CONFEDERATION OF AFRICAN FOOTBALL



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CHAMPIONS LEAGUE™

REGULATIONS

CAF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

English version

CONFEDERATION OF AFRICAN FOOTBALL

CAF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE REGULATIONS

English version

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DEFINITIONS

1. **Regulations**: The CAF Champions League Regulations.

2. **Member Association**: an association that has been admitted into membership by FIFA and CAF.

3. **Player**: any football player registered with a Member Association and/or a Club.

4. **Club:** a club affiliated to a Member Association which intends to or participates in the CAF Champions League

5. **Official**: any board member (including the members of the CAF Executive Committee), committee member, referee, assistant referee, coach, trainer or any other person responsible for technical, medical or administrative matters in CAF, a Member Association, a league or a Club as well as all other persons bound by the Code or other CAF Regulations.

6. **Match**: a match played within the framework of the CAF Champions League.

7. **Match Official**: the referee, assistant referees, video assistant referees, fourth referee, Match commissioner, referee inspector, security officer, general coordinator and any other persons appointed by CAF or FIFA to exercise an official function in connection with a Match.

8. **Committee**: the CAF Organising Committee for Inter-clubs Competitions and Management of Club Licensing System

9. **CAF Inter-clubs Competitions**: Those competitions mentioned in Article 51(2) of the CAF Statutes.

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

The definitions section in the CAF Statutes and the CAF Disciplinary Code shall also apply.

I. GENERAL PROVISIONS

1. Pursuant to Articles 16 and 51 of the CAF Statutes, the *Confédération Africaine de Football* ("CAF") shall organise a yearly competition called "The CAF Champions League", (the "**Competition**").

2. These Regulations govern the rights, duties, and responsibilities of CAF, the Clubs (including their respective Member Associations and leagues), Member Associations, Players, Officials, and any and all other parties in, or otherwise involved in, the preparation, organisation, or conduct of the Competition, including its qualifying phase and play-offs.

II. ORGANISING COMMITTEE FOR INTERCLUBS COMPETITIONS

1. In accordance with Article 4 of the Regulations Governing the Application of CAF Statutes, the CAF Organising Committee for Inter-clubs Competitions and Management of Club Licensing System (hereinafter referred to as the "**Committee**") shall be responsible for overseeing the organisation of the Competition in accordance with the CAF Statutes.

2. The responsibilities of the Committee shall include, but are not limited to:
    a) Determining the dates of all Matches in the Competition and modifying the dates, kick-off times or venues at any time, when deemed necessary.
    b) Replacing, in accordance with these Regulations, the Clubs declaring their withdrawal from the Competition.
    c) Ratifying the results of the Matches. If there is neither a claim nor a protest regarding a Match, the Match is automatically ratified after the end of the time limit to submit the protest. All decisions that are ratified are final and not subject to appeal.
    d) Appointing Match Officials and any other CAF delegation for each Match.
    e) Reporting matters to the CAF Disciplinary Board (hereinafter referred to as the "Disciplinary Board"). The decision of the Disciplinary Board shall be based on the written reports of the referee, the assistant referees, the official commissioner and any other official designated by CAF.
    f) Dealing with any other aspect of the Competition that is not the responsibility of any other body pursuant to these Regulations or the CAF Statutes.
    g) Taking decisions in cases of force majeure.

3. The Committee may hold one of its meetings in the country of the Member Association organising the final of the Competition.

4. The President of CAF may establish an ad-hoc Committee every year before the start of the Competition in order to establish the fixtures of the Competition of the following season.

5. Between two ordinary sessions of the Committee, the CAF Secretariat shall be authorised to consult the members of the Committee by any written means for the purpose of making decisions in urgent matters. Such decisions shall be adopted by a simple majority of the votes cast.

III. FIXTURES AND FORMAT OF THE COMPETITION

1. All Matches shall be played in accordance with the CAF competitions calendar.

2. The Competition schedule shall include:
    - The number of the Match;
    - The names of the teams;
    - The venue of the Match;
    - The name of the Member Association designated to appoint referees, or the names of the referees themselves;
    - The name of the Match Commissioner; and
    - The dates fixed for each Match.

3. The Matches shall be played exclusively in the order established by the Committee.

4. During the scheduled dates and times of a Match according to the CAF competitions calendar, no other Match may be scheduled by any Member Association or Zonal Union.

5. No Match or event shall take place in a stadium scheduled to host a Match within 72 hours prior to its kick-off time.

6. The stadium designated to host a Match shall be handed over to CAF in its entirety no later than 72 hours prior to the scheduled kick-off time. CAF shall return the stadium within 24 hours following the conclusion of the Match.

7. The Competition shall be played in two phases:

    Preliminary Rounds:

8. There will be two Preliminary Rounds, the fixtures for which are determined by means of a draw between the seeded and unseeded Clubs.

9. In case the number of Clubs has not reached the maximum number of available spots for the Preliminary Rounds (i.e., 64 Clubs), the Clubs with the highest CAF ranking, as determined by the Committee based on the results of the Clubs' participation in the five (5) previous editions of the CAF Inter-clubs Competitions, shall be exempted from the First Preliminary Round and shall start competing in the Second Preliminary Round.

10. The Matches of the Preliminary Rounds shall be played according to the "knock-out" system, whereby each Club plays each opponent twice, in home and away Matches. The Club that scores the highest aggregate of goals in the two Matches qualifies for the next round.

11. If, at the end of the regular time of the second Match, the two Clubs have scored the same number of goals during the two Matches, the Club which has scored the highest number of away goals qualifies for the next round.

12. If the number of away goals is also the same, the winner shall be determined by a penalty shoot-out in accordance with the Laws of the Game.

Group Phase:

13. The sixteen Clubs which qualify for the Group Phase will be divided in four groups of four each. The groups will be determined by means of a draw based on CAF's clubs ranking as determined by the Committee based on the results of the Clubs' participation in the five (5) previous editions of the CAF Inter-clubs Competitions.

14. Each Club shall be invited to designate a representative to attend the Group Phase draw. Should a representative fail to attend, the Committee shall nevertheless proceed with the draw at the scheduled date.

15. The Group Phase Matches shall be played in accordance with the calendar established by the Committee. In all Group Phase Matches, the following points shall be granted:
    3 points for a win
    1 point for a draw
    0 point for a loss

16. If two Clubs within a group are equal on points at the conclusion of the Group Phase, the following criteria are applied, in this order, to determine their rankings:

    16.1 Higher number of points obtained in the Matches between the two Clubs in question;

    16.2 The best goal difference in the Matches played between the two Clubs in question;

    16.3 Highest number of away goals scored in the direct encounters between the two Clubs in question;

    16.4 The overall goal difference in all group Matches.

    16.5 Highest number of goals scored in all group Matches

    16.6 A Lower total disciplinary points, based solely on yellow and red cards received by Players and Club Officials in the group Matches (red card = 3 points, yellow card = 1 point, expulsion for two yellow cards in one Match = 3 points); or

    16.7 A draw conducted by the Committee.

17. If more than two Clubs within a group are equal on points at the conclusion of the Group Phase, the following criteria are applied, in this order, to determine their rankings:

    17.1 Higher number of points obtained in the Matches played between the Clubs in question.

17.2 The best goal difference in the Matches played between the Clubs in question.

17.3 Highest number of goals scored in the Matches played between the Clubs in question.

17.4 Highest number of away goals scored in the Matches played between the Clubs in question.

17.5 A lower total disciplinary points in the Matches played between the Clubs in question based solely on yellow and red cards received by Players and Club Officials during the group Matches (red card = 3 points, yellow card = 1 point, expulsion for two yellow cards in one Match = 3 points)

17.6 If, after applying criteria 18.1 to 18.5, two Clubs are still tied, criteria 17.1 to 17.5 shall be reapplied exclusively to Matches played between the two Clubs in question to determine their final ranking. If this procedure does not resolve the tie, the criteria 17.7 to 17.11 shall be applied in the order listed below.

17.7 Highest goal difference in all group Matches.

17.8 Highest number of goals scored in all group Matches.

17.9 Highest number of away goals scored in all group Matches.

17.10 A lower total of disciplinary points in all group Matches, based solely on yellow and red cards received by Players and Club Officials (red card = 3 points, yellow card = 1 point, expulsion for two yellow cards in one Match = 3 points)

17.11 A draw conducted by the Committee.

18. The four group winners and the four runners-up shall qualify for the quarterfinals. Clubs from the same group shall not be drawn against each other in the quarterfinals.

19. The group winners shall face the runners-up from other groups in the quarterfinals. A draw shall be conducted to determine the quarterfinal pairings, as well as the matchups for the semifinals and the final.

20. The runners-up in each group shall play the first leg of the quarterfinal on their home ground.

21. The quarterfinals, the semifinals and the final shall be played over two legs, home and away. The Club that scores the highest aggregate number of goals in the two Matches will qualify to the next round or be declared champion, respectively.

22. In case of equality of goals scored during the two Matches, the team that has scored the highest number of away goals will qualify to the next round.

23. In case of equality of away goals scored, the winner is determined by a penalty shoot-out in accordance with the Laws of the Game.

24. All operations and organisational aspects of the second leg of the final are stipulated in Annexe A of the Regulations. An additional document containing further organisational requirements and financial obligations may be communicated to the host Member Association once the finalist Clubs are determined.

25. All Matches shall be played in accordance with these Regulations and with the Laws of the Game.

IV. ENTRIES

1. All Member Associations may enter one representative Club to the Competition, which must be the winner of their top domestic championship.

2. The 12 Member Associations obtaining the best results in the CAF Inter-clubs Competitions during the previous five years are allowed to register, in addition to the winner of their top domestic championship, a second Club, which must be the runner-up of their top domestic championship.

3. In case the winner of a Member Association's top domestic championship refuses or is otherwise ineligible to participate in the Competition, the Committee reserves the right to accept the runner-up of said top domestic championship, subject to an application submitted in accordance with the applicable regulations of the Member Association and/or the Regulations.

4. For Member Associations with a right to enter two Clubs, i.e., the winner and runner-up of their top domestic championship, in case both Clubs refuse or are otherwise ineligible to participate in the Competition, the Committee reserves the right to accept the next ranked Clubs in the top domestic league of said Member Association, subject to an application submitted in accordance with the applicable regulations of the Member Association and/or the Regulations.

5. If the winner of a Member Association's top domestic league is also the title holder of the CAF Confederation Cup and wishes to defend its continental title, the Committee may accept the entry of the Club that finished second in the top domestic league of such Member Association subject to an application submitted by the concerned Member Association. In this case, the Member Associations having the right to enter two Clubs in the Competition are allowed to enter the Club that finished third in their top domestic league.

6. A Member Association may enter a maximum of two Clubs into the Competition. The defending champion of the Competition does not count as an additional Club. If the

Member Association is entitled to enter only one Club, only the title holder of the Competition may participate.

7. If the Member Association is allowed to enter two Clubs into the Competition and the defending champion is also the champion of its top domestic championship, the runner-up of said championship may be entered to the Competition alongside the title holder. In this case, the third-placed Club is not eligible to enter into the Competition.

8. If the defending champion of the Competition is the domestic league runner-up, both the title holder and the winner of the top domestic championship may participate. The third-placed Club remains ineligible to enter into the Competition.

9. If the defending champion of the Competition is neither the winner nor runner-up of the domestic top championship, only the title holder of the Competition and the winner of the top domestic championship may be entered. The runner-up is not eligible in this scenario.

10. If for any reason, the top domestic championship of a Member Association did not take place, the Member Association in question has the right to enter the same Club(s) as in the previous edition of the Competition.

11. If for any reason, the top domestic championship of a Member Association did not conclude at the time of the deadline of engagement, the Member Association concerned may submit its engagement criteria to the Organizing Committee for examination and approval. The Organizing Committee of the Interclubs Competitions shall have the sole and exclusive authority to approve the engagement.

12. If for any reason, the top domestic championship of a Member Association was stopped for more than a year, the Member Association in question cannot enter any Club in the Competition, unless it obtains approval from the Committee.

13. Applications not submitted in accordance with the foregoing provisions shall not be considered and the Member Association concerned forfeits the right to enter a Club in the Competition.

14. Any Member Association wishing to enter a Club in the Competition shall submit an application to the CAF General Secretary accompanied by the admission fee of USD 300 (Three Hundred United States Dollars) to be paid in to CAF.

15. The application must reach CAF through the Competition Management System (CMS) no later than the 30th of June of the year of the start of the Competition.

16. An application to enter a Club in the Competition must include:

    a) The name of the Club.
    b) The logo of the Club.
    c) The colours of the Club and their order.

d) The official classification of the top domestic championship of the Member Association which has led to the qualification of the applicant Club.
e) A list of the names of a maximum of 40 Players and their local license numbers validated by the Member Association, in accordance with the provisions of the present Regulations.
f) Proof of the license issued to the Club to participate in the CAF Inter-club Competitions in accordance with CAF Club Licensing Regulations
g) A statement confirming that the coach of the Club has obtained a CAF coaching license. A coach who does not have a CAF coaching license shall not be allowed to sit on the bench during the Matches.
h) Official email address of the Club as well as a contact person to whom all communications related to the Competition will be sent.
i) The applicant Club's bank account details.

17. Subject to all eligibility requirements being met, the champion of the Competition automatically qualifies for the following edition of the Competition.

18. Refusal to participate in the Competition shall carry the following sanctions:
    - Prohibition to participate in any CAF Inter-clubs Competition for a period of two years.
    - A fine equivalent to 10% of the prize money allocated to the previous edition of the Competition as per CAF's agreed scheme.

19. Matters related to engagements not provided for under the present chapter shall be decided by the Committee.

V. REGISTRATION AND QUALIFICATION OF PLAYERS

1. Each Club must register their Players and officials on CAF's online Competition Management System (CMS) using their account or that of the Member Association to which the Club belongs. The profile of the Player on the CAF CMS system must be approved by the Member Association, failure of which will result in the registration being incomplete. The following information must be provided for each Player and Official:
    - Number of the jersey of the Player.
    - Nationality of the Player.
    - The complete name of the Player as it appears in his official national identity documents.
    - The name of the Player as it appears on his jersey.
    - The complete date of birth of the Player (day, month, year) as it appears in his official national identity documents.
    - Preferred position of the Player on the pitch (goalkeeper, defender, midfielder or attacker).
    - Confirmation from a doctor that the Player is medically fit to practice competitive football.
    - The name and country of the last Club in which the Player was registered during the previous season.

- The Player's ITC (International Transfer Certificate) in case the country of the Player's last Club is different from the current one.
- The number and the date of registration of the Player's license in his own Member Association.
- A clear photograph of the Player.

2. Clubs will bear the legal consequences for fielding a player who has not been properly registered or who is otherwise not eligible to play.

3. The CAF Secretariat will communicate the dates and the deadlines of registration by circular letter and reserve the right to modify such deadlines at any time. In principle, there will be a registration period for the following rounds allowing Players to participate with their Clubs as of each round:
    a. First Preliminary Round.
    b. Second Preliminary Round.
    c. Group Phase.
    d. Knock-out Stage.

4. Each Club can have a maximum of 40 Players registered (with a minimum of 3 goalkeepers) at any point during the Competition. Clubs may register, deregister or replace any number of Players during each of the registration periods.

5. A Player may play in the Competition for a maximum of two Clubs in the course of the same season. In that case, the Player in question will be deregistered from the list of Players of his previous Club. As an exception, a Player can only play for one Club in the following rounds:

    - The Preliminary Rounds;
    - The Group Phase; and
    - Between the quarterfinals and the final.

6. Each Player must be assigned a jersey number ranging from 1 to 40 which they must keep throughout the Competition. If a Player is registered with a new Club during the Competition, his new Club can assign him a different jersey number. During the registration periods, Clubs may amend the jersey numbers of Players that have not been fielded. A Player is considered to have been fielded if he enters the pitch during a Match.

7. In case a Player has been loaned out to a Club and returns to his original Club, he must be assigned the same jersey number he was assigned before his loan in case he was fielded in any of his original Club's Matches.

8. In order to be registered with a new Club within the Competition, a player must be duly registered with his Member Association in accordance with the Member Association's rules and those of the FIFA Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players. This must occur before the relevant registration period of the Competition closes.

9. CAF will send to the Member Association the list of approved Players of each Club after the closure of each registration period.

10. Before each Match, each Club must indicate in the start list the names of the 11 Players who will commence the Match and up to nine substitutes. Up to five of the substitutes may take part in the Match. A Player who has been substituted may take no further part in the Match.

11. If any of the 11 starting Players indicated in the start list are not able to begin the Match due to injury or illness, they may be replaced by any of the substitutes as long as the Match Commissioner or General Coordinator is officially informed thereof prior to kick-off. The new substitute who is replacing the injured player is not replaced by another substitute. The Club concerned must also provide CAF with a medical report issued by the team doctor within 24 hours after the Match.

12. Any injured or ill Player who is removed from the start list will no longer be eligible to take part in the Match. Such a change to the start list will not reduce the number of substitutions that may be made by a Club during the Match. Although no longer eligible to play as a substitute, the injured or ill player who was removed from the start list before kick-off may be seated on the substitutes' bench.

13. A Club failing to have at least seven eligible registered Players at the end of each registration period, shall be automatically disqualified from the Competition.

VI. EQUIPMENT

1. Applicable regulations:

Unless specified otherwise in these Regulations, the CAF Kit Regulations shall apply to all Matches in the Competition, particularly:

- During any activities in the stadium the day before the Match.
- At any official training session before the Match.
- During any media activities (in particular for interviews, press conferences and appearances in the mixed zone) the day before the Match, and throughout Matchday until the departure of the Clubs from the stadiums.

By way of exception, the domestic equipment regulations of each Club's Member Association apply to all Matches in the Preliminary Rounds, provided that the sponsor advertising on the playing attire complies with the CAF Kit Regulations and the playing attire has been approved for and worn in domestic competition Matches.

2. Playing Attire sponsors:
   - Starting from the Group Phase, only the approved sponsors may appear on attire.
   - Clubs may change their attire sponsors during the season as follows:

- A Club that participates in the First Phase may change each attire sponsor no more than twice during the same CAF season and only once from the beginning of the Group Phase.
- A Club that qualifies directly for the Group Phase may change each attire sponsor only once during the same CAF Champions League season.

- Starting the Competition without a sponsor but subsequently using one is not considered as a change of sponsor.
- A change regarding the content of sponsor advertising is considered to be a change of sponsor, even if the sponsor remains the same.

If a Club wants to change its attire sponsor, it must submit a request to CAF Secretariat, addressed to the commercial department, at least seven working days prior to the first Match in which it wishes to use the new sponsor, accompanied by the items defined in the CAF Kit Regulations.

3. Non-Playing Attire Sponsors:

- Starting from the Preliminary Rounds, non-playing attire worn by Players and Club officials may contain sponsor advertising and manufacturer identification in accordance with the CAF Kit Regulations.
- Starting from the Preliminary Rounds, all additional special equipment, such as kit bags, medical bags, drink containers, blankets, towels, etc. must be free of any manufacturer identification or sponsor advertising unless indicated otherwise in the CAF Kit Regulations.

VII. PLAYERS JERSEYS

1. Each Club must wear a jersey showing the colours registered by the Club on the Competition Management System (CMS).

2. If, in the opinion of the referee, the jerseys of the two opposing Clubs may cause a visual clash, the visiting Club shall be required to change jerseys. Should the clash persist, the host Club will be asked to change jerseys.

3. If the Match is played in a neutral country, Club B (visiting Club) shall be required to change jerseys. Should the clash persist, Club A (host Club) will be asked to change jerseys.

4. Every Club must have at least two extra available jerseys, the colours of which are materially different to those in the originally registered jersey.

5. The jerseys of the Players must be numbered from 1 to 40 with the number 1 exclusively assigned to a goalkeeper. The jerseys' numbers must be identical to the numbers indicated on the Players' licenses and this for the whole duration of the competition. The names on the Players' jerseys must be identical to their names or popular names registered on CMS.

6. Advertisement is permitted on the Players' kits, during the Preliminary Rounds, provided that such advertisement is (i) allowed by the country in which the Match is being played and (ii) complies with the CAF Kit Regulations.

7. The visiting Club must always travel with two sets of kits one having advertisements on it and one totally free from advertisements.

8. Starting from the Group Phase, Clubs shall not be authorized to wear publicity on jerseys during any Match of the Competition as per the CAF Kit Regulations, unless authorized by the CAF Secretariat.

9. Decorative elements on the jerseys may not portray or give the impression of a person's face or identity, or the shape of a country or territory.

VIII. DISCIPLINARY MEASURES

1. The provisions of the CAF Disciplinary Code apply to all disciplinary offences committed by Clubs, Officials, Member Associations or other individuals exercising a function at a Match on behalf of a Member Association or Club, unless the present Regulations stipulate otherwise.

2. A Player who receives three cautions in three separate Matches shall be automatically suspended for the subsequent Match in any CAF Inter-clubs Competitions. This automatic suspension shall be communicated by the CAF Secretariat to the concerned Member Association.

3. If the same Player receives three additional cautions in three separate Matches or is sent off later in the same Competition, he will be suspended for the two subsequent Matches in any CAF Inter-clubs Competitions.

4. At the end of the Group Stage, the cautions that do not lead to a suspension are cancelled.

5. A Player who is sent off is automatically suspended for the subsequent Match of the any CAF Inter-clubs Competitions, without prejudice to further sanctions the Disciplinary Board may impose on him subsequently.

6. Between two sessions of the Committee, the General Secretary, in consultation with the President of the Disciplinary Board, is empowered to impose disciplinary measures on all incidents registered on the official Match reports, before, during or after the Match, and this in conformity with the regulations of the competitions and CAF Disciplinary Code.

7. A Player who is sent off in three separate Matches or has received nine cautions in nine separate Matches within a season is automatically suspended from all the remaining Matches within said season, without prejudice to further sanctions the Disciplinary Board may impose upon him subsequently.

8. In case of serious violations, the guilty Player may be suspended not only from the Competition, but also from all the competitions organized by CAF.

9. Before every Match, the CAF Secretariat shall communicate to the Match commissioners and referees the name(s) of the suspended Player(s). In this case, the suspended Player(s) shall be prohibited from taking part in the Match. This prohibition shall be declared by the commissioner and/or the referees designated by CAF. Defaulting commissioner and/or the referees shall be sanctioned by CAF in accordance with the applicable regulations.

10. Notwithstanding the above provision, each Club remains solely responsible for ensuring that all Players fielded in a Match are eligible. The Club and Member Associations shall bear all legal consequences resulting from the fielding of an ineligible Player.

11. Any Club found by the Disciplinary board to have committed or attempted fraud concerning a Player's identity, or to have fielded an ineligible Player shall forfeit the Match in question and be disqualified from the Competition.

12. A Club Official who receives two cautions shall be automatically suspended from the subsequent match of any CAF Inter-clubs Competitions. This automatic suspension shall be communicated by the Secretariat to the concerned Member Association.

IX. MATCH OFFICIALS

1. Referees and assistant referees:

    a. The referees and assistant referees designated for the Competition must be on the most recent list of international referees and assistant referees established by FIFA.

    b. The Referees Committee designates by name one referee, two assistant referees and one reserve referee (all neutral) to officiate the Matches of the Competition. CAF reserves the exclusive right to appoint VAR Referees, Assistant VAR Referees, and Video Support Operators for any match of the competition.

    c. The reserve referee shall be a neutral referee appearing on the international referees list of FIFA. The reserve referee may be an international neutral assistant referee or an international assistant referee from the host Member Association but designated by the Referees Committee.

    d. If the designated referee is absent or becomes unfit before or during a Match, he shall be replaced by the neutral reserve referee or the neutral reserve assistant referee.

    e. If the reserve referee is from the host Member Association, the referee shall be replaced by the first neutral assistant referee and the 2nd assistant referee will become the 1st assistant referee and the reserve referee from the host Member Association will become 2nd assistant referee. In this particular case, an assistant referee from the host Member Association figuring on its list of international referees will be designated as a reserve referee for the Match.

f. The host Member Association shall inform the appointed Match referee and assistant referees of the venue, date and kick-off time of the Match, within the time limits provided in the Regulations. The host Member Association will organise the trip of the appointed Match referee and assistant referees, as well as their stay in the country. It shall also put at their disposal a car for their local transportation. The host Member Association must provide this car to the Match officials from the day of their arrival until the day of their departure.

g. The host Member Association will make sure that the Prepaid Ticket Advice (PTAs) are sent to the Match officials. The PTAs must be endorsable and must reach the officials of the Match at least 14 days prior to the Match. The Match referees and assistant referees are obliged to use the PTAs which the host Member Association has provided to them. The Match referees and assistant referees are in no case allowed to purchase their own airplane tickets and ask the host Member Association for a refund. If the referees do not receive the air-plane ticket within this timeframe, the host Member Association shall be required to pay a fine of three thousand US Dollars (USD 3,000).

h. If the PTAs are sent on time by the host Member Association and the designated referees fail to travel, a fine will be imposed upon the Member Association to which the designated referees belong.

i. Any Member Association that sends PTAs to the referees must inform the Member Association to which the referees belong of the dispatch of the PTAs.

j. In the event of the absence of the designated referees, the visiting Club shall be required to extend its stay in the host city for up to 72 hours from the scheduled kick-off time. In such a case, the host Member Association shall be responsible for arranging substitute referees from a neutral neighbouring Member Association. The arrival of the international referees must occur early enough to allow the Match to be played within the 72-hour period.

k. If within said 72-hour timeframe, neither the designated referees nor those from the neighbouring Member Association arrive at the Match venue and if the visiting Club is accompanied by an international referee, that referee shall officiate the Match with the assistance of two assistant referees and a fourth official selected from the FIFA international referees list, as designated by the host Member Association.

l. Subject to the consent of the visiting Club, the Match can be played at the hour initially scheduled or before the end of the 72 hours under the refereeing of an international referee and assistant referees designated by the host Member Association.

m. Any expenses incurred because of extended stay of the visiting Club at the venue of the Match following the absence or late arrival of the referees, shall be borne by the host Member Association.

n. If it is established that the absence of the designated referees was the fault of the host Member Association, the host Club shall forfeit the Match by 2 goals to zero and shall be eliminated from the Competition, regardless of the result obtained on the field.

o. A Member Association that, on its own initiative, replaces referees or assistant referees designated by CAF, except in cases provided for in these Regulations, shall be subject to sanctions, and its Club shall forfeit the relevant Match.

p. The referees must send to CAF Secretariat within 6 hours following the end of the Match by express mail or by using the software of the competition management system (CMS) the detailed Match report on the specific form provided by CAF.

q. The referees' report must mention the protests, if any, as well as any incidents that occurred during the Match, including the names of the Players who were cautioned or sent-off. The protests lodged in accordance with the present Regulations must be brought to the immediate knowledge of CAF by any written means after the end of the Match.

r. Starting from the quarterfinals, CAF will issue and send PTAs of the referees, assistant referee and fourth official. CAF will then deduct the cost of these PTAs from the prize money of the Clubs.

2. Match Commissioner:

a. A Match Commissioner designated by the CAF Secretariat must be present to supervise each Match. He is entitled to a place in the first row of the main tribune.

b. On the eve of the Match or in the morning of Matchday, the Match Commissioner must convene a consultative meeting (technical meeting) of the officials of both Clubs who must include at least one representative from each Member Association to whom the two Clubs belong, with the referees designated for the Match. This will be a consultative meeting aimed at underlining and clarifying the main points of the rules governing the Competition and ensuring the fulfilment of all the conditions necessary for the proper completion of the Match (supervision, stay of the referees and the visiting Club, proper qualification of the referees on the FIFA list, licenses of the Players). In the absence of the regular referees designated by CAF, the Match Commissioner will ensure that the provisions of the present Regulations are complied with and will have the Match played in accordance with the provisions of the rules. No minutes will be taken of this consultative meeting. Any protest will be noted by the Match Commissioner in his report.

c. A protest presented by a Club not accompanied by a representative of the Member Association to whom the Club in question belongs, will not be taken into consideration by the Match Commissioner. The Match Commissioner must require during this pre-Match meeting, the presence in the stadium of a representative of each Member Association to which the opposing Clubs belong.

d. In the absence of the Match Commissioner, the referee designated to officiate the Match will preside over the meeting stipulated for in this present article.

e. In the case of the absence of the General Coordinator, the Match Commissioner will attend the pre-Match formalities in the dressing rooms. He may, if he deems it necessary, go back to the dressing rooms during the half-time recess or after the Match.

f. The responsibility of ascertaining the regularity of the field's dimensions and practicability, of ascertaining the regular strength of the electric lights for nocturnal Matches and of verifying the Players' licenses is exclusively that of the referee. The referee and his assistants are the only persons to control all procedures concerning the substitution of Players during the Match.

g. The Match Commissioner may, if he deems it necessary for the security of the referees or the visiting Club, decide not to have the Match played until his conditions and instructions are carried out. Once the Match has started, it is exclusively the prerogative of the referee to suspend or end the Match for any of the reasons stipulated in the Laws of the Game.

h. If any protest concerning one of the articles of these regulations is submitted by one of the two Clubs to the Match Commissioner before the start of the Match, he must try to reconcile conflicting points of view within the framework of the Regulations. If, however, he does not succeed, he will register the protest on the appropriate forms and will make sure that the Match is played in accordance with the provisions of these Regulations, in accordance with the interpretation given by the Match Commissioner.

i. The Match Commissioner will make a full assessment of the Match, for instance, without limitation: performance of the referees, fair play, behaviour of the public and eventual incidents. However, evaluating the performance of the referees is the responsibility of the Referees' Inspector when the latter is designated by CAF.

j. After the end of the Match, the Match Commissioner must send to CAF Secretariat within 6 hours following the end of the Match by any written means or by using the software of the competition management system (CMS) the detailed report on the specific form provided by CAF. In case the Match Commissioner is absent, this duty shall be incumbent upon the referee.

k. The Match Commissioners who are designated must, as soon as they receive the notification of their designation, confirm to CAF their acceptance to carry out their assignment.

l. If the Match Commissioners are later prevented for any reason, from attending the Match, they must promptly inform CAF by any written means so as to provide sufficient time for a replacement designation. In case of force majeure, the Match Commissioner must send by any written means his apologies both to the Secretariat and the host Member Association.

m. The absence of the Match Commissioner cannot constitute an obstacle to the Match taking place at the scheduled date and time. The Match Commissioner cannot be replaced except by decision of CAF and in such circumstances the Committee's decisions shall be based on the referee's Match report.

n. The host Member Association must inform the designated Match Commissioner of the date, venue of the Match and kick off time at the same time as when it informs CAF in accordance with the time limits provided in these Regulations. It shall organise his trip, his stay and transport facilities until his departure. It shall ensure that an endorsable airplane ticket is provided to him at least 14 days before the Match.

o. If the Match Commissioner does not receive the airplane ticket within the time limit mentioned above he will be authorized to purchase his air-plane ticket in order to travel to the venue of the Match. In this case, the host Member Association must pay to CAF a fine of three thousand United States Dollars (USD 3,000) as well as to refund to the Match Commissioner the cost of the ticket in addition to, his expenses and a daily indemnity at a rate fixed by the relevant CAF scheme.

p. If the absence of the Match Commissioner is due to a failure from the host Member Association to comply with its obligations provided in the Regulations:

    a) No protest submitted by the Host Member Association shall be taken into consideration.
    b) The host Member Association shall pay to CAF a fine of five thousand United States Dollars (USD 5,000) without prejudice to any further sanction which may be imposed by the CAF Disciplinary board.

q. The Match Commissioners shall not make any declarations to the press while exercising their functions during a Match.

3. The Referees' Inspector:

    a. CAF may appoint Referees' Inspectors to evaluate the performance of the referees in the Matches of the Competition.

    b. After the end of the Match, the referee inspector must send to CAF Secretariat within 48 hours following the Match by any written means,

including by the competition management system (CMS) a detailed report on the specific form provided by CAF.

2. The General Coordinator:

   a. The CAF Secretariat reserves the right to designate, starting from the Group Stage, General Coordinators. These General Coordinators shall be responsible of all the aspects related to the security of the Match when CAF does not designate a Security Officer and to the correct observance of the publicity and television contracts signed by CAF when CAF does not designate a marketing and/or TV officer.

   b. The General Coordinator designated by CAF must also assist the Match commissioner to ensure the good organization and the correct development of the Match.

   c. He is primarily responsible for: ensuring the compliance with the rules of the reception and the residence of the Clubs and the officials, ensure the respect of CAF's commercial rights and to ensure that the fixed timings and protocol of the Match are respected.

   d. After the end of the Match, the General Coordinator must send to CAF Secretariat within 6 hours after the end of the Match by any written means or by using the software of the competition management system (CMS) the detailed report on the specific form provided by CAF.

6. The Security Officer:

   a. The Security Officer is designated by CAF to oversee the security in the stadium under the authority of the Match Commissioner. Member Associations should assist him and invite the persons in charge of the stadiums and security to work with him.

   b. After the end of the Match, the Security Officer must send to CAF Secretariat within 48 hours after the end of the Match by any written means or by using the software of the competition management system (CMS) the detailed report on the specific form provided by CAF.

X. REQUIREMENTS AND ORGANIZATIONAL ASPECTS

1. A Member Association that enters a Club in the Competition undertakes to:
   1.1 Ensure that all CAF Stakeholders and the members of Member Associations shall obtain entry visas and certificates of registration necessary for their stay.
   1.2 Ensure that the flight of the visiting Club / Member Association receives all necessary permits and approvals to take off and to land in the country of the host Member Association / Club, at least 2 weeks prior to the date of the Match, provided that the visiting Club / Member Association has

communicated its flight details and itinerary early enough to allow the host to obtain such permits and approvals. Failure to comply with this provision, where the flight details were communicated early enough, shall result in sanctions by the Disciplinary Board.

1.3 Ensure that the Statutes, Rules and Disciplinary Code of CAF as well as CAF Regulations on the Club Licensing system procedure are respected.

1.4 Ensure that the engagements formally taken by the Member Association are considered as accepted by its government.

2. The host Member Association is entitled to play its home Match in the capital of the country or in any other city. In this case, the transport of the visiting Club from the capital to the city designated for the Match and back shall be borne by the host Member Association.

3. All Matches must be played in a stadium homologated or authorized by CAF as per the stadium requirements of the Competition. Violations to this provision shall be sanctioned by the Disciplinary board pursuant to the CAF Disciplinary Code.

4. If the distance between the capital city and the venue of the Match is superior to 200 kilometres, the host Member Association shall provide the visitors with air transportation to the venue of the Match and back. If this is not possible, the Match shall be played in the capital city of the host Member Association except by agreement between the two Clubs. The CAF Secretariat shall have the right to grant exceptions to transport the Club by road for distances up to 300 Kilometres.

5. By agreement between the two concerned Member Associations, the two Matches in the same country.

6. If there is an international airport in the city where the Match is to be played, or within a distance of less than 200 kilometres and the visiting Club wishes to land directly at that airport, the host Member Association shall be responsible for facilitating the entry formalities.

7. The Matches shall be played in daylight or under floodlights.

8. The Matches cannot start before 14 hours or after 22 hours local time unless authorised by the Committee.

9. Venue, Day and Kick-off:

9.1 The place, date (Friday, Saturday or Sunday) and the kick-off time of the First Preliminary Round Matches are set by the host Member Association which shall inform the CAF Secretariat, the opposing Club, the referees and the Commissioner at least twenty-one (21) days prior to the Match. After this deadline, the kick-off time, Match Day, and venue cannot be altered unless an agreement between the two Clubs is communicated to CAF, or if CAF decides otherwise. Failure to adhere to this provision will result in the Committee imposing the Match Day and kick-off time. Non-compliance with

this measure will result in a fine of two thousand United States Dollars (USD 2,000).

9.2 The place, date (Friday, Saturday or Sunday) and the time of kick-off time of the Second Preliminary Round Matches are set by the host Member Association which shall inform the CAF Secretariat, the opposing Club, the referees and the Commissioner at least fourteen (14) days prior to the Match. After this deadline, neither the kick-off time, the day of the Match nor the Match venue can be changed except if there is an agreement between the two Clubs communicated to CAF. If this provision is not respected, the Committee will impose the day and the kick-off time of the Match concerned. Failure to comply with this measure will result in sanctions imposed by the Disciplinary Board.

9.3 The place, date and the kick-off time of the Group Matches, quarterfinals, semifinals and final are fixed by the Committee, after consulting the host Member Associations. Once CAF notifies relevant Match's information, no change is accepted except if there is an exceptional and justifiable reason approved by the Committee.

9.4 The Committee can fix the dates of Matches on any day of the week.

10. Notifications of the dates of arrival of the Clubs:

10.1 The Member Association of the visiting Club is required to notify the host Member Association and CAF of its arrival time and the name of the hotel where its Players and Officials will be staying as follows:

a. For the First Preliminary Round Matches: at least two weeks prior to the date set for the Match
b. For the Second Preliminary Round Matches: at least one week prior to the date set for the Match.
c. For the Group Phase Matches: at least two weeks prior to the date set for the Match
d. For the quarterfinals, semifinals and finals: at least 10 days prior to the date set for the Match.

10.2 Failure to comply with the above time limits will result in sanctions being imposed by the Disciplinary board.

10.3 It is the duty of the visiting Club to organise its travel arrangements in a way that permits it to arrive in the venue of the Match at a reasonable time ahead of the scheduled date of the Match. The Clubs must arrange for their teams to arrive on-site no later than 48 hours prior to the start of the Match concerned. They assume all responsibility in case of any unforeseen events, such as flight delays.

11. The CAF Secretariat can at any moment amend the dates, the kick-off times or the venues of the Matches.

12. During the finals of the Competition, the CAF Refereeing Committee shall appoint Match officials from a neutral zone that does not correspond to the regional zones of either of the two finalist Clubs.

13. Except by special authorization from the Committee, the Group Phase Matches, the quarterfinals and the semifinals must be played in the biggest stadium of the capital or of the city to which the Clubs belong.

14. As of the Group Phase, if the Member Association of a Club cannot guarantee the presence of spectators at the Match venue for any reason, or if the Club in question is required to play behind closed doors, the CAF Secretariat reserves its right to relocate the Match to another venue whereby spectators will be allowed to attend the Match in question.

15. When a pitch in the capital city is prevented from hosting Matches and a Member Association is therefore obliged to organise a Match in another city, the following conditions must be met:

    15.1 Satisfactory means of transportation for the visiting Club, and CAF officials either by air or by road, must be ensured according to the Regulations. The transportation fees shall be borne by the host Member Association.
    15.2 Travel must be made at least one day before the day of the Match and at a reasonable time of the day, unless the visiting Club arrives late.
    15.3 The Match Commissioners have a responsibility to ensure the implementation of the above provisions by the host Member Association.

16. Except the two Member Associations agree otherwise, each delegation shall not exceed 29 persons, including twenty (20) Players and nine (9) officials. Only nine (9) substitutes and seven (7) officials per Club are allowed to sit on the bench during the Match.

17. Fifteen (15) additional technical overflow seats in the stands shall be allocated for extra Officials and Players who are not sitting on the bench providing technical support to the Club during the Match (kit manager, assistant physiotherapist, etc.). Staff occupying such seats shall have access to the dressing rooms with a valid accreditation.

18. The following organizational minimum conditions must be respected:

    18.1. Reception at the Airport: A committee of Officials from the host Member Association shall be present at the airport to welcome the visiting Club and facilitate all entry formalities into the country. The visiting Club must comply with the applicable laws regarding entry visas and vaccination certificates. An Official of the host Member Association who preferably speaks the language of the visiting Club shall be assigned to accompany the Club throughout its stay and act as a liaison between the club and the host Member Association. The security services of the host country must guarantee the safety of the visiting Club until its departure.

18.2. Assisting the visiting Club on its departure: the Officials of the host Member Association should escort the visiting Club to the airport and should facilitate for them all formalities regarding their departure.

18.3. Transport facilities: One bus for the Players and one car for the Officials will be put at the disposal of the visiting Club from the time of their arrival to that of their departure. Any additional vehicles are subject to an agreement between the two Member Associations. These will be used to transport the visiting Club to and from the airport, the training sites and the Match venue. The shortest routes to said venues shall be used.

18.4. Accommodation: The visiting Member Association is responsible for organizing the accommodation of its Club. The host Member Association is obliged to assist the visiting Club with the reservation of the rooms. The host Member Association shall provide hotels that meet the CAF standards and any other facilities that CAF may require to be made available for the visiting Club.

Training facilities: A pitch with the same type of grass (natural or artificial turf) of the Match venue will be provided for the training of the visiting Club and will be put at their disposal at least 3 days prior to the Match. The pitch on which the Match itself will be played must be put at the disposal of the visiting Club for one training session of sixty minutes on the eve of the Match at the time fixed for kick-off. The appointed CAF officials have the right to cancel the training session depending on the condition of the pitch.

18.5. The referees' team may train at the Match stadium one day before the Match provided that the pitch conditions permit.

18.6. In case of the Match is to be played on artificial turf, the visiting Club shall have the right to two training sessions on that pitch, one of which must take place one day prior to the Match, at the same time as the scheduled kick-off time. The CAF Official will ensure that this clause is respected.

18.7. The date and time of the training session can be rescheduled by the CAF Secretariat.

18.8. In case the visiting Club requests additional training sessions, reasonable training facilities that meet the CAF standards and situated not more than 30 minutes or 30 kilometres from the accommodation of the visiting Club shall be provided by the host Member Association.

18.9. The Matches must be played on natural grass or on artificial turf. When a Match is to be played on artificial turf, the pitches must meet the FIFA standards for artificial turf or the International Artificial Turf Standard except in case of a special exception granted by CAF.

18.10. Security Measures: The police service of the host Member Association must ensure the security of all Players and Officials of the Clubs as well as all the Officials designated by CAF. It is the responsibility of the police service to prohibit any invasion of the field, any attack against the Players and/or officials inside and outside the stadium.

18.11. Accommodation of the Match Officials: they must be accommodated in a high standard hotel other than the one reserved for the two Clubs.

18.12. Any host Member Association which does not provide the visiting Club, and the Officials designated by CAF with the facilities established above, it will be obliged to refund the expenses incurred by the visiting Club, and the Officials designated by CAF. In addition, the CAF Disciplinary Board may impose any appropriate sanctions on the host Member Association.

18.13. In case of recidivism, the Member Association in breach may be excluded from the competitions organised by CAF.

18.14. All the Matches are organised by the host Member Association, for CAF and on behalf of CAF. The following procedure must be followed in every Match:

18.14.1. The two Clubs, the referees and the Match Commissioner must be present in the dressing room at least 90 minutes before kick-off time.

18.14.2. The verification of the Players' licenses is carried out inside the dressing rooms by the 4th official and General Coordinator or by the 4th official and Match Commissioner in the absence of the General Coordinator.

18.14.3. The host Club is entitled to pick its preferred dressing room. The keys of the dressing rooms shall be given to the Officials of each Club. The Clubs must enter into the dressing rooms during the half-time recess. The Players are not allowed to remain on the ground or around it during the half-time break except the Players present on the pitch for warm-up. As for the team benches, Club A must use the bench on the left and Club B must use the bench on the right looking down from the VIP Tribune.

18.14.4. The Players, accompanied by nine officials whose names are registered on the start list, shall come out of the dressing rooms preceded by the Match Commissioner (in the absence of the General Coordinator) and the referees. Upon invitation from the referee of the Match, the main and the substitute Players as well as their coach and one Official must stand in line in front of the official tribune, 15 minutes before kick-off.

18.14.5. A pre-Match ceremony must be performed before every Match as follows: CAF Flag and Celebrate Africa Flags shall enter the pitch in front of the referees and Clubs while the CAF anthem is being played. Failure to abide by those guidelines may carry a sanction.

18.14.6. The Players and their Officials must keep their places until the end of the pre-Match ceremony. No other person is allowed to accompany the Clubs at their exit from the dressing rooms. The flag-bearers and the fans are not allowed to enter the area around the field of play.

18.14.7. The Match Commissioner welcomes the guest of honour and those who accompany him from the host Member Association. The Match Commissioner shall introduce the guest of honour: first to the referees, then to the visiting Club and finally to the host Club.

18.14.8. It is prohibited to play a national anthem during any Matches. A sanction shall be imposed by the Disciplinary Board in case of a breach of this rule.

18.14.9. CAF recommends that the following flags be raised during Matches:

1. The flag of FIFA.
2. The flag of CAF.
3. The flags of the countries of the two competing Clubs

18.14.10. If the guest of honour was delayed, the Players will be presented to the Match Commissioner to allow the Match to start on time.
The attention of the guest of honour shall be kindly drawn to these instructions.

18.14.11. The retrogressive, irrational practices and all other ritual ceremonies are strictly prohibited.

18.14.12. The host Member Association shall make sure that in all Matches:

1) The President, Vice-President and Honorary Presidents of CAF are seated in the official tribune on the right-hand side of the Guest of Honour, in the order of precedence in CAF.
2) The Members of the Executive Committee of CAF and/or the General Secretary of CAF who may be present at the event on an official or private capacity shall be seated in the Official Tribune.
3) CAF guests, VIPs, partners and/or sponsors shall be seated in the official tribune.

18.14.13. The order of precedence in CAF is established as per the CAF Protocol Guidelines.

18.14.14. Clubs have the obligation to show up for the ceremonial protocols. In case of disregard of this provision, the Club at fault will be fined at least ten thousand United States Dollars (USD 10,000).

18.14.15. When national mourning is declared in a country, the Matches organised in the framework of the Competition may be postponed for

a maximum of one week, upon the request of the Member Association of the host country based on a decision by the Committee in accordance with the established calendar. In such a case, the Member Association of the host country must use the most expeditious means to inform CAF, the opposing Club, the Match Commissioner and the referees.

18.14.16. In case the national mourning is declared when the visiting Club is already in the country of the host Member Association, the Match may be postponed for a maximum of 72 hours, upon the request of the Member Association of the host country.

18.14.17. The Players may wear a black armband as a sign of mourning. A one-minute silence shall be observed in memory of the deceased. The referee is responsible for this ceremony.

18.14.18. All additional expenses caused for the visiting Club and the Match Officials by the postponement shall be covered by the host Member Association.

XI. TROPHY AND MEDALS

1. The winner of the Competition will receive a replica with the same dimensions as the original trophy

2. CAF shall award the following medals to each Player of the two finalist Clubs of the Competition, with a maximum of 40 Players & 9 Officials per Club:

    - Winners: Gold Medals
    - Runners up: Silver Medals

3. Any person, physical or legal, who wishes to present a prize or an award to Players or Clubs on the occasion of the Competition, must formulate a request to CAF at least thirty (30) days prior to the starting date of the Competition. The agreement of CAF in this respect is a pre-requisite to any prize presentation.

4. The Players and Clubs taking part in the Competition cannot, under any circumstance, receive prizes or awards without the authorization of CAF, except those awarded by their Clubs or Member Associations.

5. In principle it is the President of CAF or his representative who presents the trophy and the medals to the winners of the Competition.

6. In the presence of the Head of State or his representative, the President of CAF shall invite him, on behalf of CAF, to present the trophy and medals to the winners of the Competition.

7. The President of CAF gives the medals one by one to the guest of honour for presentation to each Player.

8. When the Players appear in front of the guest of honour, the President of CAF gives the Cup to the guest of honour who will present it to the captain of the winning team.

XII. WITHDRAWAL, DISQUALIFICATION AND RENUNCIATION FROM PLAYING

1. A Member Association who enters one or more Clubs must confirm their agreement to play all the Matches of the Competition until their elimination.

2. In case of withdrawal of a Club, its Member Association shall be responsible for the financial and other consequences to be determined by the CAF Disciplinary board.

3. If a Club refuses to play or is responsible for a Match (including any penalty shoot-out) not taking place or not being played in full, the case shall be submitted to the CAF Disciplinary Board which shall take the appropriate measures, including declaring the Match forfeited by the withdrawing Club.

4. In case of withdrawal of a Club from any round decided by knockout, the opponent Club will automatically qualify for the next round.

5. If a Club withdraws after having qualified for the Group Phase, it shall be replaced by the last Club it eliminated. If a replacement is not possible, the group to which the withdrawing Club belongs shall be composed of three Clubs only.

6. If a Club withdraws after the start of the Group Phase but prior to having played half of the Group Phase Matches, the overall results of the Matches in which the withdrawing Club participated are cancelled.

7. If a Club withdraws after having played half of the Group Phase Matches, the withdrawing Club shall lose all remaining Matches by forfeit 3 goals to 0.

8. A Club that withdraws from the final shall be replaced by the Club which the withdrawing Club eliminated in the semifinal.

9. In case a Member Association or a Club is suspended by FIFA or CAF, the suspended Club shall forfeit the Match by 3 goals to 0 if the suspension is not lifted at least 7 days prior to the date of the Match.

10. In case the suspension issued by FIFA or CAF causes a Club to forfeit two Matches in the Competition, the Club shall be disqualified from the Competition and all its results in Group Phase Matches annulled. In case of knockout Matches, the opponent Club automatically qualifies to the next round.

XIII. INTERRUPTED MATCHES

1. If a Match is abandoned due to darkness before the completion of regular time, and the cause is a delay in the scheduled kick-off time, the Club representing the host Member Association shall be deemed to have forfeited the Match and shall be disqualified from the Competition.

2. If a Match is abandoned due to poor visibility before the completion of regular time, and the cause is the late arrival of the visiting Club, except in case of force majeure to be decided by the CAF Disciplinary Board, the visiting Club shall be deemed to have forfeited the Match and shall be disqualified from the Competition.

3. If a Match is abandoned before the completion of regular time due to a field invasion or acts of aggression against the visiting Club, the host Club shall be deemed to have forfeited the Match and shall be disqualified from the Competition. This is without prejudice to any additional sanctions provided for in the applicable Regulations.
4. If a Match is abandoned after kick-off for reasons due to unforeseen circumstances, and in particular for poor pitch conditions and/or bad weather conditions deemed by the referee, the following principles apply:
    - 4.1 The Match will resume at the minute at which it was interrupted (instead of being replayed in its entirety), and with the same score;
    - 4.2 The Match resumes with the same Players on the field and the same available substitutes when the game was interrupted;
    - 4.3 No additional substitutes may be added to the list of Players;
    - 4.4 The Clubs may make only the number of substitutions remaining when the Match was interrupted;
    - 4.5 Sent off Players during the interrupted Match cannot be replaced;
    - 4.6 Any sanctions imposed prior to the Match being interrupted remain in force for the remainder of the Match.
    - 4.7 The kick-off time, date and location will be decided by the CAF Secretariat.

5. If a Club refuses to take part in the rescheduled Match, it will be sanctioned in accordance with these Regulations.

6. The additional expenses of the visiting Club and the Match Officials, related to the accommodation in the host Member Association as well as internal transportation, are borne by the host Member Association. The additional expenses of the visiting Club related to the international flight tickets and transit fees are borne by the visiting Club.

7. For Matches played under floodlights, if play is interrupted due to poor visibility caused by an electrical failure, the referee shall allow a maximum delay of forty-five (45) minutes. If the issue is not resolved within this period, the referee shall terminate the Match.

8. Electrical failure shall not be considered a case of force majeure unless the aggregate score (in the case of a second leg) is not in favour of the visiting Club. In such a case, the Match shall be resumed twenty-four (24) hours later, in accordance with the procedures

outlined in these Regulations. However, if the aggregate score is in favour of the visiting Club, the host Club shall be declared the loser of the Match.

XIV. COUNTRY AT WAR / SITUATION AFFECTING THE SAFETY OF A COUNTRY

1. In the event of conflicts, war, force majeure, or internal circumstances within a country that may compromise the safety and security during a Match, the Committee may implement the following measures:

   In two-leg matches (home and away):

   a) If the case concerns only one country, the Member Association will play its home Match on a pitch in another country, or a single game will be played on the opponent's pitch. Where appropriate, the Committee will determine the Match venue.
   b) If this case involves two countries, the Match will be played on neutral ground.

   In Group Phase Matches:

   4) If the case concerns only one country, the concerned Club will play its home Match in another country. Where appropriate, the Committee will determine the Match venue.
   5) If this case involves two countries, the Match will be played on neutral ground.

XV. MATCHES ON NEUTRAL GROUND

1. Matches can be played on neutral ground, subject to an agreement by the two Member Associations concerned or by a decision issued by the Committee.

2. Excluding the Group Phase Matches, and in case of agreement or decision to hold the Match on neutral ground, only one Match shall be played with possible extra-time and, if necessary, a penalty shootout in accordance with the Laws of the Game to determine the Club that will qualify to the next round.

XVI. COMPLAINTS / PROTESTS

1. Clubs are entitled to file a protest, which will be considered by the CAF Disciplinary board, provided it complies with all the formal requirements pursuant to Article 72 of the CAF Disciplinary Code.

XVII. FRAUD –ADMINISTRATIVE ERROR – MATCH FIXING

1. Unless the following rules provide otherwise, the provisions of Article 15 of the CAF Disciplinary Code apply any behaviour that damages or could damage the integrity of Matches and all Players, Clubs and Officials must cooperate fully with CAF at all times in its efforts to combat such behaviour.

2. If CAF is informed of a potential behaviour that could damage the integrity of a Match (e.g., potential fraud or Match-fixing); an enquiry shall be conducted immediately by the CAF Disciplinary board.
3. In case a breach of Article 15 of the CAF Disciplinary Code within the context of a Match is established, the following provisions apply.

4. If the breach has been committed by a Club in a First Preliminary Round Match and if it is discovered before the start of the following round, the last Club which has been eliminated by the guilty Club shall be called upon to take part in this round of the competition. The guilty Club shall be suspended from all CAF competitions for three years.

5. If the breach is established after the start of the following round of the Competition, the guilty Club shall be eliminated from the Competition in favour of its last opponent and will be suspended from all CAF competitions for a period of three years.

6. If the breach has been committed during the final of the Competition by the winning Club, the said Club shall be asked to return the trophy, which will be awarded to the runner-up. The guilty Club shall be suspended for 3 years from all CAF competitions.

7. If it is established that the Member Association to which the Club in question belongs has participated in the breach, this Member Association and all the Clubs under its jurisdiction shall be suspended from CAF Inter-clubs Competitions for a period of three years.

8. For any administrative error in the registration of Players, the concerned Clubs will be suspended for a period of one year of the CAF Inter-clubs Competitions.

9. It is prohibited to the persons to whom these regulations apply to participate, directly or indirectly - or to be associated in any way whatsoever - to bet, gambling, lotteries, and any other activities or transactions similar in connection with football Matches. It is also forbidden to play an active or passive role in societies, businesses and organizations that encourage, communicate, organize or manage such activities and / or transactions.

10. The cases not mentioned in this article shall be decided upon by the CAF Disciplinary Board.

XVIII. APPEALS

1. An appeal may be lodged to the Appeal Committee against the decision of the Disciplinary Board but not against those stipulated as final.

2. The appeal fee is fixed in the CAF Disciplinary Code.

3. The procedures to file an appeal are set out in the CAF Disciplinary Code.

4. The appeal shall have no delaying effect except in financial matters and fines.

XIX. FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

1. The financial conditions related to the allocation of fees and gate receipts resulting from a Match can be determined by agreement between the two Member Associations concerned, and they shall inform CAF Secretariat accordingly. In case of disagreement, the two Member Associations must observe the following financial conditions:

    1.1 The visiting Member Association shall cover the travel expenses of all its delegation.
    1.2 The visiting Member Association shall cover the expenses of accommodation and food of its delegation, and the host Member Association assumes the local transportation of the visiting Club in accordance with the Regulations, three days before the Match and two days after the Match.
    1.3 The host Member Association shall keep the gate receipts of the Match.

2. In case of disagreement or dispute between two Member Associations on the financial conditions of the Match, the Committee shall take the necessary decisions that shall be final and binding.

3. The financial elements regarding the Match Officials include the following categories:
    3.1 The fees of international travel;
    3.2 Full accommodation;
    3.3 Local transportation; and

4. The host Member Association shall bear the costs of travel in economy class fees, full board accommodation, local transportation of all the referees (including VAR referees if applicable) and CAF will pay the indemnities of the referees.

5. The host Member Association shall bear the costs of travel in economy class fees, full accommodation, local transportation of the Match Commissioner and CAF will pay the indemnities of the match commissioner.
6. CAF shall bear the costs of travel in economy class fees, full accommodation, as well as the allowances of all other CAF officials in accordance with the CAF scheme.

7. The host Member Association will also take in charge the local transport for all other Officials designated by CAF.

8. The host Member Association will ensure that each Official designated by CAF is allocated a room in the same hotel, the latter being approved by CAF and/or the Match Commissioner.

9. Endorsable air passage tickets for officials designated to attend the Match must be issued by the Host Member Association and must be sent to the officials concerned along with the invitation giving them the date and the venue of the Match.

10. The host Member Association must see to it that the air-plane tickets reach the concerned Officials at least 14 days prior to the Match.

XX. TICKETING

1. The Gross receipt of all Matches shall be generated by the sale of entry tickets.

2. The host Member Association shall pay to CAF the following charges:
    a) An inclusive fee of six hundred United States Dollars (USD 600) in the First Preliminary round.
    b) An inclusive fee of one thousand United States Dollars (USD 1000) in the Second Preliminary round.
    c) An inclusive fee of two thousand United States Dollars (USD 2000) in the Group Phase Matches.
    d) An inclusive fee of four thousand United States Dollars (USD 4000) in the quarterfinals and the semifinals.

3. The following tickets should be provided to the CAF delegation attending a Match:

    - 50% of the honorary tribune & VVIP tribunes
    - 60 VIP Tickets or 50% whichever is higher
    - 350 tickets in the category 1 for CAF sponsors in addition to 250 for CAF Secretariat
    - 200 tickets in the category 2 for CAF sponsors in addition to 250 for CAF Secretariat
    - 150 tickets in the category 3 for CAF sponsors in addition to 250 for CAF Secretariat
    - In case a stadium only has two categories of tickets, any unavailability in the category will result in those tickets being added to the inventory of the higher category. Sponsors quota referring to the circular issued by CAF's Commercial department.
    - Skyboxes - for up to 20 people each including high level hospitality. Where, due to the structure of the Stadium, the host Member Association is unable to provide a private suite accommodating up to 20 people, the host Member Association shall provide a suitable alternative offering the same or a superior customer experience for the remaining number needed to reach 20.

~~4.~~ In principle, enough parking places that corresponds to the number of tickets provided to CAF and the visiting Club, free of charge, should be allocated to CAF and the visiting Club. These parking-spaces should be in a prime position, wherever possible with easy access to the tribunes and hospitality areas.

5. The host Member Association will also put at the disposal of the visiting Club, the following number of tickets:

    - 10 tickets in the honorary tribune.
    - 20 tickets in Category 1.

6. CAF shall be in charge of all matters regarding ticketing for the first and second leg of the finals of the Competition.

XXI. EXPLOITATION OF THE COMMERCIAL RIGHTS

1. CAF is the exclusive, absolute legal and beneficial owner of all commercial rights, media rights, and data rights relating to the Competition and any related events under its jurisdiction, without restriction as to content, time, place, or law. All commercial rights and opportunities — including all promotional, television, broadcasting, media, and marketing rights (collectively, "Commercial Rights") — in relation to the Competition belong exclusively to CAF on a worldwide basis and will be subject to separate agreements negotiated freely between CAF and specialized agencies of its choice, as contemplated in the Media and Marketing Regulations.

2. CAF is responsible for all TV productions throughout the stages of the Competition. Only CAF can appoint the (production) host broadcaster to produce the Match feed.

3. No other broadcaster, production unit or crew – whether representing or assigned by the host nation, Club or government, is permitted to record and transmit the Match without the express written consent by CAF.

4. All TV/ Media rights of the Competition belong exclusively to CAF. Only CAF Media Rights Holders can exploit the live, near live and delayed live Match feed. This includes exclusive access to content, interviews with the Players, Officials etc.

5. Host Member Associations and Clubs must provide working space facilities to Media Rights Holders.

6. The working facilities must provide safe working conditions. The facilities must be equipped with sufficient power outlets and connectivity (internet).

7. The host Club or Member Association is responsible for necessary modifications including but not limited to placement of platforms, removal of seats (for camera platforms) in order to ensure proper working facilities for Media Rights Holders.

8. The Commercial Rights in respect of the Group Phases and until the final Matches will be managed directly by CAF or by the agency appointed by it for this purpose.

9. Each Member Association engaged in the Competition shall undertake in writing to put at the disposal of the specialized agencies: (i) all the necessary installations, the international signal (uplink) and sound to the satellite; (ii) the technical staff necessary to ensure the direct and uninterrupted transmission of the Matches in conformity with the terms of reference established by CAF; and (iii) the stadiums for each Match free from any publicity in accordance with CAF's Media and Marketing Regulations.

10. Any Club which did not provide the above-mentioned undertaking before the commencement of the Group Phase, shall automatically be disqualified from the Competition and replaced by the Club that it eliminated in the Second Preliminary round (on condition that this eliminated Club provides the above-mentioned undertaking).

11. In return, the Member Association fulfilling the above-mentioned undertaking shall be allowed to broadcast the Matches played on its territory starting from the Group Phase and further rounds as determined by CAF live and/or delayed and free of charge on a territorial basis. Any Member Association that does not provide the necessary signals for purposes of the satellite transmission in accordance with the requirements of CAF's Media and Marketing Regulations shall be sanctioned by CAF, which reserves the right to exclude the Club from the Competition. CAF also reserves the right to exclude the relevant Club from sharing in the receipts of the Competition.

12. The Member Associations are required to ensure compliance with CAF's contractual obligations on TV and marketing rights. In case of non-compliance with CAF obligations by the Member Association or in case of fraudulent disruption or hacking of the TV signal by a television that is resident in the same territory of the Member Associations, the relevant Club shall be excluded from the Competition and will be suspended for the next edition of the Competition, in addition to any other sanction that may be imposed upon the Member Association of the concerned Club by the CAF Disciplinary board.

13. CAF also reserves the right to exclude the relevant Club from sharing in the receipts of the Competition.

14. The revenues received from broadcasting will be distributed among the Clubs. CAF will deduct all the operational expenses relating to TV production before the distribution of TV/Media Rights revenues to the Clubs.

15. Starting from the Group Phase and for the CAF Super Cup, CAF will collect a number of signed balls and signed jerseys from each Club to be collected by the Match Officials at the Match Coordination Meeting. The number of signed balls and jerseys to be collected from each Club shall be stated in a circular to be sent to the Clubs before the start of the Competition.

16. With regards to the CAF Super Cup, CAF shall have the right to organize "Meet and Greet" session with the top (3) Players and the coach of each Club at the team's official hotels for up to 45 minutes, in partnership with CAF Commercial Affiliates.

17. The host Member Association has to put the stadium at the disposal of CAF or CAF's marketing Agency, free of any advertisement, minimum 72 (seventy-two) hours before each Match, and up to the following day of the Match.

18. During CAF Super Cup, CAF reserves the exclusive right to put a Commercial Affiliate logo on the sleeve areas of the Players jerseys in accordance with the CAF Kits Regulations.

19. CAF has the exclusive right to exploit all other commercial rights and to appoint partners for the Competition. Any such partners appointed by CAF (and any other third party designated by CAF) may have the exclusive right to exploit certain commercial rights (including in respect of their products and/or services) in and to the Competition and Matches. In accordance with CAF Kit Regulations, advertising on Players' kits is exempt from this exclusivity.

XXII. COMMERCIAL RIGHTS FOR THE QUALIFYING PHASES

1. Member Associations and their Commercial Affiliates and/or Clubs are authorised to exploit the commercial rights of the home qualifying phase Matches which take place under their respective auspices ("qualifying rights").

2. Clubs shall not participate in any aggregation of commercial rights or allow any third party to use any aggregation of qualifying rights granted by the Club in any way that would permit third parties to create an association with the Competition, its brands and/or its visual identity, whether through the use of a branded marketing program or otherwise.

3. All agreements and arrangements pertaining to the exploitation of the qualifying rights must be presented to the CAF Secretariat on request

4. CAF shall have the right to commercialize up to two 3D carpets and up to 10 min LED screens (or equivalent in Static Boards). It is agreed that any of the stadium signage above shall be physically implemented on the pitch as specified above or possibly inserted into the international TV signal by using a digital overlay technology ensuring an equal quality. Any content to be displayed shall necessarily have to abide by the applicable laws, as well as the law and habits of the host Member Association.

5. Member Associations and their Commercial Affiliates and/or Clubs may not use or authorise any third party to use any of the Competition's trademarks or music or any graphic material or artistic forms developed in connection with the Competition in programs, promotions, publications or advertising.

XXIII. STADIUM NAMING RIGHTS

1. The stadium sponsor is prohibited from displaying any branding elements, including their name, logo, trademark, design features, slogans, or corporate colours, within the stadium. This means the sponsor's branding must not be visible on the stadium's premises.

2. Subject to the following exceptions, no such branding may be visible on any Competition materials. The following exceptions apply only in relation to one stadium sponsor that has been granted long-term stadium naming rights:

    - The name of the stadium sponsor may be announced (as part of the stadium name) over the stadium Public Address System for the sole purpose of denominating the stadium if required for safety and security reasons. No additional identification connected with the stadium sponsor (for example, a jingle) may be included in the announcement.
    - The name of the stadium sponsor may appear as part of the stadium name on printed materials for the Competition, including tickets, for the sole purpose of denominating the stadium if required for safety and security reasons and only in a non-commercial typeface, colour and without any logos
    - The name of the stadium sponsor may appear as part of the permanent stadium name signage on the outside of the stadium building. Existing signage must be determined

during the site visit and/or any season preparation information exchanges to ensure that no additional signage is subsequently added.

XXIV. LICENSING AND MERCHANDISING

1. CAF is solely responsible for all Intellectual Property (IP) Rights related the Competition. Clubs are prohibited from selling or distributing any items or merchandise associated with CAF rights, including but not limited to sleeve patches, logos, and other branding elements. Any attempts to sell or profit from CAF rights without proper authorization are strictly forbidden.

2. The Clubs must not develop, produce, distribute or sell Competition and/or final-related products without the prior written approval of CAF.

3. CAF may appoint a supplier to develop a range of co-branded licensed products bearing the branding of one or more Clubs together with Competition branding (not final-related). Participation in such co-branded licensing projects is subject to the Club(s) reaching an agreement with the relevant supplier.

4. CAF and the finalists may enter into an agreement in relation to the development, production and distribution of co-branded finalist/ winner-licensed products bearing the branding of the relevant Club(s) together with final-related branding. An agreement drafted by CAF will be submitted to the Club(s) for consideration.

XXV. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

1. CAF is the exclusive owner of all intellectual property rights of the Competition, including any current or future rights in all types of audio and visual material of the Competition, names, logos, visual identities, brands, music, mascots, medals, plaques, commemorative items, trophies, and certain key elements of the official Match ball design. Any use of the aforementioned rights, any imitation and/or variation thereof, and any other reference to the Competition (such as by associating the name of a Club with the date of a Match) requires the prior written approval of CAF and must comply with any conditions imposed by CAF.

2. All rights to the fixture list and Match schedule, as well as any data and statistics (including databases in which such data is stored) in relation to the Matches of and Players' participation in the Competition, are the sole and exclusive property of CAF. No tickets or accreditation may be used by anyone in order to gain access to a stadium for the purposes of collecting or gathering such data, and such activities are expressly prohibited. This prohibition does not apply to the Clubs, subject to any and all such data collected being used solely for the purposes of instructing their Club, Players, and Officials, and expressly excluding any other exploitation or use whatsoever.

XXVI. MARKETING AND MEDIA PROVISIONS

1. The fixtures of the Competition, as well as all the Matches organised by CAF and all data related to them are subject to a copyright reserved to CAF.

2. CAF has the right to use the image of any and all Players in the Competition for commercial or non-commercial purposes.

3. Advertising for specific products including alcohol and tobacco is permitted on the occasion of all the Matches organised by CAF within the framework of the Competition provided that the laws of the host Member Association allow such advertising.

4. No Club, Player, or Official may use CAF's official logo, the Competition's name, logos, official trophy images, or other branding for promotional or commercial purposes without prior written approval from CAF.

5. Clubs shall not display or promote brands or products that conflict with official sponsors of the Competition during official activities and Matchdays.

6. All Clubs have an obligation to respect the CAF Kit Regulations and the CAF Media & Marketing Regulations.

7. Any breach of these Media and Marketing Provisions shall be subject to sanctions, in accordance with the CAF Disciplinary Code.

XXVII. SAFETY AND SECURITY

1. All matters relating to safety and security of Matches shall be undertaken in full compliance with the CAF Safety and Security Regulations and the CAF Stadium Regulations.

2. Each host Club and its respective Member Association shall, in cooperation with the relevant governmental authorities and/or stadium owners, devise, plan, and implement appropriate safety and security measures for the Competition at all controlled access areas within the venue and other relevant locations to protect all relevant persons, including without limitation the CAF Delegation, Club Official Delegations, CAF Commercial Rights Partner, Commercial Affiliates, Media, spectators, all goods brought in by the CAF, CAF Commercial Rights Partner and Commercial Affiliates.

3. Host Clubs and Member Associations shall coordinate closely with local law enforcement, emergency services, and other relevant authorities to ensure full compliance with the CAF Safety and Security Regulations and to guarantee effective incident response.

4. Each host Club and its Member Association shall issue a detailed security plan in the form of a binding agreement with, without limitation, the management of each of the Stadium, the official training site(s) and the accommodation of the CAF Delegation and Club Official Delegations. This security plan shall be based upon the principles set out in the CAF Stadium Regulations and CAF Safety and Security Regulations.

5. Each host Club and its Member Association shall discharge the CAF and hold it harmless from all responsibility and relinquish any claim against the CAF and the members of its delegation for any damages resulting from any act or omission relating to the

organisation of the Competition to the exclusion of damages caused by the CAF or the members of its delegation acting with intent or gross negligence.

6. Each host Club and its Member Association shall ensure that the Official Club Delegations of visiting Clubs are treated in a fair, safe, and professional manner at all times, strictly in accordance with the CAF Safety and Security Regulations.

7. They shall guarantee that visiting Clubs benefit from:

   - Safe and secure transportation arrangements between the airport, accommodations, training sites, and the Match venue.
   - Adequately secured and suitable accommodations that meet at least the minimum standards set by CAF.
   - Access to appropriate training and Matchday facilities, free from any form of harassment, undue disturbance, or unfair treatment that could affect their preparation or performance.
   - Effective security measures protecting Players, Officials, and Club staff against threats, hostility, or interference.

8. The host Member Association and/or Clubs:

   a) are responsible for the behaviour of their Players, Officials, members, supporters, and any person carrying out a function at a Match on their behalf.
   b) are responsible for all safety and security arrangements before, during and after the Match. The host Member Association and/or Club may be called to account for incidents of any kind and may be subject to disciplinary proceedings before the relevant CAF judicial bodies.
   c) must stage its Matches in accordance with the CAF Safety and Security Regulations and any further instructions of CAF and shall be solely and fully accountable for all of its obligations in this respect.
   d) must appoint a National Safety and Security Officer for associations and Club Safety and Security Officer for clubs to coordinate all safety and security operations for all Matches played at both home and away. The National Safety and Security Officer and the CAF Safety and Security Officer must have a basic qualification in sport safety and security operations.
   e) must ensure that all safety and security meetings are conveyed and representatives attend when requested by the CAF Safety and Security Officer.
   f) must ensure that a list of prohibited items as indicated in the CAF Safety and Security Regulations, is properly displayed outside their stadiums respectively and ensure these items do not make their way into the stadium failure to which, sanctions shall be imposed by the relevant CAF judicial bodies.
   g) must ensure that a proper ticketing plan is in place and tickets are not sold / distributed outside gates on Matchday and that access control must be properly managed with the utilization of adequate barriers.

h) must implement the CAF accreditation system and ensure that the restricted zones i.e zones 1 and 2 as indicated in the CAF Safety and Security Regulations are kept clear of unauthorized persons and well secured.
i) must abide and fully implement the CAF Safety and Security Regulations during all their Matches failure to which, sanctions shall be imposed by the relevant CAF judicial bodies.
j) must ensure that the following documents are available for their stadium: (i) stadium safety certificate (ii) fire safety certificate (iii) emergency evacuation plan and (iv) contingency plan.
k) must put in strategic plans to identify, arrest and where necessary prosecute any spectators that engages in the use of prohibited items as listed in the CAF Safety and Security Regulations in the stadium and crowd/fan misbehaviour such as pitch invasion and attack on supporters of the away Club. In case of misbehaviour by their supporters, the host Member Association or Club must condemn the acts on a published national newspaper and evidence of such must be sent to CAF safety and security department for recording within a week of the publication.
l) must have both proactive and reactive announcements against crowd misbehaviours including and not limited to the utilization of prohibited substances/items.

9. For the final of the Competition, the safety and security arrangements must be scaled up to meet the additional requirements for the final Match as contained in the safety and security concept guidelines for the safety and security requirements for club finals.

10. Failure to comply with these obligations may result in disciplinary measures, as determined by the CAF judicial bodies in accordance with the CAF Disciplinary Code.

XXVIII. FIRST AND SECONG LEG MATCH OF THE FINAL

Additional provisions governing the organization of the First and Second Leg of the Final of this Competition, including the duties and obligations of the host Member Association, CAF, as well as the provisions regarding broadcasting and media rights are supplemented and comprehensively set forth in Annex 1 of these Regulations.

XXIX. PROMOTIONAL AND DIGITAL ACTIVITIES

1. Clubs shall communicate to CAF their official social media platforms no later than thirty (30) days before the start of the Competition.

2. CAF has the right to conduct photoshoots for all Clubs before and after the Competition.

3. Clubs shall provide access on photography assets through the cloud (Google Drive, Drop Box, etc.), upon request.

4. CAF may coordinate content collaborations with the Club's social media platforms.

5. CAF can conduct digital activations such as (Players interviews - light Competitions - filming footage) before or after the training sessions or film one training session, in coordination with the team manager and the media officer.

6. CAF may request interviews with Players or coaches, or ask Players to record video messages, either before or after a Match.

7. Clubs shall upon request, send to CAF signed jerseys, Match balls, or gloves, necessary for digital activations programs.

8. Clubs agree that CAF may exclusively exploit and license the digital rights in relation to archived footage that dates from the year 2008.

9. CAF has the right to film all the behind the scenes of the Competition, using cameras & mics in the dressing rooms, tunnels, and on the bench.

10. Clubs shall send any in-Match footage to CAF for approval.

11. Clubs shall not associate any sponsors with CAF Inter-club Competitions Match posts on social media without prior approval from CAF.

No Club, or its media partner and/or third-party digital service operator may present itself as a partner of the Competition or otherwise directly and/or indirectly associate itself (or the platforms on which it exploits the rights) and/or any third party, products or services with the Competition.

XXX. ANTI-DOPING

1. Doping is strictly prohibited. The CAF Disciplinary Code, the FIFA Anti-Doping Regulations, and all relevant CAF and FIFA Regulations and directives in relation to anti-doping are applicable to the Competition.

XXXI. UNFORESEEN MATTERS

1. Any matters not provided for in these Regulations shall be determined by the Committee.

XXXII. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE REGULATIONS

1. If there are any discrepancies in the interpretation of the texts in the various languages in which these Regulations are published, the French text shall be authoritative.

XXXIII. CAF SUPER CUP REGULATIONS

1. CAF shall organise every year a competition called "CAF Super Cup" which will consist of a Match between the winner of the Competition and the winner of the Confederation Cup.

2. The winner of the CAF Super Cup receives a replica identical to the original.

3. If for any reason the CAF Super Cup does not take place, the trophy must be returned to CAF.

4. CAF will offer medals for the two Clubs, the winner team shall receive 20 gold medals for the Players and 9 gold medals for the Officials and the runner-up shall receive 20 silver medals for the Players and 9 silver medals for the Officials.

5. The CAF Super Cup shall be played in a one leg Match in the capital city of the title holder of the Competition, unless otherwise decided by the CAF Executive Committee.

6. The CAF Executive Committee reserves the right to fix a neutral ground to host the CAF Super Cup Match.

7. If the conditions do not allow the CAF Super Cup to be played in the capital of the title holder of the Competition, the Committee reserves the right to change the venue of the CAF Super Cup and decide to play the Match in the capital of the title holder of the CAF Confederation Cup.

8. The host Member Association shall put at the disposal of CAF, free of charge:

    8.1 The stadium where the CAF Super Cup shall be played, empty of publicity, three days prior to the Match and up to the day following the Match.
    8.2 All the necessary installations, the international signal and sound towards the satellite, as well as the technical personnel capable of transmitting the matches live and regularly. In return, the Organising country shall be allowed to transmit live all the matches inside its territory, free of charge in accordance to the Media and Marketing regulations.

9. The CAF Super Cup will be played in 2 halves of 45 minutes. If by the end of the regular time the two Clubs are tied, the winner shall be determined by penalty shootouts which shall be taken in accordance with the Laws of the Game.

10. The CAF Super Cup shall be played at the date fixed by CAF after the end of the CAF Inter-clubs season taking into consideration the CAF competitions schedule.

11. Only Players who are eligible for the participating Club at the time of the Match and whose names are registered on the Club's list for the new competition which will be played in the year of the Super Cup are eligible to play in this competition.

12. Each Club must communicate its list of 20 Players to CAF Secretariat at least 15 days prior to the date fixed for the CAF Super Cup.

13. CAF shall cover the travel and accommodation expenses of the following persons:

    13.1 The President and Members of CAF Executive Committee.

13.2 The Honorary Presidents and/or the Honorary vice-presidents of CAF.
13.3 The General Secretary and his Deputy.
13.4 The referees appointed for the Match.
13.5 29 persons per delegation (20 Players and 9 officials).

14. The daily allowance of CAF members and Match officials shall be paid by CAF on the basis of the realised benefits.

15. The revenues coming from the sale of the CAF Super Cup tickets shall be retained by the host Member Association.

16. The revenues coming from the publicity and television rights shall be divided as per CAF scheme.

17. If either or both of the Clubs that qualified for the CAF Super Cup refuse(s) to participate shall forfeit the right to defend its continental title and will be barred from all CAF Inter-clubs Competitions for the next three editions in which it qualifies. Furthermore, the maximum fine permitted under the CAF Disciplinary Code shall be imposed on the Club's Member Association.

18. The Clubs playing the CAF Super Cup are not allowed to wear advertisement on their jerseys without CAF's written approval. Any such advertisement shall be in accordance with the CAF Kit's Regulations should CAF's written approval be obtained.

19. If the CAF Super Cup is played in the country of the winner of the Competition, the winner of the Confederation Cup is entitled to 5% of the total sold tickets for its supporters

20. If the CAF Super Cup is played in a neutral country the tickets are distributed equally between both Clubs

21. The following tickets shall be provided to CAF for its delegation, guests & VIPs (upon request from CAF):

- 50% of the honorary tribune & VVIP tribunes
- 60 VIP Tickets or 50% whichever is higher
- 350 tickets in the category 1 for CAF sponsors in addition to 250 for CAF Secretariat
- 200 tickets in the category 2 for CAF sponsors in addition to 250 for CAF Secretariat
- 150 tickets in the category 3 for CAF sponsors in addition to 250 for CAF Secretariat
- In case a stadium only has two categories of tickets, any unavailability in the category will result in those tickets being added to the inventory of the higher category. Sponsors quota referring to the circular issued by CAF's Commercial department.
- Skyboxes - for up to 20 people each including high level hospitality. Where, due to the structure of the Stadia the host Member Association is unable to provide the private suite for up to 20 people, the host Member Association

shall provide a suitable alternative of the same or higher customer experience for balance required to make up the number 20.

22. In principle, enough parking places that corresponds to the number of tickets provided to CAF & the visiting Club, free of charge, should be allocated to CAF and the visiting Club. These parking-spaces should be in a prime position, wherever possible with easy access to the tribunes and hospitality areas.

23. CAF reserves the right to organise Meet and Greet events, for up to 45 (forty-five) minutes with the full delegation in the Clubs' official hotels with its commercial affiliates.

24. During the CAF Super Cup, CAF reserves the right to patch the logos of its commercial affiliates on the Sleeve Patch Areas of the Players jerseys.

25. Matters not provided for under the present regulations shall be decided by the Committee.

XXXIV. SOLIDARITY

1. Clubs eliminated in the Preliminary Rounds of the Competition, and therefore not qualifying to the Group Phase, shall be entitled to receive a solidarity payment of USD 100,000. Clubs that qualify for the Group Phase shall instead be entitled to the applicable prize money and shall not be eligible to receive the solidarity payment.

The present Regulations have been approved by the Executive Committee of CAF on 2 October 2026.

ANNEXE 1 REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE FIRST AND SECOND LEG MATCH OF THE FINALS

1. The host Member Associations of the four Clubs that reached the semifinals of the Competition must within 7 days of their qualification to the semifinals, communicate the name of the venue they intend to use for the finals should their Club reach the final of the Competition.

2. The host Member Association must ensure a minimum occupancy on Matchday of 75% of the stadium's total capacity.

3. The stadium selected to host the final shall be put at the entire disposal of CAF at least eight days before the Match and one day after.

4. For operational purposes, the host Member Association shall submit a contact list of key persons in charge of the following functional areas:

    - Host Member Association/Club Project Lead
    - Stadium Management
    - Security representative
    - Medical representative
    - TV representative
    - Commercial representative
    - Logistics representative
    - Transportation representative
    - Media representative
    - IT representative
    - Ticketing representative
    - Protocol representative

5. CAF shall be in charge of ticketing for both legs of the finals and shall have the exclusive right to decide the kick-off time of each Match. The host Club and Member Association shall be consulted first.

6. CAF shall inspect the proposed stadium and communicate the dates of the visit to the host Member Association and Club. The host Member Association / Club shall cover the accommodation expenses and local transportation of the CAF delegation conducting the inspection visit.

7. The host Member Association / Club shall designate two training sites with the same type of pitch as the stadium of the final (natural grass or artificial turf) which shall be put at the disposal of the visiting Club as well as CAF referees at least three days prior to the Match (MD-3).

8. CAF will provide a list of volunteers required for the proper organisation and conduct of the Match at least one week before the Match.

9. For rehearsals purposes, the host Member Association / Club shall designate the individuals for the youth program (YP) at least two days prior to the Match (MD-2). The YP shall consist of the following:

    - 12 Flag Bearers
    - 14 Ball boys/girls

The visiting Club's dressing room shall be equipped with the following:

- 2 massage tables
- 1 white board with 24 magnets (2 different colours)
- 1 Fridge
- 100kg of ice
- 20 Big Towels
- 20 Small Towels
- Fruits and Hot drinks (Tea, Coffee, milk…)
- 150L of Water Bottles

10. The referees' dressing room shall be equipped with the following:

- 1 massage table
- 1 Fridge
- Fruits & Hot Drinks
- 40L of Water Bottles

11. The host Member Association / Club shall provide a list of hotels that can be used by CAF, the visiting Club, Media Representative, Commercial Affiliates & Broadcasters. The hotels must be within a reasonable distance from the stadium and proposed training sites as well as being at least 4-star hotels.

12. The host Member Association shall cover the accommodation expenses of the following:

    - Referees
    - VAR Referees
    - Match Commissioner

13. Each stakeholder shall cover the expenses of accommodation of their delegation.

14. The host Member Association / Club shall communicate to CAF the visa requirements and timelines that must be respected to ensure the entry of all stakeholders within seven days of their qualification to the semifinals.

15. The host Member Association / Club shall support and facilitate all stakeholders, in accordance with these Regulations, with the issuance of their visas either by:

    - Issuing a visa upon arrival

or

- Sending an invitation letter that can expedite the visa issuance from the diplomatic representation in the stakeholder's country.

16. The host Member Association shall provide comprehensive logistics services for all CAF delegations, ensuring the safe handling and transportation of trophies and equipment throughout both final Matches.

17. The host Member Association must confirm the designated airport for all arrivals and departures.

18. The host Member Association shall ensure that the stadium is secured by the local police at least 48 hours prior to the kick-off time.

19. The host Member Association is responsible for handling customs clearance for the shipment of trophies and equipment.

20. The host Member Association shall ensure special handling for fragile items, including proper storage and transportation measures.

21. The host Member Association shall handle all necessary export customs clearance procedures for the equipment.

22. The host Member Association will be responsible for paying any applicable storage or other fees at the airport for the duration of the equipment's stay to finalize the export customs clearance process.

23. The host Member Association shall cover the expenses of internal flights (round trip if applicable) for the following:

    - Visiting Club: 29 persons (11 Players, 9 substitutes and 9 officials)
    - CAF Match Officials listed in the official appointment letter

24. The host Member Association shall assist the visiting Club and CAF in securing any additional tickets required for internal flights.

25. The host Member Association will provide the following transportation means at their own expense to the different stakeholders:

    - Visiting Club (MD-3 to one day after the Match (MD+1):

        - 1 Bus (50 passenger)
        - 1 Car for the Head of Delegation
        - 1 Kit Van

    - CAF Match Officials (MD-3 to MD+1):

        - The Referees and the Assistant Referees (1 Coaster 24 pax)
        - VAR Crew (1 van 15 passengers)

- The Commissioner (1 sedan)
- The Referees' Inspector (1 sedan)
- The General Coordinator (1 sedan)
- The Security Officer (1 sedan)
- Any other official designated by the Committee or the General Secretary

- Media (MD-3 to MD)

  - 1 Bus (50 pax),

26. CAF shall print the following accreditations for the different stakeholders:

    - Host Club: 55 (20 Players, 9 officials & 26 additional accreditations)
    - Visiting Club: 55 (20 Players, 9 officials & 26 additional accreditations)
    - Stadium Operations (stadium management, groundsmen, maintenance & cleaning staff, catering company…)
    - Media Representatives
    - Host Broadcaster
    - Security personnel
    - Other CAF members that CAF deems necessary

27. The host Member Association shall constitute a safety and security commission composing of the following: Police Representative, Club Safety and Security officer, National Safety and Security Officer, Fire Service, Private Security, Stewards, Stadium Management and others whose role may impact security for the final.

28. The name and contact details of the commission chairman must be sent to CAF at least seven days after the qualification of the Club to the semifinals.

29. The host Member Association security commission shall formulate a holistic security concept using the attached CAF safety and Security concept guideline and send it to CAF for comments and approval at least seven days after the qualification of the Club to the semifinals.

30. The following security measures must be provided to the visiting Club:

    - Police escort for all Club movements from arrival to departure.
    - Security of visiting Clubs and supporter's hotel throughout their stay.
    - Securing the private dining and meeting areas of the team in their hotel and denying access to public.
    - Dedicating a special gate for Club use only. If not, departures and arrivals must be coordinated to clear gate.
    - A dedicated Club Security Liaison Officer must be designated to the visiting Club (TSLO).

31. The following security measures must be provided to the delegation of CAF:

- Police escort and close protection officer for CAF president throughout his stay.
- Police escort for CAF GS throughout his stay
- Police escort for Match officials' movement
- Police escort for CAF Executive and VVIP's members from hotel to stadium on Matchday.
- Security of CAF delegation's hotel throughout their stay.

32. The host Member Association / Club shall be solely responsible for the availability and provision of appropriate and adequate urgent medical services and materials at both Matches, during team training and at each Match activity.

33. All persons travelling with a delegation must be medically ensured by their respective Member Association or Club.

34. The host Member Association must designate a hospital for each official site that meets CAF standards and that is located no more than 10 minutes by road. Designated hospitals must be confirmed 14 days before the Match.

35. Stadium, training sites and official hotels must have an ambulance with a properly working automated external defibrillator along with a medical team.

36. The host Member Association must provide the local health recommendations in force prior to travel to the host Member Association, including vaccination requirements (e.g. yellow fever, etc.). Any exemptions issued by the World Health Organization (WHO), must be stated clearly.

37. The host Member Association must provide information on most frequent diseases in the host country such as, without limitation, malaria (including advice on the preventive methods).

38. The host Member Association must provide weather forecast for the week of the final Match, by the relevant Ministerial Department.

39. The host Member Association must ensure presence of a medical team at the airport with a fully equipped ambulance from the first arrivals until the last departures.

40. The host Member Association must provide the contact of World Health Organization in the host country (Email address and WhatsApp Number).

41. The host Member Association must provide two (02) adjoining rooms on full board basis, covered by the host Member Association / Club in the CAF delegation (including Referees) and teams' hotel, one to accommodate the local medical team to remain available 24 hours / 7, one as an equipped clinic.

42. The host Member Association must provide human resources (Doctors, Nurses and Ambulance Drivers) under their own cost, to be accommodated in these rooms.

43. The host Member Association must provide a fully equipped ambulance in the hotels of the CAF delegation (including Referees) and Clubs' delegation from their arrival until their departure.

44. The host Member Association must ensure the presence of a functional Automated External Defibrillator (AED).

45. The host Member Association must ensure the availability of the following medical facilities at the stadium:

    - A Players' Medical Room closer to the Players' Dressing Rooms
    - A VIP and VVIP Medical Room
    - Spectators' Medical Room
    - Five (05) covered seating benches on each side of the stadium for sideline medical teams
    - Two (02) medical teams sitting on these Five (05) covered benches (04 stretcher bearers and 1 medical doctor each side of the stadium)
    - One (01) or two (02) advanced Medical Posts which can accommodate five hundred (500) patients
    - Two (02) fully equipped ambulances during Match Day
    - One (01) fully equipped ambulance during training sessions of Actors of the game (Players and Referees)
    - A fully equipped ambulance with a functional AED (Automated External Defibrillator) during the physical test of the Referees

46. CAF requires the following tickets **10 days** before the Match:

    - 50% of the honorary tribune & VVIP tribunes
    - 60 VIP Tickets
    - 350 tickets in the category 1
    - 200 tickets in the category 2
    - 150 tickets in the category 3
    - In case a stadium only has two categories of tickets, any unavailability in the category will result in those tickets being added to the inventory of the higher category. Sponsors quota referring to the circular issued by commercial department.
    - Skyboxes - for up to 20 people each including high level hospitality. Where, due to the structure of the Stadia the host Member Association is unable to provide the private suite for up to 20 people, the host Member Association shall provide a suitable alternative of the same or higher customer experience for balance required to make up the number 20

47. The host Member Association / Club shall submit to CAF the design of the tickets for approval at least 14 days prior to the Match.

48. The host Member Association / Club shall submit to CAF the seating plan of the stadium at least 14 days prior to the Match.

49. The host Member Association shall provide equipment for volunteers, flag bearers and ball kids.

50. CAF is solely responsible for approving sponsors.

51. The host Member Association shall ensure, at least eight days before kick-off of the competition, that all controlled Areas (including areas within a radius of 900 meters from the pitch are free of any advertisement other than that installed by CAF or on behalf of CAF).

52. CAF is the exclusive owner of the Competition, including all component parts and especially media rights and marketing. CAF has sole authority through its agent to authorize any person, or entity, to use any sponsors and images of the Competition, in a determined territory.

53. CAF is solely responsible for all Intellectual Property (IP) Rights related to CAF Champions League & Confederation Cup. Clubs are prohibited from selling or distributing any items or merchandise associated with CAF rights, including but not limited to sleeve patches, logos, and other branding elements. Any attempts to sell or profit from CAF rights without proper authorization are strictly forbidden.

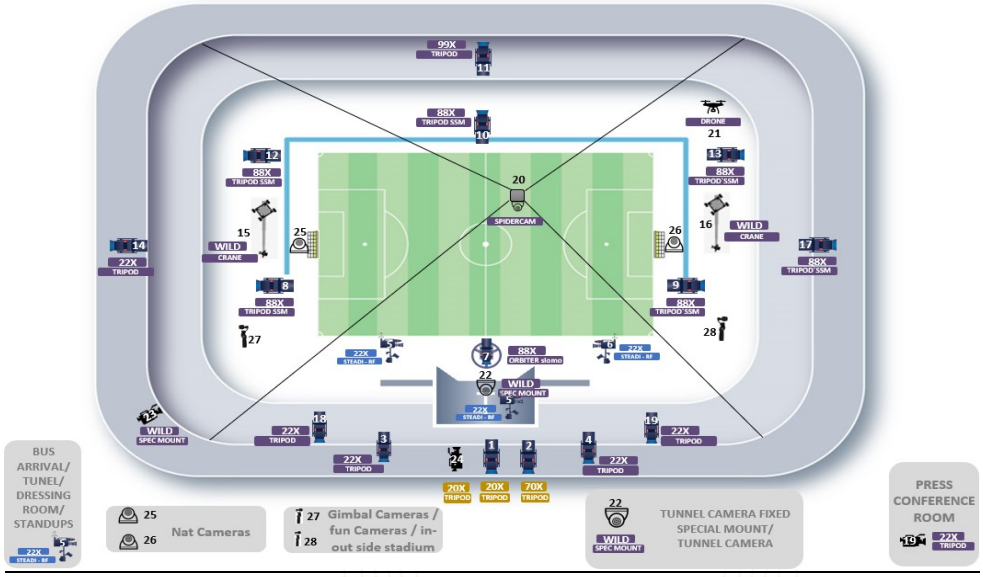
54. CAF Commercial must have additional room in the stadium for Social Room activation with Sponsors.

55. CAF Commercial has the right to collect 5 Signed Jersey and 6 Signed Balls from each Club.

56. CAF Commercial can implement Commercial display area around the stadium and to promote for the Final in the city where the Match will be held.

57. CAF Commercial Division is responsible to collect Sponsor contractual tickets and manage the distribution.

58. The below camera plan must be implemented for the TV production of both finals:


99X TRIPOD
88X TRIPOD SSM
DRONE
SPIDERCAM
WILD CRANE
22X TRIPOD
88X ORBITER slomo
WILD SPEC MOUNT
22X STEADI - RF
20X TRIPOD
70X TRIPOD
BUS ARRIVAL/ TUNEL/ DRESSING ROOM/ STANDUPS
25 26 Nat Cameras
27 28 Gimbal Cameras / fun Cameras / in-out side stadium
TUNNEL CAMERA FIXED SPECIAL MOUNT/ TUNNEL CAMERA
PRESS CONFERENCE ROOM

59. CAF is responsible for Selecting the Host Broadcaster for both legs

60. CAF is fully responsible for TV Production for both legs.

61. The host Member Association shall ensure the clearance of all Match-related equipment (Cameras and TV equipment in the Host Country).

62. The host Member Association must provide a secured Broadcast Compound with 24-hour security at least three days prior to the Match to secure Host Broadcaster equipment including Vans/Trucks.

63. There shall be only one (1) Media and Broadcasters Accreditation System for both legs.

64. CAF shall be responsible for managing Media Accreditation for both Local and International Media working closely with the Host Member Association and host Club.

65. The host Member Association/ Club shall equip the media centre, media tribune and press conference room with all necessary equipment, which shall be communicated by CAF in due course.

Area	Capacity	Details
Media Centre	120	Tables and chairs, cables, plugs, and internet.
Press conference	80	Main table with seating for 5, microphones, splitter box, 60 to 80 seats, platform for main table, platform for cameras, sound system, translation services (booths & interpreters)
Media tribune	150	Clear view, toilets (men & women)
Mixed Zone	60	Between the dressing rooms and the buses
Photographers' Pitch Area	100	Provide 100 seats or more (based on the accredited media)
Mixed Zone Area for MD-3, MD-2, and MD-1 Activities		Confirm the area at the Main Stadium or training grounds with competition branding
More details to be provided in due course		

Media Activities

66. CAF will confirm the list of media activities prior to each leg of the finals, including the official **photoshoot session**

67. The Following Activities are Obligatory:

- **MD-3**: Media Open Day (Host Club)
- **MD-2**: Media Open Day (Visiting Club)
- **MD-1**: Press Conference and Official Training (Both Clubs)
- **MD**: According to the Match Running Order (Both Clubs)

68. All media activities will be confirmed by CAF.

69. CAF is fully responsible for provision and operation of the VAR.

70. The host Member Association / Club shall assist with the custom clearance of VAR equipment and facilitate its installation at the stadium.

71. CAF shall cover the following expenses:

- Stadium & Hotels' branding elements
- Air tickets of all Officials and delegates except Referees (including VAR), & Match Commissioner
- CAF Delegation travel, accommodation & internal transportation
- VAR equipment

72. The Host Member Association/ Club shall cover the following expenses:

- TV Production
- Stadium fees
- Match Commissioner & Referees (including VAR) travel
- Match Commissioner indemnities
- Internal transportation of all Match officials
- Match advertisement boards in key locations of the city