

WORLD MINIFOOTBALL FEDERATION



WMF DISCIPLINARY CODE

2018 Edition





1. Object

This code describes infringements of the rules in WMF regulations, determines the sanctions incurred, regulates the organization and function of the bodies responsible for taking decisions and the procedures to be followed before these bodies.

2 Scope of application: substantive law

This code applies to every match and competition organised by WMF. Beyond this scope, it also applies if a match official is harmed and, more generally, if the statutory objectives of WMF are breached, especially with regard to forgery, corruption and encroachment. It also applies to any breach of WMF regulations that does not fall under the jurisdiction of any other body.

3. Scope of application: natural and legal persons

The following are subject to this code:

- a) associations/federations;
- b) members of associations, in particular the teams;
- c) officials;
- d) players;
- e) match officials;
- f) anyone with an authorization from WMF, in particular with regard to a match, competition or other event organized by WMF;
- g) spectators.

4. Scope of application: time

This code applies to facts that have arisen after it has come into force. It also applies to previous facts if it is equally favorable or more favorable for the perpetrator of the facts and if the judicial bodies of WMF are deciding on these facts after the code has come into force. By contrast, rules governing procedure apply immediately upon the coming into force of this code.

5. Definitions

1.

Post-match: the time between the final whistle from the referee and the teams' departure from the confines of the stadium.

2.



Pre-match: the time between the teams' arrival in the confines of the venue and the whistle for kickoff from the referee.

3.

International match: a match between two teams belonging to different associations/federations.

4.

Friendly match: a match organized by a minifootball organization, team or other person between teams chosen for the occasion and possibly belonging to different spheres of operation; the score has an effect only on the match or tournament in question and, in the case of representative teams, on the WMF rankings.

5.

Official match: a match organized under the auspices of a minifootball organization for all of the teams in its sphere of operation; the score has an effect on the rights of participation in other competitions unless the regulations in question stipulate otherwise.

6.

Officials: anyone, with the exception of players, performing an activity connected with minifootball at an association or team, regardless of his title, the type of activity (administrative, sporting or any other) and the duration of the activity; in particular, managers, coaches and support staff are officials.

7.

Match official: the referee, second and third referee, match commissioner, referee observer, the person in charge of safety, and any other persons appointed by WMF to assume responsibility in connection with a match.

8.

WMF regulations: the statutes, regulations, directives of WMF as well as the International minifootball rules and WMF World Cup rules

6. Gender and number

Terms referring to natural persons are applicable to both genders. Any term in the singular applies to the plural and vice-versa.

7. Culpability

1.

Unless otherwise specified, infringements are punishable regardless of whether they have been committed deliberately or negligently.



2.

Exceptionally, a match may have to be played without spectators or on neutral territory, or a certain venue may be banned purely for safety reasons, without an infringement having been committed.

8. Acts amounting to attempt

1.

Acts amounting to attempt are also punishable.

2.

In the case of acts amounting to attempt, the body may reduce the sanction envisaged for the actual infringement accordingly. It will determine the extent of the mitigation as it sees fit; it shall not go below the general lower limit of the fine (cf. art. 15 par. 2).

9. Involvement

1.

Anyone who intentionally takes part in committing an infringement, either as instigator or accomplice is also punishable.

2.

The body will take account of the degree of guilt of the party involved and may reduce the sanction accordingly. It shall not go below the general lower limit of the fine (art. 15 par. 2).

10. Sanctions common to natural and legal persons

Both natural and legal persons are punishable by the following sanctions:

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

11. Sanctions applicable to natural persons

The following sanctions are applicable only to natural persons:

- a) caution;
- b) expulsion;
- c) match suspension;
- d) ban from dressing rooms and/or substitutes' bench;
- e) ban from entering a stadium;
- f) ban on taking part in any minifootball-related activity.



12. Sanctions applicable to legal persons

The following sanctions are applicable only to legal persons:

- a) playing a match without spectators;
- b) annulment of the result of a match;
- c) expulsion;
- d) forfeit;
- e) deduction of points;

13. Warning

A warning is a reminder of the substance of a disciplinary rule allied with the threat of a sanction in the event of a further infringement.

14. Reprimand

A reprimand is an official written pronouncement of disapproval sent to the perpetrator of an infringement.

15. Fine

1.

A fine is issued in Euro (EUR) or US dollars (USD). It shall be paid in the same currency.

2.

The fine shall not be less than 50 EUR for a standard red card, and not more than 1 000 EUR for disciplinary penalties.

3.

The body that imposes the fine decides the terms and time limits for payment.

4.

Associations are jointly liable for fines imposed on representative team players and officials. The fact that a natural person has left a team or association does not cancel out joint liability.

16. Return of awards

The person required to return an award shall return the benefits received, in particular sums of money and symbolic objects (medal, trophy etc.).



17. Caution

1.

A caution (yellow card) is a warning from the referee to a player during a match to sanction unsporting behavior of a less serious nature (cf. Player's penalties Rule XII International minifootball rules).

2.

Two cautions received during the same match incur an expulsion (indirect red card) and, consequently, automatic suspension from the next match (cf. art. 18 par. 4). The two cautions that incurred the red card are rescinded.

3.

If a player receives a caution in two consecutive matches of the same WMF competition is banned from playing in the subsequent game. This rule applies throughout the whole competition and the player's record will not be wiped after the group games (except final where the player who got two yellow cards in two different games - usually quarter and semi-final is allowed to play). The Disciplinary Committee may exceptionally depart from or amend this rule before the start of a particular competition. Any such decision reached by the Disciplinary Committee is final.

4.

If an abandoned match is to be replayed, any caution issued during that match shall be annulled. If the match is not to be replayed, the cautions received by the team responsible for causing the match to be abandoned are upheld; if both teams are responsible, all of the cautions are upheld.

5.

Cautions issued in a match that is subsequently forfeited shall not be annulled.

6.

If a player is guilty of serious unsporting behavior and is sent off (direct red card), any other caution he has previously received in the same match is upheld.

18 Expulsion

1.

An expulsion is the order given by the referee to someone to leave the field of play and its surroundings, including the substitutes' bench, during a match. The person who has been sent off may be allowed into the stands unless he is serving a venue ban.

2.



Expulsion takes the form of a red card for players. The red card is regarded as direct if it sanctions serious unsporting behavior it is regarded as indirect if it is the result of an accumulation of two yellow cards.

3.

An official who has been sent off may give instructions to the person replacing him on the substitutes' bench. He shall, however, ensure that he does not disturb the spectators or disrupt the flow of play.

4.

An expulsion automatically incurs suspension from the subsequent match, even if imposed in a match that is later abandoned, annulled and/or forfeited. The Disciplinary Committee may extend the duration of the suspension.

19. Match suspension

1.

A suspension from a match is a ban on taking part in a future match or competition and on attending it in the area immediately surrounding the field of play.

2.

An official who is suspended in application of par. 1 is automatically banned from the dressing rooms in accordance with art. 20.

3.

The suspension is imposed in terms of matches, days or months. Unless otherwise specified, it may not exceed twenty-four matches or twenty-four months.

4.

If the suspension is to be served in terms of matches, only those matches actually, played count towards execution of the suspension. If a match is abandoned, cancelled or forfeited (except for a violation of art. 55), a suspension is only considered to have been served if the team to which the suspended player belongs is not responsible for the facts that led to the abandonment, cancellation or forfeit of the match.

5.

A match suspension is regarded as no longer pending if a match is retroactively forfeited because a player took part in a match despite being ineligible (art.55). This also applies to the match suspension imposed on the player who took part in the match despite being ineligible.

6.



If a suspension is combined with a fine, the suspension may be prolonged until the fine has been paid in full.

20. Ban from dressing rooms and/or substitutes' bench

A ban from dressing rooms and/or substitutes' benches deprives someone of the right to enter a team's dressing rooms and/or the area immediately surrounding the field of play, and in particular to sit on the substitutes' bench.

21. Stadium ban

A stadium ban prohibits someone from entering the confines of one or several stadiums.

22. Ban on taking part in any football-related activity

A person may be banned from taking part in any kind of minifootball-related (administrative, sports or any other).

23. Playing a match without spectators

The obligation to play a match behind closed doors requires an association or a team to have a certain match played without spectators.

24. Annulment of the result of a match

The result of a match is annulled if the result reached on the field of play is disregarded.

25. Expulsion from a competition

Expulsion is the deprivation of the right of an association or a team to take part in the current and/or a future competition.

26. Deduction of points

A team may have points deducted from those already attained in the current or a future competition.

31. Forfeit

1.

A team sanctioned with a forfeit is considered to have lost the match by 5-0.

2.

If the goal difference at the end of the match is greater than five, the result on the pitch is upheld.



31bis Replay of the match

A match may be replayed if it could not take place or could not be played in full for reasons other than force majeure, but due to the behavior of a team or behavior for which an association is liable.

32. Carrying over cautions

1.

Cautions received during one competition are not carried over to another competition.

2.

They are, however, carried over from one round to the next in the same competition. The Disciplinary Committee may exceptionally depart from this rule before the start of a particular competition.

33. Carrying over match suspensions

1.

As a general rule, every match suspension (of players and official) is carried over from one round to the next in the same competition.

2.

Match suspensions are carried over to the next competition under the auspices of WMF if not served during the competition in which are imposed

34. Repeated infringements

Unless otherwise specified, the Disciplinary Committee may increase the sanction to be pronounced as deemed appropriate if an infringement has been repeated.

35. Concurrent infringements

1.

If several fines are pronounced against someone as a result of one or more infringements, the Disciplinary Committee bases the fine on the most serious offence committed and, depending on the circumstances, may increase the sanction by up to fifty per cent of the maximum sanction specified for that offence.

2.

The same applies if a person incurs several time sanctions of a similar type (two or more match suspensions) as the result of one or several infringements.

36. Minor infringements



A player is cautioned if he commits any of the following offences (cf. Rule XII of International minifootball rules and art. 17 of this code):

- a) unsporting behavior;
- b) dissent by word or action;
- c) persistent infringement of the International minifootball rules;
- d) delaying the restart of play;
- e) failure to retreat the required distance when play is restarted with a corner kick, free kick or throw-in;
- f) entering or re-entering the field of play without the referee's permission;
- g) deliberately leaving the field of play without the referee's permission.

37. Serious infringements

A player is sent off if he commits any of the following offences (cf. Rule XII of International minifootball rules and art. 18 of this code):

- h) serious foul play;
- i) violent conduct;
- j) spitting at an opponent or any other person;
- k) denying the opposing team, a goal or an obvious goal-scoring opportunity by deliberately handling the ball (this does not apply to a goalkeeper within his own penalty area);
- l) denying an obvious goal-scoring opportunity to an opponent moving towards the player's goal by an offence punishable by a free kick or a penalty kick;
- m) using offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures;
- n) receiving a second caution in the same match (art. 17 par. 2).

38. Misconduct against opponents or persons other than match

1.

Including the automatic suspension incurred in accordance with art. 18 par. 4, any recipient of a direct red card shall be suspended as follows:

- a) one match for denying the opposing team a clear goal-scoring opportunity (particularly by deliberately handling the ball);
- b) at least one match for serious foul play (particularly in the case of excessive or brute force);
- c) at least one match for unsporting conduct towards an opponent or a person other than a match official (subject to art. 43, 44 and 47-50);
- d) at least two matches for assaulting (elbowing, punching, kicking etc.) an opponent or a person other than a match official;



e) at least six matches for spitting at an opponent or a person other than a match official.

2.

A fine may also be imposed in all cases.

3.

The right is reserved to punish an infringement in accordance with art. 55 a).

39. Misconduct against match officials

1.

Including the automatic suspension incurred in accordance with art. 18 par. 4, the overall suspension imposed on any person receiving a direct red card shall be for:

a) at least four matches for unsporting conduct towards a match official

(subject to art. 43, 44 and 47-50);

b) at least six months for assaulting (elbowing, punching, kicking etc.) a match official;

c) at least 12 months for spitting at a match official.

2.

A fine may also be imposed in all cases.

3.

The right is reserved to punish an infringement in accordance with art. 55 a).

40. Brawl

1.

Involvement in a brawl is sanctioned with a suspension for at least six matches.

2.

Anyone who has tried merely to prevent a fight, shield others or separate those involved in a brawl is not subject to punishment.

41. Unidentified aggressors

If, in the case of violence, it is not possible to identify the perpetrator(s), the body will sanction the team or association to which the aggressors belong.

42. Team misconduct

Disciplinary measures may be imposed on associations and teams which fails to conduct itself properly. In particular:

a) a fine may be imposed where the referee sanctions at least three members of the same team during a match (caution or expulsion);

b) a fine of at least 500 EUR may be imposed where several players or



officials from the same team threaten or harass match officials or other persons. Further sanctions may be imposed in the case of serious offences.

43. Inciting hatred and violence

1.

A player or official who publicly incites others to hatred or violence will be sanctioned with match suspension for no less than twelve months and with a minimum fine of 500 EUR.

2.

In serious cases, in particular when the infringement is committed using the mass media (such as the press, radio or television) or if it takes place on a match day in or around a stadium, the minimum fine will be 1 000 EUR.

44. Provoking the general public

Anyone who provokes the general public during a match will be suspended for two matches and sanctioned with a minimum fine of 500 EUR.

45. Ineligibility

1.

If a player takes part in an official match despite being ineligible, his team will be sanctioned by forfeiting the match (cf. art. 31) and paying a minimum fine of 500 EUR.

2.

If a player takes part in a friendly match despite being ineligible, his team will be sanctioned by forfeiting the match and paying a minimum fine of 250 EUR.

46. Unplayed match and abandonment

1.

If a match cannot take place or cannot be played in full for reasons other than force majeure, but due to the behavior of a team or behavior for which an association or a team is liable, the association or the team will be sanctioned with a minimum fine of 500 EUR. The match will either be forfeited (cf. art. 31) or replayed (cf. art. 31bis).

2.

In serious cases, additional sanctions pursuant to art. 12 may be imposed on the association or team concerned.



47. Offensive behavior and fair play

Anyone who insults someone in any way, especially by using offensive gestures or language, or who violates the principles of fair play or whose behavior is unsporting in any other way may be subject to sanctions in accordance with art. 10.

48. Discrimination

1.

a) Anyone who offends the dignity of a person or group of persons through contemptuous, discriminatory or derogatory words or actions concerning race, colour, language, religion or origin shall be suspended for at least five matches. Furthermore, a stadium ban and a fine of at least 1000 EUR shall be imposed.

b) Where several persons (officials and/or players) from the same team or association simultaneously breach par. 1 a) or there are other aggravating circumstances, the team concerned may be deducted three points for a first offence and six points for a second offence; a further offence may result in relegation to a lower division. In the case of matches in which no points are awarded, the team may be disqualified from the competition.

2.

a) Where supporters of a team breach par. 1 a) at a match, a fine of at least 1000 EUR shall be imposed on the association or club concerned regardless of the question of culpable conduct or culpable oversight.

b) Serious offences may be punished with additional sanctions, in particular an order to play a match behind closed doors, the forfeit of a match, a points deduction or disqualification from the competition.

3.

Spectators who breach par. 1 a) of this article shall receive a stadium ban of at least two years.

49. Threats

Anyone who intimidates a match official with serious threats will be sanctioned with a fine of at least 1000 EUR and a match suspension.

50. Coercion

Anyone who uses violence or threats to pressure a match official into taking certain action or to hinder him in any other way from acting freely will



be sanctioned with a fine of at least 1000 EUR and a match suspension.

51. Forgery and falsification

1.

Anyone who, in minifootball-related activities, forges a document, falsifies an authentic document or uses a forged or falsified document to deceive in legal relations will be sanctioned with a fine.

2.

If the perpetrator is a player, a suspension of at least six matches will be pronounced.

3.

If the perpetrator is an official a ban on taking part in any football-related activity for a period of at least twelve months will be pronounced.

4.

An association may be held liable for an infringement as defined in par. 1 committed by one of its officials and/or players. In such a case, an expulsion from a competition may be pronounced in addition to a fine for the association concerned.

5.

A team may be held liable for an infringement as defined in par. 1 committed by one of its officials and/or players. In such a case, an expulsion from a competition and/or a transfer ban may be pronounced in addition to a fine for the club concerned.

52. Corruption

1.

Anyone who offers, promises or grants an unjustified advantage to a body of WMF, a match official, a player or an official on behalf of himself or a third party in an attempt to incite it or him to violate the regulations of WMF will be sanctioned:

a) with a fine of at least 1000 EUR,

b) with a ban on taking part in any minifootball-related activity, and

c) with a ban on entering any venue.

2.

Passive corruption (soliciting, being promised or accepting an unjustified advantage) will be sanctioned in the same manner.

3.

In serious cases and in the case of repetition, sanction 1b) may be pronounced for life.



4.

In any case, the body will order the confiscation of the assets involved in committing the infringement. These assets will be used for minifootball development programs.

52. Doping

Doping is prohibited. Doping and anti-doping rule violations are defined in the WMF Anti-Doping Regulations and sanctioned in accordance with the WMF Anti-Doping Regulations and the WMF Disciplinary Code.

53. Organisation of matches

Associations that organize matches shall:

- a) assess the degree of risk posed by matches and notify the WMF bodies of those that are especially high-risk;
- b) comply with and implement existing safety rules (WMF regulations, national laws, international agreements) and take every safety precaution demanded by circumstances before, during and after the match and if incidents occur;
- c) ensure the safety of match officials, players and officials of the visiting team during their stay;
- d) keep local authorities informed and collaborate with them actively and effectively;
- e) ensure that law and order are maintained in the stadiums and immediate surroundings and that matches are organised properly.

54. Failure to comply

1.

Any association that fails to fulfil its obligations in accordance with art. 65 shall be fined.

2.

In the case of a serious infringement of art. 65, additional sanctions may be imposed, such as a stadium ban or ordering a team to play on neutral ground.

3.

The right is reserved to pronounce certain sanctions for safety reasons, even if no infringement has been committed.

55. Liability for spectator conduct



1.

The home association or home team is liable for improper conduct among spectators, regardless of the question of culpable conduct or culpable oversight, and, depending on the situation, may be fined. Further sanctions may be imposed in the case of serious disturbances.

2.

The visiting association or visiting club is liable for improper conduct among its own group of spectators, regardless of the question of culpable conduct or culpable oversight, and, depending on the situation, may be fined. Further sanctions may be imposed in the case of serious disturbances.

Supporters occupying the away sector of a stadium are regarded as the visiting association's supporters, unless proven to the contrary.

3.

Improper conduct includes violence towards persons or objects, letting off incendiary devices, throwing missiles, displaying insulting or political slogans in any form, uttering insulting words or sounds, or invading the pitch.

4.

The liability described in par. 1 and 2 also includes matches played on neutral ground, especially during final competitions.

56. Other obligations

Associations shall also:

- a) actively vet the age of players shown on the identity cards they produce at competitions that are subject to age limits;
- b) ensure that no-one is involved in the management of clubs or the association itself who is under prosecution for action unworthy of such a position (especially doping, corruption, forgery etc.) or who has been convicted of a criminal offence in the past five years.

57. Unlawfully influencing match results

1.

Anyone who conspires to influence the result of a match in a manner contrary to sporting ethics shall be sanctioned with a match suspension or a ban on taking part in any football-related activity as well as a fine of at least 1000 EUR. In serious cases, a lifetime ban on taking part in any minifootball-related activity shall be imposed.

2.

In the case of a player or official unlawfully influencing the result of a match



in accordance with par. 1, the team or association to which the player or official belongs may be fined. Serious offences may be sanctioned with expulsion from a competition, relegation to a lower division, a points deduction and the return of awards.

58. General rule

1.

With regard to matches and competitions not organised by WMF (cf. art. 2), associations, confederations and sports organisations that organise matches for cultural, geographical, historical or other reasons are responsible for enforcing sanctions imposed against infringements committed in their area of jurisdiction. If requested, the sanctions passed may be extended to have worldwide effect.

2.

The judicial bodies of WMF reserve the right to sanction serious infringements of the statutory objectives of WMF (cf. final part of art. 2) if associations, confederations and other sports organisations fail to prosecute serious infringements or fail to prosecute in compliance with the fundamental principles of law.

3.

Associations, confederations and other sports organisations shall notify the judicial bodies of WMF of any serious infringements of the statutory objectives of WMF (cf. final part of art. 2).

59. Friendly matches between two representative teams

1.

Any disciplinary action to be taken at friendly matches between two representative teams from different associations is the responsibility of that association to which the sanctioned player belongs. However, in serious cases, the Disciplinary Committee may intervene ex officio.

2.

The associations shall inform WMF of the sanctions pronounced.

3.

WMF ensures compliance with the sanctions by means of this code.

60. Referee



1.
During matches, disciplinary decisions are taken by the referee.
2.
These decisions are final.
3.
In certain circumstances, the jurisdiction of the judicial bodies may apply (cf. art. 64).

61. Judicial bodies

The judicial bodies of WMF are the Disciplinary Committee and the Appeal Committee.

62. WMF Medical Committee

In compliance with the WMF Anti-Doping Regulations, the WMF Medical Committee, or other bodies under its supervision, carries out the doping test, analyses of samples and examination of medical certificates.

63. General jurisdiction

The WMF Disciplinary Committee is authorised to sanction any breach of WMF regulations which does not come under the jurisdiction of another body.

64. Specific jurisdiction

The Disciplinary Committee is responsible for:

- a) sanctioning serious infringements which have escaped the match officials' attention;
- b) rectifying obvious errors in the referee's disciplinary decisions;
- c) extending the duration of a match suspension incurred automatically by an expulsion (cf. art 18, par. 4);
- d) pronouncing additional sanctions, such as a fine.

Appeal Committee



65. Jurisdiction

The Appeal Committee is responsible for deciding appeals against any of the Disciplinary Committee's decisions that WMF regulations do not declare as final or referable to another body.

Common Rules of the Judicial Bodies

65. Composition

1.

The Executive Committee appoints the members of the Disciplinary Committee and the Appeal Committee for a period of four years. It designates the number of members deemed necessary for the committees to function properly.

2.

The Executive Committee appoints the chairman of each committee from among the members for the same period of four years.

66. Meetings

1.

The committee meetings are deemed to be valid if at least three members are present.

2.

The meetings shall be held in accordance Working methods adopted by the Disciplinary Committee and the Appeal Committee, approved by the Secretary General of WMF.

67. Chairman

1.

The chairman conducts the meetings and delivers the decisions which this code empowers him to take.

2.

If the chairman is prevented from attending, the deputy chairman replaces him. If the deputy chairman is prevented from attending, the longest-serving member replaces him.



68. Independence

1.

The judicial bodies of WMF pass their decisions entirely independently; in particular, they shall not receive instructions from any other body.

2.

A member of another WMF body may not stay in the meeting room during the judicial bodies' deliberations unless they have explicitly summoned him to attend.

68. Withdrawal

1.

Members of the judicial bodies of WMF must decline to participate in any meeting concerning a matter where there are serious grounds for questioning their impartiality.

2.

This applies in the following cases (among others):

- a) if the member in question has a direct interest in the outcome of the matter;
- b) if he is associated with any of the parties;
- c) if he has the same nationality as the party implicated (the association, club, official, player etc.);
- d) if he has already dealt with the case under different circumstances.

3.

Members who decline to participate in a meeting on any of the above grounds shall notify the chairman immediately. The parties involved may also raise an objection to a member they believe to be biased.

4.

The chairman shall decide on any such claim of bias.

5.

Proceedings that have involved someone whom the chairman has ordered not to participate will be considered null and void.

69. Confidentiality

1.

The members of the judicial bodies shall ensure that everything disclosed to them during the course of their duty remains confidential (facts of the case, contents of the deliberations and decisions taken).



2. Only the contents of those decisions already notified to the addressees may be made public.

70. Exemption from liability

Except in the case of gross culpability, neither the members of the judicial bodies of FIFA nor the secretariat may be made liable for any deeds or omissions relating to any disciplinary procedure.

71. Various types of proof

1. Any type of proof may be produced.
2. Proof that violates human dignity or obviously does not serve to establish relevant facts shall be rejected.
3. The following are, in particular, admissible: reports from referees, assistant referees, match commissioners and referee inspectors, declarations from the parties and witnesses, material evidence, expert opinions and audio or video recordings.

72. Evaluation of proof

1. The bodies will have absolute discretion regarding proof.
2. They may, in particular, take account of the parties' attitudes during proceedings, especially the manner in which they cooperate with the judicial bodies and the secretariat (cf. art. 80)
3. They decide on the basis of their personal convictions.

73. Match officials' reports

1. Facts contained in match officials' reports are presumed to be accurate.
2. Proof of the inaccuracy of the contents of these reports may be provided.
- 3.



If there is any discrepancy in the reports from the various match officials and there are no means of resolving the different versions of the facts, the referee's report is considered authoritative regarding incidents that occurred on the field of play; the match commissioner's report is considered authoritative regarding incidents that took place outside the field of play.

74. Burden of proof

1.

The burden of proof regarding disciplinary infringements rests on WMF.

2.

In the case of an anti-doping rule violation, it is incumbent upon the suspect to produce the proof necessary to reduce or cancel a sanction. For sanctions to be reduced, the suspect must also prove how the prohibited substance entered his body.

75. Representation and assistance

1.

The parties may arrange to have legal representation.

2.

If they are not required to appear personally, they may be represented.

3.

The parties are free to choose their own representation and legal representation.

76. Language used in proceedings

1.

The language used in proceedings must be English.

2.

WMF may, if necessary, use the services of an interpreter.

3.

If the language used in a decision is not the mother tongue of the person concerned, the association to which the person belongs will be responsible for translating it.

77. Enforcement of decisions

Decisions come into force as soon as they are communicated.



78. Baseless proceedings

Proceedings may be closed if:

- a) the parties reach an agreement;
- b) a party declares bankruptcy;
- c) they become baseless.

79. Commencement of proceedings

1.

Disciplinary infringements are prosecuted ex officio.

2.

Any person or body may report conduct that he or it considers incompatible with the regulations of WMF to the judicial bodies. Such complaints shall be made in writing.

3.

Match officials are obliged to expose infringements which have come to their notice.

80. Collaboration by the parties

1.

The parties are obliged to collaborate to establish the facts. In particular, they shall comply with requests for information from the judicial bodies.

2.

Whenever deemed necessary, the secretariat verifies the parties' versions of the facts.

3.

If the parties are dilatory in responding, the chairman of the judicial body may, after warning them, impose a fine of up to 1000 EUR.

4.

If the parties fail to collaborate, especially if they ignore the stipulated time limits, the judicial bodies will reach a decision on the case using the file in their possession.

81. Oral statements, principles

1.

As a general rule, there are no oral statements and the Disciplinary Committee decides on the basis of the file.

2.

At the request of one of the parties, the body may arrange for oral statements



to be heard, to which all the parties shall be summoned.

3.

Oral statements are always heard behind closed doors.

82. Oral statements, procedure

1.

The chairman decides on the sequence of the oral statements.

2.

Once the hearing of evidence has ended, the chairman allows the person against whom proceedings are being conducted a final opportunity to speak.

3.

The oral statements terminate with the parties' closing statement.

83. Deliberations

1.

The Disciplinary Committee deliberates behind closed doors.

2.

If any oral statements have been heard, they will immediately be followed by deliberations.

3.

Deliberations are conducted without interruption, unless there are exceptional circumstances.

4.

The chairman decides in which order the various questions will be submitted for deliberation.

5.

The members present express their opinions in the order set out by the chairman, who always speaks last.

6.

The committee secretary has consultative powers only.

84. Passing the decision

1.

Decisions are passed by a simple majority of the members present.

2.

Every member present shall vote.

3.



If votes are equal, the chairman has the casting vote.

85. Form and contents of the decision

1.

Without prejudice to the application of art. 86 below, the decision contains:

- a) the composition of the committee;
- b) the names of the parties;
- c) a summary of the facts;
- d) the grounds of the decision;
- e) the provisions on which the decision was based;
- f) the terms of the decision;
- g) notice of the channels for appeal.

2.

The decisions are signed by the chairman.

86. Decisions without grounds

1.

The judicial bodies may decide not to communicate the grounds of a decision and instead communicate only the terms of the decision. At the same time, the parties shall be informed that they have ten days from receipt of the terms of the decision to request, in writing, the grounds of the decision, and that failure to do so will result in the decision becoming final and binding.

2.

If a party requests the grounds of a decision, the motivated decision will be communicated to the parties in full, written form. The time limit to lodge an appeal, where applicable, begins upon receipt of this motivated decision.

3.

If the parties do not request the grounds of a decision, a short explanation of the decision shall be recorded in the case files.

87. Contestable decisions

An appeal may be lodged with the Appeal Committee against any decision passed by the Disciplinary Committee, unless the disciplinary measure pronounced is:



- a) a warning;
- b) a reprimand;
- c) a suspension for fewer than three matches or of up to two months;

88. Eligibility to appeal

1.

Anyone who has been a party to the proceedings before the first instance and has a legally protected interest justifying amendment or cancellation of the decision may lodge an appeal with the Appeal Committee.

2.

Associations may appeal against decisions sanctioning their players, officials or members. They shall have the written agreement of the person concerned.

89. Time limit for appeal

1.

Any party intending to appeal must inform the WMF Appeal Committee of its intention to do so in writing within three days of notification of the decision.

2.

Reasons for the appeal must then be given in writing within a further time limit of seven days, this seven-day period begins after the first deadline of three days has expired.

3.

If these requirements have not been complied with, the appeal is not admissible.

4.

In urgent cases, the chairman may shorten the deadline for the submission of the reasons for appeal.

5.

The association receiving the petition of appeal shall forward it immediately to WMF.

90. Grounds for appeal

The appellant may object to inaccurate representation of the facts and/or wrong application of the law.

91. Petition of appeal

1.

The appellant shall submit his petition of appeal in writing.

2.



The petition shall include the claim as well as the reasons and means of proof and be signed by the appellant or his representative, subject to art. 88 par. 2.

92. Deposit

1.

Anyone wishing to lodge an appeal shall transfer an appeal fee of 100 EUR to WMF's bank account before expiry of the time limit for submitting the reasons for appeal.

2.

If this requirement has not been complied with, the appeal is not admissible.

3.

This amount will be reimbursed to the appellant if he wins the case. Costs and expenses payable by an appellant who loses the case are deducted from this amount. Any remaining amount is reimbursed to him. If the deposit is insufficient, the appellant will be ordered to pay the difference.

4.

If the appeal is considered to be improper, costs and expenses shall be paid in addition to the deposit.

93. Effects of appeal

1.

An appeal results in the case being reviewed by the Appeal Committee.

2.

The appeal does not have a suspensive effect except with regard to orders to pay a sum of money.

94. Sequence in proceedings leading up to the decision

1.

The sequence in proceedings is determined as described in this code.

2.

The decisions are signed by the chairman.

3.

Decisions may not be amended to the detriment of the party contesting them.

95. Continuation of the proceedings



The Appeal Committee rules, in principle, as a body in the last instance.

96. Provisional measures

1.

If an infringement appears to have been committed and a decision on the main issue cannot be taken early enough, the chairman of the judicial body may, in emergencies, provisionally pronounce, alter or revoke a sanction.

2.

In similar circumstances, he may take other provisional measures at his discretion, especially to ensure compliance with a sanction already in force.

3.

He will take action upon request or ex officio.

97. Procedure

1.

The chairman shall make his decision based on the evidence available at the time.

2.

He is not obliged to hear the parties.

98. Decision

1.

The chairman delivers his decision immediately.

2.

That decision is implemented immediately.

99. Duration

1.

Provisional measures may not be valid for longer than 30 days.

2.

This period may be extended only once by 20 days.

3.

If a sanction has been pronounced provisionally, the duration shall be offset against any final sanction.

100. Appeal

1.

An appeal against a decision regarding provisional measures may be lodged



with the chairman of the Appeal Committee.

2.

The time limit for lodging the appeal is two days commencing from the communication of the decision.

3.

The petition of appeal shall be sent directly to WMF in writing within the same time limit.

4.

The appeal shall not have a suspensive effect.

101. Approval of appeal

The appeal will be admitted if the facts stated in the contested decision are inaccurate or if the law has been violated.

102. Deliberations and decision-taking without meeting

1.

If the circumstances so require, the secretariat may arrange the deliberations and decision-taking to be conducted via telephone conference, videoconference or any other similar method.

2.

Art. 82 par. 2 is, in this case, not applicable.

3.

The rapporteur takes minutes as if it were an ordinary meeting.

103. Official languages

The code exists in English language.

104. Scope of the code, omissions, custom, doctrine and jurisprudence

1.

This code governs every subject to which the text or the meaning of its provisions refer.

2.

If there are any omissions in this code, the judicial bodies will decide in accordance with the association's custom or, in the absence of custom, in accordance with rules they would lay down if they were acting as legislators.



3.

During all their operations, the judicial bodies of WMF draw on settlements already established by sports doctrine and jurisprudence.

105. Specific disciplinary rules

Specific disciplinary rules may be introduced for the duration of a WMF final competition. Such rules shall be communicated to the participating member associations/clubs before the first match of the final competition at the latest.

106. Adoption and enforcement

The WMF Disciplinary Code was adopted by the EC in Kiev on 15.08.2018 and come into force on the same date

