF shall appoint 1 (one) Match Commissioner for every match of Bangladesh Championship League 2020-21.
- 14.4 Every referee (and where necessary the assistant referees and fourth official) shall submit a written report (**See Appendix 7**) to BFF within 12 (twelve) noon of the following day of each Bangladesh Championship League match, notwithstanding the fact that the following day may be a Friday, a Saturday or a public holiday. All cases of misconduct of players, officials or spectators must also be reported. This report shall contain all relevant details of the match including goals, scorers, substitutions, cautions, expulsions and incidents, both on and off the field of play, in the stadium and in the dressing room area.
- 14.5 BFF may appoint a Referee Assessor to each Bangladesh Championship League match to assess the performance of the referee, assistant referee and fourth official. The Referee Assessor shall make an official report to BFF (**See Appendix 8**). These assessments shall be used by BFF to determine referee appointments.
- 14.6 BFF shall pay each referee, assistant referees and fourth official match fees. If a match is postponed, after the arrival of the referee and his assistants at the venue, a payment of 50% of the match fees shall be made.

15 Competition System

The format of the Bangladesh Championship League is a two-round league format. Each team shall play every other participating team 2(two) times in the competition:

16 Technical Rules for the Competition

- 16.1 The winning team in a match shall be awarded 3 (three) points with the losing team receiving no point. If the match ends in a draw, each team shall receive 1 (one) point. The number of goals scored and conceded by each team shall also be recorded.
- 16.2 At the end of the season, the ranking of the teams shall be determined by:
 - 16.2.1 The number of points won;
 - 16.2.2 i) In situations where there is equality of points for 2 (two) teams for the champion and bottom positions, there shall be play-off match(es) to determine the positions. Both the teams concerned shall play one

home and one away match. The team scoring the greater aggregate of goals in the two matches will be regarded as winner. If both the teams score the same number of goals over the two legs, the away goals shall be counted as double. If the number of away goals scored is also equal, extra time of two periods of 15 (fifteen) minutes each shall be played at the end of the second leg. The extra-time period is an integral part of the second-leg match. Thus, if there is no result in the extra-time, kicks from the penalty mark, in accordance with the Laws of the Game, shall be taken to determine the winner.

ii) In situations where there is equality of points for more than 2 (two) teams for the champion and bottom positions then the positions of the concerned teams shall be determined by following steps:

- Greater number of points obtained in the league matches between the Teams concerned;
- Goal difference resulting from the league matches between the Teams concerned;
- Greater number of goals scored in the league matches between the Teams concerned;
- Goal difference in all the group matches;
- Fewer score calculated according to the number of yellow and red cards received in the league matches **(According to Art 16.2.3 (iii))**;
- Toss of coin.

16.2.3 i) To determine all other positions of the league, goal difference (the total number of goals scored in all matches minus the total number of goals conceded) shall determine the ranking in case of equality of points;

ii) Where there is equality in both the number of points and goal difference, the total number of goals scored shall determine ranking of the concerned teams.

iii) If there is equality in the 3 (three) ranking criteria above for the teams concerned, then the positions of the concerned teams shall be determined by counting the number for the total yellow and red cards received (Yellow Card = 1 point, Two Yellow Cards = Red Card = 2 points, Direct Red Card = 3 points, Yellow Card + Direct Red Card = 4 points), the club gained the lowest number being at the top and the club gained the highest number being at the bottom.

iv) If there is equality in all 4 (four) ranking criteria above for the teams concerned, then the positions of the concerned teams shall be determined by toss of coin.

16.3 The 1 (one) top ranking teams of Bangladesh Championship League 2020-21 shall be promoted to the Bangladesh Premier League for the season 2021-22. **The 2 (two) bottom teams** of the point table of Bangladesh Championship League 2020-21 editions shall be relegated to the Dhaka Senior Division Football League where the teams from Dhaka are concerned, but in the case

of the team from outstation (district) the team shall be relegated to the top league of the respective district.

- 16.4 All the matches of Bangladesh Championship League shall be played in accordance with the Laws of the Game laid down by the International Football Association Board and published by FIFA. Bangladesh Football Federation reserves the right to exclude any club from each edition of the Bangladesh Championship League under any of the following situation:

16.4.1 If any club is found to have breached contract with the players, coaches and any other appointed officials.

16.4.2 If any club found to be in the fault of violation of any provisions regulation of the Bangladesh Championship League.

16.4.3 If any club is found to have not taken proper care of the visiting team with regard to security, training facilities, etc.

16.4.4 If any club is found to have failed to submit the financial statements to BFF within specified time.

16.4.5 If any club is found to have violated the direction and instruction provided by BFF.

16.4.6 If any club is found giving walk-over in any match.

SECTION 3: ENTRIES FOR COMPETITION

17 Eligible Teams

The Senior Men's Team of Participating Clubs shall be eligible to participate provided all other terms of these Regulations have been met.

18 Duties and Obligations

On entering the Competition, the Clubs shall automatically undertake:

18.1 Each club selected to participate in the Bangladesh Championship League shall pay an entry fee of BDT 20,000 (twenty thousand taka only) to BFF. The amount of such entry fee shall be determined annually by BFF or BFF Professional League Management Committee. The entry fee must be deposited to BFF as per the instruction of BFF.

18.2 Each club shall provide the projected income and expenditure statement to BFF ensuring to cover all their expenses for the season 2020-21, prior to the start of the league. If BFF is not satisfied that a club can meet these requirements, it has the right to exclude such a club from the Bangladesh Championship League. Every club shall submit its audited profit or loss account to BFF within 1 (one) month after the end of each season.

18.3 To accept that all the administrative, disciplinary and refereeing matters connected with the Competition shall be settled by BFF in compliance with these Regulations or the decisions of relevant BFF Committee(s):

18.3.1 To field their strongest team throughout the Competition;

18.3.2 To observe the principles of Fair Play;

18.3.3 To be responsible for the behavior of their players, officials,

members, supporters and any person carrying out duties on their behalf throughout the Competition from their arrival until their departure;

18.3.4 To accept all the arrangements made by the BFF;

- 18.4 To attend and participate in all official activities and events such as Team Manager's Meeting, Press Conferences, Club Licensing Seminar/ Workshop, FIFA/ AFC Seminar/ Workshop, TMS Seminar/ Workshop, Conferences other Media & Marketing activities, etc. organized by BFF in accordance with guidelines and/or instructions in circulars issued by BFF regarding, in particular, Media access to Teams. Failure to attend the Team Managers' Meeting, Press Conference and other official function in the Competition will result in the Clubs being fined BDT 50,000 (fifty thousand taka only);
- 18.5 To accept the use and/or sub-license by BFF of any of the records, names and images of the Club (including its mark), players and officials, including any still and moving representation thereof, which must appear or be generated in connection with the Participation of the Participating Clubs and its Players and Officials in the Competition.
- 18.6 No change of kit colors is permitted during a season. The BFF shall decide on the kit color (jersey, shorts, and socks) to be worn for each Match on the basis of the equipment information submitted by each Participating Team prior to the Competition.
- 18.6.1 Team A shall be given priority to wear 'official' colors;
- 18.6.2 Team B shall wear 'official' colors unless they clash with the 'official' colors of Home Team;
- 18.6.3 Team B shall wear 'reserve' colors if its 'official' colors clash with the 'official' colors of Team A;
- 18.6.4 Team B shall wear a combination of 'official' and 'reserve' colors if it is necessary to avoid a clash with the 'official' colors of Team A; and
- 18.6.5 Team A and Team B shall wear a combination of 'official' and 'reserve' colors if both the 'official' and 'reserve' colors of Team B shall clash with the 'official' colors of Team A.
- 18.7 Participating Clubs shall not use, nor authorize the use of any Jersey, symbol, emblem, logo, mark or designation which, in BFF's opinion, is similar to, or is a derivation or imitation, or copyright and intellectual property rights belongs to others.
- 18.8 Throughout the Competition and for each match to which he is registered, each player shall wear the same number allocated to him on the BFF Official Registration Form for Players from 1 ~ 99 submitted to BFF during the preliminary registration. The same player may not use different shirt numbers in different matches. New registered player(s) in the 2nd registration window shall use New Jersey Number.

19 Withdrawal, penalty for failing to play and replacement

- 19.1 Participating Clubs shall play in all of their matches in the Competition.
- 19.2 Participating Clubs will withdraw prior to, or are excluded from playing in the Competition, may be replaced by another Club. BFF Committees concerned shall make the relevant decision, including a change in the Competition system and the Technical Rules for the Competition if necessary.
- 19.3 If a Participating Club withdraws after entering the Competition, except in cases of Force Majeure recognized by the BFF Professional League Management Committee, or if it refuses to continue to play or leaves the stadium before the end of the Match, or if the club fails to register minimum 22 (twenty-two) players the Participating Club shall:
 - 19.3.1 Be considered to have withdrawn from the Competition;
 - 19.3.2 Be required to pay compensation for any and all damages or losses suffered by the other Participating Clubs, the BFF and BFF's Commercial and TV partner(s). The amount of compensation will be determined by the BFF Executive Committee or BFF Professional League Management Committee;
 - 19.3.3 Be disqualified from taking part in the next edition of the Competition;
 - 19.3.4 Be referred to the BFF Disciplinary Committee for additional sanctions and fines depending on the gravity of the situation, then to BFF Executive Committee for final decision;
 - 19.3.5 Return to the BFF any financial stipends that had been paid to them by BFF throughout the Competition or forfeit the right to the same;
 - 19.3.6 BFF Executive Committee may extend the suspension depending on the gravity of the situation and/or damages.

The BFF Professional League Management Committee shall take whatever action it deems necessary in cases of Force Majeure.

SECTION 4: TEAM'S OFFICIAL DELEGATION: OFFICIALS & PLAYERS

20 Size of Delegation Attending Matches

Each Participating club is entitled to an Official Delegation of a maximum of 35(thirty-five) players and 9 (nine) officials who must be registered by the clubs as per **Article 20-29**, from them a maximum of 20 (twenty) players and maximum 7 (seven) officials of each team will be receiving full access to the official Competition areas including the field of play and other Controlled Accessed Areas in every match day.

21 Eligibility of players

21.1 A player is eligible to play in the Competition provided he fulfills all the following conditions:

He is duly registered with the BFF by the Participating Clubs according to the provisions of these Regulations. Each player's registration is only valid until the end of the football season, the date of which is defined under the definition of Season. Where a player is contracted by a club for a longer period, the player must be registered at the start of each season.

21.2 A player is deemed ineligible if:

21.2.1 There is a violation of (**Art. 21.1**);

21.2.2 He is fielded despite being served a suspension;

21.2.3 BFF finds that the document(s) submitted during registration is/are false.

21.3 Contracts between clubs and professional players may be for a maximum of 5 (five) years. However, the contract must be signed by the concerned player at BFF House in presence of an Officer of BFF whenever a contract is more than 1 (one) year.

21.4 In the event there is a dispute pertaining to the status of a player, the case will be referred to BFF Player Status Committee.

22 Stages of Registration of Players

There are 2 (two) stages of player's registration:

22.1 Registration to determine a squad of a minimum of 22 (twenty-two) players and up to a maximum of 35(thirty-five) players;

22.2 Start List to identify the starting 11 (eleven) and up to 9 (nine) substitute players for each Match during the Competition.

23 Documentation of Registration of Players

23.1 For the registration of players for the Competition, players must be registered using the 'Bangladesh Championship League – Official Registration Form for Players' (**See Appendix 3**) with the supporting documents in accordance with (**Art. 23.2**) by the deadline announced by BFF.

23.2 Documentations for the registration of players are, but not limited to, the following:

- Official Registration form (mandatory) for Players;
- Passport-size colored photo 4(four) copies (taken within 3 (three) months prior to the submission of the registration);
- Copy of valid passport containing full name, passport number, date of birth, date of issue, date of expiry and nationality (group passport will not be accepted);

- OR, Copy of National ID;
- OR, Copy of Birth Certificate;
- Original Copy of Players Contract (**See Appendix 13**);
- Signed 'Code of Conduct'.

23.3 BFF reserves the right to request for additional documents than those stipulated in (**Art 23.2**) above.

24 Principles for Registration of Players

- 24.1 Participating Clubs can register no less than 22 (twenty-two) players and no more than 35(thirty-five) players for the Competition.BFF shall provide a registration card (affixing photograph) for each player eligible to play.
- 24.2 If a Participating Club fails to register a minimum of 22 (twenty-two) players, the team will be considered to have withdrawn in accordance with (**Art. 19.3**).
- 24.3 Throughout every Stage of the competition each player shall wear the same number allocated to him on the BFF Official Registration Form for Players submitted to BFF during the registration window. Jersey number 1 shall be reserved for the Goalkeeper.
- 24.4 Participating Club must register a minimum of 3 (three) goalkeepers in their Registration for the players without any condition.
- 24.5 Each column in the BFF Official Registration Form for the Players must be completed with correct information.
- 24.6 Players with missing documentations will not be eligible for registration. All eligible players will be issued with official eligibility cards (Accreditation Card). Should the card have been misplaced, the teams shall be required to pay BDT 1,000 (One thousand taka only) as the production fee for every card lost, to replace it.
- 24.7 In case any Participating Club found guilty of violating **Art. 23.2**, the sanction will be pronounced in accordance with BFF Disciplinary Code.
- 24.8 Should the BFF Secretariat not receive the BFF Official Registration Form with all required document by the deadline announced by BFF, the Participating Club shall be automatically disqualified from the Competition and be considered to have withdrawn in accordance with **Art. 20.3**.

25. Registration Window

- 25.1 There shall be 2 (two) Player Registration Windows to be determined by BFF or BFF Professional League Management Committee; first registration window from December 7, 2020 to January 07, 2021 and second registration window will commence as per the BFF Calendar.
- 25.2 BFF shall be deemed to have received the registration form for a player when it has been received by BFF in accordance of **Art 22**; either in its original form or by email followed by the original one and has been stamped with the official stamp (giving time and date) of BFF. The decision of BFF on the time of receipt of all registration forms shall be final, proof of submission is

not proof of receipt. BFF shall charge BDT 1,000 (one thousand taka only) per registration to cover the administrative cost.

25.2.1 Before the expiry of existing contract with the club, the transfer of a local player's registration from one club to another must be in writing on the official transfer form (hereinafter known as the 'Local Transfer Certificate' or 'LTC'). This form is attached as **Appendix 4**. In such cases, BFF shall not re-register a player with a new club unless the registration form is accompanied by a valid LTC. The LTC shall be issued by the player's former club. Such transfer of a local player's registration can only occur during the two registration windows (**Art 24.1**).

25.2.2 The Club must establish written contractual relationships (Professional Player contract) with, at least 10 (ten) players. Copies of the contract between 'the club and the player' must be submitted to BFF.

25.2.3 BDT 25,000 (Twenty-five thousand taka only) shall be paid to the immediate former amateur club as compensation from where a player will seek transfer to join a club of the professional league. However, BDT 50,000 (Fifty thousand taka only) shall be paid by the professional club to the immediate former club or District Football Association as compensation if the transfer is done within 2 (two) years from the date of first registration of the concerned player.

25.2.4 In the case where players don't have professional contract with the registering club BDT 10,000.00 (ten thousand taka only) shall be paid to the immediate former club as compensation from where a player will seek transfer to join a club of the professional league. However, BDT 20,000.00 (twenty thousand taka only) shall be paid by the professional club to the immediate former club or District Football Association as compensation if the transfer is done within 2 (two) years from the date of first registration of the concerned player.

25.2.5 Professional club shall complete their Player Transfer according to the Rules and Regulations of the Professional Player Contract (**See Appendix 13**).

25.3 For players who have played outside Bangladesh immediately prior to their registration in the registration window periods, BFF must receive an International Transfer Certificate (ITC) before the player can be registered with the BFF and be eligible to play in the Bangladesh Championship League.

25.4 A player can only be registered for one club.

25.5 If any team gets scratched in the first phase of the league the scratched team shall be eligible to sell players in the second transfer window and similarly

- the players of the scratched team shall be eligible to seek transfer in the second transfer window for other club of their choice with prior permission.
- 25.6 If any discrepancy arises about the status of any player shall be dealt by the Player Status Committee of BFF and an appeal may be lodged according to the BFF statutes within 5 (five) days of the date of imposition of the original sanction against the decision of the Player Status Committee of BFF.
- 25.7 The maximum number of temporary transfers of registration (loan) allowed to any club in a season shall not exceed 3 (three).
- 25.8 The following measures and penalty will be followed by the Player Status Committee of BFF if any player is found guilty of receiving money from more than 1 (one) club in order to play for them for the upcoming football season(s):
- A time limit of 72 (seventy-two) hours will be given to the concerned player to amicably solve the issue with the concerned clubs failing which the player shall immediately be suspended for 1 (one) year.
 - The player will be eligible to take part in the Competition in case of resolving the matter amicably within the stipulated 72 (seventy-two) hours' time limit.
 - If the player fails to amicably solve the issue, he will have to refund through BFF all the money taken from the concerned club(s) within 1 (one) week, the date of which will be started from the date of suspension of the concerned player.
 - If the player fails to refund the money to the concerned club(s) within the 1 (one) week time limit he will be suspended for another 1 (one) year.
 - If any club is found guilty in any way for the above matter, disciplinary sanction shall be imposed to the concerned club(s) depending on the gravity of the offence.
- 25.9 The Club is entitled to pay the player a 'Signing on Fee' while signing the agreement. 'Signing on Fee' cannot, under any circumstances, exceed 25% (twenty five percent) of the total contracted yearly amount with the player and the rest amount should be paid by the club to the player in equal monthly installments/salary.

26. Match Starting List

- 26.1 Participating Clubs must mark the team captain & goalkeepers on the 'Player Selection List'. On match days, each club shall provide a team sheet, consisting of 'Officials on the Bench' list with the names of 7 (seven) officials (including team boy or masseur) who shall be entitled to sit on the bench and 'Player Selection List' with the names of 11 (eleven) players who will start the Match and other 9 (nine) players who are designated as substitutes to the BFF Match Commissioner at least 90 (ninety) minutes before the kick-off of the Match. The official Bangladesh Championship League team sheet (**See Appendix 5**) must be used for this purpose.

26.2 After the 'Match Starting List' has been completed and signed by both teams and returned to the BFF Match Commissioner, and if the Match has not yet kicked-off, the following instructions apply:

26.2.1 If any of the 11 (eleven) players listed on the Match Starting List selected to start the Match are not able to start the Match for any reason, they may be replaced by any of the substitutes listed on the Match Starting List. During the Match, 5 (Five) players may still be replaced;

26.2.2 The replaced players shall no longer be eligible to participate in the match.

27. Registration of Officials

Each Member / Official entering the Competition shall submit to BFF Secretariat, via email or courier or fax, the 'BFF Official Registration Form for Officials' and the supporting documents in accordance with **Art. 28-29** by the deadline announced by BFF.

28. Documents for Registration of Officials

28.1 For the registration of officials for the Competition, officials must be registered using the 'Bangladesh Championship League 2020-21 – Official Registration Form for Officials' (**See Appendix 14**).

28.2 Documentations for the registration of Officials are, but not limited to, the following (unless already previously submitted to BFF):

- Official Registration form for Officials;
- Passport-size colored photo 2 Copies (taken within 3 months prior to the submission of the registration);
- Copy of valid passport containing full name, passport number, date of birth, date of issue, date of expiry and nationality (group passport will not be accepted);

OR Copy of National ID;

- Certificate/Qualifications based on his/her function:
- Head coach and Assistant Coach: Individual's coaching certificate or coaching license;
- Doctor: Medical Qualification.

28.3 BFF has the right to ask further documentations for the clarification of the eligibility of the officials other than documentations listed in the (**Art. 29.2**).

29 Principles of Registration of Officials

29.1 The Participating Clubs can nominate a maximum of 9 (nine) officials for the registration from which a maximum of 7 (seven) officials are allowed to sit in the substitute bench.

29.2 Each column in the 'BFF Official Registration Form for the Officials' shall

- be filled up with correct information.
- 29.3 Officials with missing documentations will not be eligible for registration. All eligible Officials will be issued with Accreditation card. Should the card have been misplaced, the clubs shall be required to pay BDT 1,000 (One thousand taka only) as the production fee for every card lost, to replace it.
- 29.4 It is responsibility of the clubs to ensure that all the forms and supporting documents in accordance with **Art. 28** are sent in good time and reach BFF Secretariat in Dhaka before the deadline announced by BFF. Proof of submission is not proof of receipt.
- 29.5 Club may replace or add any of its officials on any grounds until 5 (five) days before the first Match of the Competition provided all necessary documents have been submitted as per **Art. 28**. Further, the Accreditation Card of the replaced official must be returned to the BFF before the Accreditation Card of the new official can be produced. The new official is not considered part of the Team's Official Delegation until he/she receives his/her Accreditation card.

SECTION 5: MEDIA

Along with the rules mentioned below for media BFF will follow the ‘AFC Match Operations Protocol during COVID-19 Pandemic’ (see appendix 16) to protect all media or broadcast personnel who work at the stadium(s).

30 General Requirements

The Participating Clubs are encouraged to link the BFF website (www.bff.com.bd) to its own website respectively upon entry to the Competition.

31 Media

31.1 Where required, the Home Teams will be responsible for the production of media bibs for photographers, TV and ENG crews under supervision by BFF. The Home Team will be responsible for their distribution before and collection after the match.

31.2 All reasonable security measures must be put in place, at the cost of the Home Teams, to protect the commentary area, camera positions and the equipment of the broadcasters.

32 Media Access Areas

32.1 No representatives of the written press or radio journalists are allowed on the field of play or the area between the boundaries of the field and the spectators.

32.2 Only those photographers who have the approval from BFF Media wing, TV cameramen of the Host Broadcaster and the main visiting broadcaster and the personnel required to operate the electronic television cameras of the Host Broadcaster are allowed in the area between the boundaries of the field of play and the spectators, where they will carry out their work in the specific locations assigned to them.

32.3 The team dressing-rooms are strictly off limits to representatives of the Media before, during and after the Match.

32.4 Bangladesh Football Federation shall ensure the Host Broadcaster and all Broadcast Affiliates have free access to the Stadia from 2(two) days prior to match day until 1(one) day after the Match, in order to access the technical issues of each match and to assemble and construct the relevant infrastructure required for the execution of the Broadcast Rights.

32.5 The BFF is responsible for ensuring that Broadcast Rights are protected and that no broadcaster and/or video or ENG camera crews are allowed access to the stadium without the prior written permission of BFF.

33 Training Session

All Training Sessions must be opened to the Media. Should the Participating Clubs wish to close its Training Session to the Media, it shall open for at least the first 15 (fifteen) minutes of the training.

34 Press Conferences

- 34.1 The Participating Clubs must attend the pre-match press conference, if any, to be conducted under the supervision of BFF Media Officer.
- 34.2 The Head Coach of each Participating Clubs is obliged to attend and participate in the Pre-Match/Tournament Press Conference to be held at least one day before the Match.
- 34.3 Both teams are obliged to ensure attendance of their Head Coach at Post-Match press conference after each match. The losing team will seat for the Post-Match press conference first and in case of draw situation the 'Team-A' will seat for the press conference first.
- 34.4 Interpretation of the coaches and players' language into Bengali during the interview with media and at the press conferences is the responsibility of each participating team.
- 34.5 Non-compliance with clauses **Art 34.1, 34.2 and 34.3** above will result in disciplinary action which may include a fine of a minimum of BDT 10,000 (Ten thousand taka only) and the Head Coach may be subject to a ban from the dressing room and/or the substitutes' bench.

35 Mixed Zone

Players and officials of the Participating Clubs shall enter the Mixed Zone on their way from the team dressing room to the team bus after the Match.

36 Interviews

- 36.1 If requested by BFF, the Participating Clubs should have their Head Coach and 1(one) player available for the day before each Match and/or on the Match day for an interview of up to 10 (ten) minutes, to be recorded by the main TV rights-holding or by BFF's official website www.bff.com.bd
- 36.2 Players and officials of Participating Clubs are not permitted to give interviews during the Match on the field of play or in its immediate vicinity. However, the BFF Media Officer may designate an area between the substitutes' benches and dressing rooms in which "flash" interviews for the Host Television Broadcaster only, can take place at the end of the Match. Players and officials violating this Article will be subject to disciplinary measures.
- 36.3 If requested by BFF for the 'flash' interviews, the Head Coach and at least 1 (one) key player from both Participating Clubs must be available for at least the Host Broadcaster and the TV rights-holding broadcaster.
- 36.4 All interview locations should be assigned by BFF Media Officer.

37 Audio/Video Recording of Matches

The BFF shall guarantee the match DVD's is covering entire duration of the match.

SECTION 6: EQUIPMENT/KIT

38 Equipment Regulations

Each Participating Club is responsible for compliance with the AFC Equipment Regulations (as in www.the-afc.com) and any further applicable laws, regulations, guidelines and decisions issued by the BFF in relation to any Equipment.

- 38.1 The wearing of any Kit on the Field of Play remains subject foremost to the authority of the referee as defined in the Laws of the Game.
- 38.2 Any Kit that does not comply with these Regulations is strictly prohibited.
- 38.3 By no later than the deadlines stipulated by BFF, each Participating Club taking part in 'Bangladesh Championship League 2020-21' must submit a Complete Sample Set of Official and Reserve Jersey to BFF. All samples must display a player number and player name.
- 38.4 Both the Official Kit and Reserve Kit shall be taken to every Match of the relevant Competition.
- 38.5 The colors of the Official Kit must be noticeably different from and contrasting to the colors of the Reserve Kit. Teams may be requested to mix the Official Kit and Reserve Kit for Matches in order to create a visible contrast with the other team and must comply with any such instruction from a Match Official.
- 38.6 The Equipment Regulations are in force from the time the Participating Club's Official Delegation arrive at a Controlled Access Areas until the time the Team's Official Delegation depart from such areas.

39 Numbers and Identifications



- 39.1 A number must appear on the back (centered) of all shirts used as Playing Equipment. The number must be between 25 cm (twenty-five centimeters) and 35 cm (thirty-five centimeters) in height, clearly legible and positioned in the center back of the shirt. The stroke width of the number must be between 3 cm (three centimeters) and 5 cm (five centimeters). The number must be entirely visible when the shirt is tucked into the shorts.
- 39.2 The number must also be displayed on the front of each shirt in any position at chest level. The number must be between 10 cm (ten centimeters) and 15 cm (fifteen centimeters) in height, clearly legible and be the same color as the number on the back of the shirt.
- 39.3 The number must also appear on the front of the shorts positioned on either leg. The number must be between 10 cm (ten centimeters) and 15 cm (fifteen centimeters) in height and clearly legible.
- 39.4 Based on the principle of light and dark contrast of used colors and irrespective of the prevailing conditions, such as weather and light, the color used for any number appearing on Playing Equipment must be clearly legible and distinguishable from a distance for all Participating Players, Match Officials, spectators and media from the colors used for the Playing Equipment. This distinction may be achieved by displaying the numbers on a single colored patch. The number may be surrounded by a border or shadow outline. A 'number zone' must be created on the back of the shirt unless, at the discretion of the BFF, it is decided that the number appearing is clearly legible and distinguishable from a distance by all Participating Players, the Match Officials, spectators and media, from the colors used for the Equipment. A 'number zone' may be created on the front of the shirt.
- 39.5 The numbers may be sewn on or affixed to the kit item by heat transfer. The numbers may not be attached with Velcro or other temporary means.
- 39.6 All types of identification may be printed, embroidered or sewn on as a badge and shall be attached permanently to the Playing Equipment. No types of identification may be attached with Velcro or other temporary means.
- 39.7 All types of identification must not interfere with other elements of the Playing Equipment identifying the Participating Player and must not obstruct the clear distinction of the Participating Players and the opposing team.

40 Player Names

- 40.1 Participating Players must be identified by their surname or popular name on the back of the shirt.
- 40.2 Participating Player names may appear on the back of a shirt used as Playing Equipment for all Matches in the Competitions organized by BFF.
- 40.3 In the event that a Participating Player name appears on the back of a shirt:
 - 41.3.1 the name must be positioned above the number on the back of the shirt;
 - 41.3.2 the letters shall be between 5cm (five centimeters) and 7.5cm (seven

and a half centimeters) in height and must be separated from the number by at least 4 cm (four centimeters). They may be in upper and/or lower case. For better legibility, they may be surrounded by a border or shadow outline. In the case of striped shirts, the name must be either affixed to a neutral colored patch or surrounded by a border or shadow outline;



40.3.3 the letters must be the same color as that of the number on the back of the shirt. They may not contain any Manufacturer Identification, advertising, design features or other elements.

40.3.4 the name must be clearly distinguishable from the color of the shirt. It must contrast (light on dark or vice versa) with the color of the shirt.

41 Sleeve Patches

Each Participating Club shall allow space on the sleeves of the player's uniform available (or such other part of the player uniform as BFF may determine) to affix to the relevant Match identifier in a form, manner and position to be determined by BFF as below:

- Bangladesh Championship League sleeve patch on the right;
- BFF Logo sleeve patch on the left.

42 Sponsor Advertising

- 42.1 In the competition organized by BFF the Participating Clubs may engage in Sponsor Advertising only on the front of the shirt forming part of its Playing Equipment.
 - 43.1.1 This Sponsor Advertising may be displayed no more than once.
 - 43.1.2 No sponsor advertising is allowed on shorts and/or socks.
- 42.2 The total area used must not exceed 200 cm² (two hundred square centimeters).
- 42.3 The advertising surface may be placed on the front of the shirt either:
 - 43.3.1 horizontally, across the chest; or
 - 43.3.2 vertically, on the Right or Left, or in the center of the torso.
- 42.4 The height of the letters must not exceed 10 cm (ten centimeters). Participating Clubs may choose, at their own discretion, the script and color of then lettering. No Manufacturer Identification, Decorative Element, or other elements may be incorporated.
- 42.5 The following categories of Sponsor Advertising are prohibited in all Competitions organized by BFF:
 - 43.5.1 tobacco;
 - 43.5.2 gambling;
 - 43.5.3 Sponsor Advertising containing slogans of a political, religious or racial nature; or
 - 43.5.4 Sponsor advertising for causes that offend common decency.
- 42.6 Any bans or restrictions deriving from the legislation of Bangladesh or territory in which any Match is taking place shall also apply.

43 Responsibility

- 43.1 Bangladesh Football Federation makes all final decisions regarding the approval of all Equipment.
- 43.2 BFF declines all responsibility and authority in the event of conflicts arising from contracts between a Member Association or Participating Club and their sponsor(s) on account of these Regulations. BFF shall not be liable for any losses, fees, damages, or any costs whatsoever which may arise as a result of, or in connection with, the requirements contained in these Regulations. Member Associations and Participating Clubs agree to indemnify the BFF from any and all damages which may arise from decisions regarding Equipment.

SECTION 7: TICKETING

Before 7 (seven) days prior to the first match of the league Bangladesh Football Federation will decide whether the match will be held without spectator attendance (closed match) or with limited spectator attendance (restricted match) or with full spectator attendance (normal match). Decision will be taken depending on the COVID-19 situation. The ticketing policy may change depending on the decision taken by BFF.

44 Policy

- 44.1 The entire ticketing system regulating ticket design, pricing policy, procedures and implementation shall be approved by BFF.
- 44.2 BFF will ensure that printed tickets include, where available, seat numbering and/or serial numbering. All tickets shall incorporate only those Logos and Marks of the Competition and the official Commercial Affiliates and Broadcast Affiliates as requested and/or agreed by BFF as parts of the ticket design.

45 Complimentary Tickets

BFF shall make available 50 (fifty) complimentary tickets in the gallery areas for clubs of the particular match BFF is entitled to include the provision of complimentary tickets in sponsorship and commercial contracts made on behalf of the Bangladesh Championship League.

SECTION 8: MEDICAL AND DOPING CONTROL

Bangladesh Football Federation will follow the regulations of local governments and recommendations / guidelines by FIFA, AFC and WHO as health is of prime importance.

The ‘AFC Match Operations Protocol During COVID-19 Pandemic (Appendix 2: COVID-19 - Return to Football Medical Guidelines)’ (see appendix 16) is recommended by BFF to minimize the risk of COVID-19 transmission.

46 Medical Personnel

BFF shall provide, at its own cost, the following medical personnel on match day at the Stadium where the match is organized:

On-Pitch Medical Services:

- 1 (one) on pitch Medical Officer trained in Emergency Medicine.
- (eight) trained stretcher bearers in good physical condition.

47 Anti-Doping

- 47.1 Doping is prohibited. BFF shall inform the Participating Club by means of a circular of the doping control procedure. List of prohibited substances/ methods can be downloaded from the AFC or WADA website (www.wada-ama.org).
- 47.2 The BFF shall be responsible for the approval of the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) accredited laboratory which will carry out the analysis of samples.
- 47.3 The BFF Disciplinary Code, the AFC Anti-Doping Regulations, as well as all relevant AFC directives will apply to this Competition.
- 47.4 In doping-related matters, the FIFA Anti-Doping Regulations apply in full. In the event of any discrepancy between the national regulations and the FIFA Anti-Doping Regulations, the provisions set out in the FIFA Anti-Doping Regulations shall prevail. The BFF Disciplinary Code and all relevant FIFA and AFC directives will as well apply to this Competition. The FIFA Anti-Doping Regulations can be downloaded from the following link:
<https://resources.fifa.com/image/upload/1724-revision-of-the-fifa-anti-doping-regulations.pdf?cloudid=f1urwplbdov861cgsbdi>.

SECTION 9: DISCIPLINARY LAWS AND PROCEDURES

48 Disciplinary measures and appeals

- 48.1 Disciplinary measures and appeals are dealt with in compliance with the current BFF Statutes, BFF Disciplinary Code and the relevant BFF circular(s).
- 48.2 BFF may initiate investigations should it suspect and/or is aware of any violations of the Laws of the Game and contravention of its Statutes, Rules, Regulations, Instructions and decisions by the Clubs, Officials and Players.
- 48.3 BFF may impose the disciplinary measures for any violations of the Laws of the Game and contravention of its Statutes, Rules, Regulations, Instructions and decisions by the Clubs, Officials and Players.
- 48.4 A club must not pay or offer any fee or remuneration to a referee or assistant referee nor shall it provide him with any gifts or incentives. Breach of this rule shall result in the offending club's expulsion from the Bangladesh Premier League and it and its officials, coaches and players shall be liable to further sanctions to be determined by the Professional League Management Committee of BFF. Referees are obliged to bring any such approach to the immediate attention of BFF. Failure of a referee to report any such approach shall lead to his omission from the Bangladesh Championship League panel of referees and to other disciplinary sanctions as appropriate.
- 48.5 Any referee who accepts any payment, inducement or gift from any Bangladesh Championship League Club at any time shall be expelled from the Bangladesh Championship League panel of referees and be liable to

further sanctions to be determined by BFF or BFF Professional League Management Committee.

- 48.6 Any club which plays an unregistered (or ineligible) player or players in a match shall be deducted 3 (three) points from its point table for each match in which this occurs and shall be deemed to have forfeited the league fixture by the score line of 3 (three) goals to 0 (zero). However, result will stand for the winning team if the match score is more than 3 (three) goals.
- 48.7 No club, its officials, coaches, players or supporters may approach a referee and attempt to influence him in refereeing a match. If any club, its officials, coaches, players or supporters are guilty of making such an approach, the club shall be punished and it and its officials, coaches, players or supporters shall be liable to further sanctions to be determined by BFF or BFF Professional League Management Committee.

49 Players and Officials cautioned or dismissed from the field of play

- 49.1 All clubs selected to participate in the Bangladesh Championship League shall honor the ethos of football and be committed to participate in a spirit of fair play.
- 49.2 BFF's appointed Match Commissioner shall oversee the spirit of fair play at each Bangladesh Championship League match. The Match Commissioner shall make a report to BFF (**See Appendix 9**).
- 49.3 BFF or BFF Professional League Management Committee shall draw up a 'Code of Conduct' (**See Appendix 10**) which must be observed by each club, its officials, coaches and players.
- 49.4 Any matters brought to the attention of the Disciplinary Committee of BFF by referees, match commissioners, referee assessors or BFF Professional Football League Committee, the Disciplinary Committee shall have the authority to impose the sanctions or take other actions it deems appropriate as per the BFF Disciplinary Code.
- 49.5 Any player, club, official or referee or any concerned who is affected by a decision passed by the Disciplinary Committee and has an interest justifying amendment or cancellation of such decision may submit an appeal to the Appeal Committee of BFF enclosing all supporting documents within 7 (seven) days of the date of imposition of the original sanction.
- Anyone wishing to lodge an appeal shall transfer an appeal fee of BDT 25,000 (twenty-five thousand taka only) to BFF's bank account before expiry of the time limit for submitting the reasons for appeal.
 - If this requirement has not been complied with, the appeal is not admissible.
 - This amount will be reimbursed to the appellant if he wins the case. Costs and expenses are payable by the party who loses the case.
 - If the appeal is considered to be improper, costs and expenses shall be paid in addition to the deposit.

- 49.6 An appeal may be lodged to the Appeal Committee of BFF against any decision passed by the Disciplinary Committee of BFF, unless the sanction pronounced is:
- a warning;
 - a reprimand;
 - a suspension for less than 3 (three) matches or of up to 2 (two) months;
 - a fine of less than BDT 100,000 (One lac taka only) imposed on a club or of less than BDT 50,000 (Fifty thousand taka only) in other cases.
 - Decisions passed in compliance with **Article 64** of BFF Disciplinary code.

BFF Appeal Committee shall take further decision as per the BFF Disciplinary Code.

- 49.7 BFF shall maintain a record of yellow and red cards awarded against each player and official.

49.7.1 A player who is sent-off (receiver a red card) during a match (either a straight red card or two yellow cards) shall automatically be suspended for the next match. If the offence for which the red card is issued is of a serious nature, the BFF Disciplinary Committee can increase the period of suspension.

49.7.2 A player who accumulates 3 (three) cautions (yellow cards) in Bangladesh Championship League matches shall be suspended for the next match and the same 1 (one) match suspension will be applied after the subsequent 3 (three) cautions (yellow cards) of the player. A player who accumulates 9 (nine) cautions or 4 (four) direct red cards shall be required to appear before the BFF Disciplinary Committee to explain why his registration for the Bangladesh Championship League should not be cancelled or any other sanction including fines. If a club accumulates 4 (four) or more yellow cards in a single match shall be fined for BDT 10,000 (Ten thousand taka only).

49.7.3 If any club coach, player, or official is indulged in criticizing the BFF official, BFF, BFF Professional League Management Committee, Bangladesh Championship League, a match commissioner, referee, referee's assistant or a fourth official in public through media will tantamount to an offence followed by a sanction with minimum fine of BDT 50,000 (fifty thousand taka only). Even BFF Disciplinary Committee can take other actions it deems appropriate as per the BFF Disciplinary Code.

49.7.4 BFF may impose any sanction it deems appropriate in response to incidents brought to its attention by the Match Commissioner and/or Referee.

50 In discipline or Violent Conduct by players and /or officials

- 50.1 Any player or official reported for indiscipline or violent conduct anywhere in the stadium including but not limited to the field of play, the changing rooms, at the Training Sites and in the hotels shall be dealt with by the relevant BFF

Committees in accordance with these Regulations, the BFF Statues and Disciplinary Code.

- 50.2 All players or club officers are completely forbidden to carry mobile or any electronic communication device or destructive items during the running of the game.
- 50.3 If the above mentioned (**Art 50.2**) is violated, the concerned club officer and player shall be subject to punishment and expel from the stadium. The breach of this regulation will directly result in Stadium Ban for 3 (three) matches of the official or player concerned. Depending on the gravity of the offence the Professional League Management Committee of BFF shall have the authority to impose any further sanctions or take other actions it deems appropriate.

51 Fixed Match

The following measures and penalty will be followed by the BFF Professional League Management Committee for any fixed or got-up match:

- 51.1 A special high-power committee will be formed to identify the fixed match/matches. This committee can take necessary help from the law enforcement/intelligence agency.
- 51.2 BFF will make, as far as possible, the videography of all the matches.
- 51.3 The result and points of the identified fixed match will be forfeited/nullified and additional 6 (six) points will be deducted from the already earned points of the teams concerned. If the concerned club does not have sufficient points in that case these 6 (six) points shall be adjusted, if necessary, from the points earned by the concerned club in the next match(es) of the current league. Moreover, this clause would be applicable, if required, in the matches of the subsequent league.
- 51.4 Punishment, monetary and match suspension/stadium ban, shall be taken against the club, club official or player who is found to have been liable for any fixed match/matches. In addition, the concerned committee may refer the case to the BFF Disciplinary Committee for other actions it deems appropriate as per the BFF Disciplinary Code.
- 51.5 BFF shall follow the Action Plan of FIFA & AFC to combat Match Manipulation and as well as shall uphold the Recommendations and Regulations of FIFA & AFC concerning Fixed Match.
- 51.6 The decision of the BFF Professional League Management Committee concerning fixed-match is final and binding.

52 Protest

- 52.1 Subject to the following provisions, protests are objections of any kind to occurrences that have a direct effect on Matches organized in the Competition (state and marking of the pitch, accessory, match equipment, eligibility of players, stadium installations, footballs, etc.) and any matters related to the breach of these Regulations.
- 52.2 Unless otherwise stipulated in this article, protests shall first be submitted in writing to the BFF Match Commissioner within 2 (two) hours of the Match by the team concerned and followed up immediately with a full written

report, including a copy of the original protest, to be sent in writing to the BFF Secretariat accompanied by a fee of BDT 20,000 (twenty thousand taka only). The protest shall be addressed to the Chairman of the BFF Professional Football League Committee and the protest be disposed off within 48 (forty-eight) hours. The protest fee shall not be refunded if the protest is rejected. The plaintiff club shall confirm the protest by registered letter, to be sent to the BFF Secretariat no later than 2 (two) days after the Match in question.

- 52.3 Protests against any incidents that occur during the course of a Match shall be made to the referee by the team captain immediately after the disputed incident and before play has been resumed. The protests shall be confirmed in writing to the BFF Match Commissioner by the head of the team delegation no later than 2 (two) hours after the Match.
- 52.4 No protests may be made against the Referee's decisions regarding facts connected with play, such decisions being final.
- 52.5 If an unfounded or irresponsible protest is lodged, the Disciplinary Committee may impose a fine and the protest fee of BDT 20,000 (twenty thousand taka only) will be forfeited.
- 52.6 Once the Competition has ended, any protests described in this article shall be disregarded.

53 Arbitration

- 53.1 Pursuant to BFF Statutes, clubs are forbidden from taking disputes to a civil court but may only submit them to the appropriate body of BFF in accordance with the applicable procedure.
- 53.2 Furthermore, any disputes involving BFF, Members, confederations, leagues, teams, players, officials and licensed agents in connection with the Competition shall be promptly settled by negotiation.
- 53.3 If no solution can be reached, or a formal appeal is envisaged, the issue shall be exclusively resolved under the auspices of the arbitration chamber set forth in the BFF Statutes, namely the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) with headquarters in Lausanne. The Code of Sports-related Arbitration of the CAS and all the relevant CAS Regulations shall apply. The language of arbitration is English.

SECTION 10: ADMINISTRATION

54 Awards

Champion and Runners-Up team shall be awarded the Championship and Runners-Up Trophy and Medal respectively. Besides this, Fair Play Trophy will be awarded to the well-disciplined team of the competition. In respect of the Fair Play Trophy, FIFA/AFC policies shall be followed.

BFF shall provide monetary prizes to the Champions and Runners-up teams of the League. BFF shall declare the prize money during the progression of the League.

BFF shall provide monetary prizes to the Champion and Runners-Up teams of the 'Bangladesh Championship League 2020-21' according to the following schedule:

- Champion money 3,00,000/= (three lac) taka only
- Runners-Up money 2,00,000/= (two lac) taka only

55 Special Provisions

55.1 Any disputes arising from the application of these Regulations shall be settled by the jurisdiction of BFF and, if subsequently necessary and BFF's decision is not final, by the Court of Arbitration for Sport in Lausanne, Switzerland.

55.2 The BFF Professional League Management Committee shall issue any instructions necessitated by special circumstances which might arise in the commencement of the Competition. These instructions shall form an integral part of these Regulations.

56 Matters not provided for

Matters not provided for in these Regulations and cases of Force Majeure shall be decided by the Professional League Management Committee, BFF or the Executive Committee of BFF, whose decisions are final.



Abdus Salam Murshedy, MP
Senior Vice-President, BFF &
Chairman
Professional League Management Committee, BFF



Md. Abu Nayeem Shohag
General Secretary, BFF