

# CONSTITUTION



CONIFA - Confederation of Independent Football Associations

In accordance to the Swedish Law, a non-profit organization, registry number 802 473 – 7572, has been incorporated in Sweden, 15th August 2013, with the following Constitution

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UBMISSION TO DECISION OF CONIFA
Principle
Sanctions
INANCE
Business year
Annual membership fees
Settlement
RIGHTS IN COMPETITIONS AND EVENTS
Rights
Authorization
Venue
COMPETITIONS
Internal match calendar
Broadcasting / streaming
International matches and competitions
Contacts
INAL DISPOSITIONS
Internal regulations
Official writs
Administrative control
Non planned and overpowering circumstances
Enforcement3

## **GENERALS**

The organization shall be operated with high ethical standards and with no political and/or religious purposes.

## Name and headquarter

- I. The name of the non-profit organization is **Confederation of Independent Football Associations**, short named, with block letters: **CONIFA**.
- II. The CONIFA headquarter are located in the city of Luleå, Sweden and may be moved to any other location, by resolution by the Annual General Meeting.

## **Objectives**

The overall objective of CONIFA is to: *Promote and celebrate people all over the world through* football and cultural activities

- Strengthen people
- Strengthen identity of people, for nations, ethnicities, minorities and sportingly isolated territories
- Respect differences
- Contribute to world peace

CONIFA bridges people, nations, ethnicities, minorities and sportingly isolated territories all over the world trough friendship, culture and the joy of playing football. The CONIFA organization works actively for Fair Play, fighting Racism and development of the affiliated Associations and Clubs.

#### The goals of CONIFA

- I. To federate Football Associations and Clubs representatives of People, Nations, Ethnicities, Minorities and geographically or sportingly isolated territories, which not yet are affiliated to FIFA. CONIFA will organize international football games and create a platform for cultural exchange.
- II. To prepare its affiliated members for international competitions, and for arranging administrative structures and matches to fulfill the conditions of the FIFA Admission rules.
- III. To organize friendly matches, tournaments and international competitions
- IV. To be a propulsive organization who will promote its own development and the development of its members.

The non-governmental CONIFA body positions itself as an added value organization to FIFA and with respect of existing stately controlled institutions. CONIFA is authorized to collect all donations and requests, and may carry out any type of activity enabling to gather funds which shall be used to achieve its objectives.

#### **Duration**

CONIFA is incorporated for an unlimited time

## Non-discrimination and stance against racism

Discrimination of any kind against country, private person or group of people on account of ethnicity, sexuality, origin, gender, language, religion, politics or any other reason is strictly prohibited and punishable by suspension or expulsion.

## **Promoting friendly relations**

CONIFA promotes friendly relations between its member and the world community. Any member has to observe the Constitution, Internal regulations and the principle of Fair Play.

#### **Players**

The Internal Regulations shall regulate the status of players

#### Laws of the Game

Each member of CONIFA shall play association football in compliance with the Laws of the Game issued by IFAB – International Football Association Board and CONIFA itself.

#### Conduct of bodies and officials

Bodies and officials are obligated to observe the Constitution, Internal Regulations, regulations and decisions of CONIFA in their activities.

## Official language

English is the official language for minutes, correspondence and announcements. French, German, Spanish and Italian are additional languages. Members are responsible for translations in the languages of their people.

The Constitution, the Internal Regulations, the decisions and announcements of CONIFA shall be published on the official website in the official language. If there is any divergence in the wording, the English text is authoritative.

#### **MEMBERSHIP**

CONIFA consists of following membership categories:

- I. Active member Football Associations, Confederations, Leagues, Clubs
- II. Associated member Football Associations, Confederations, Leagues, Clubs
- III. Honorary member Individual member

Each member's role is kept in a database by the CONIFA General Secretary. All the members can consult the register as well as all the reports and resolutions of the Annual General Meeting, of the

Executive Committee or of the persons to whom a mandate was given by the CONIFA. The detailed role will be updated each year after the Annual General Meeting.

## **Definition of membership**

#### **Active member**

An active member has handed in an official application to receive an active membership and been approved by the Executive Committee and the Annual General Meeting. They pay an annual membership subscription whose amount is fixed by a decision of the Annual General Meeting. The CONIFA acknowledge only one representative active member at the international level per People, Nation, Ethnicity, Minority and geographically or sportingly isolated territory population. The status of active member involves a will of participation in the events organized by CONIFA. Each affiliated and fully paid member owns 10 votes at the Annual General Meeting

#### **Associated member**

An associated member has handed in an official application to receive an active membership and been approved by the Executive Committee and the Annual General Meeting. The associated member has not been able to pay the annual membership subscription. The CONIFA can acknowledge several representative associated members at the international level per People, Nation, Ethnicity, Minority and geographically or sportingly isolated territory population. The status of associated member involves a will, but no rights, of participation in the events organized by CONIFA. Each associated member owns 0 votes at the Annual General Meeting.

## Honorary member - Individual member

The Honorary Presidents and the Honorary Members are appointed by the Annual General Meeting. This distinction is awarded to the persons who have been considered worthy of it, either by their function or by the good turns that they have done or they do to the football of Peoples, Nations, Ethnicities, Minorities and geographically or sportingly isolated territories populations. The Honorary Members are dispensed from membership subscription payment and they can take part to the General Meetings with a consultative advice. Individual membership is granted a individual person who want to support CONIFA activities by paying the annual individual membership fee stated by the Annual General Meeting. An individual member own 1 vote at the Annual General Meeting. The Honorary member own 0 votes at the Annual General Meeting, but can as individual member (described above) earn 1 voting right.

#### **Definition of members**

#### **Football Associations**

Officially represents their People, Nation, Ethnicity, Minority and geographically or sportingly isolated territory population.

## **Confederations and/or Leagues**

A Confederation and/or League consist several Football Associations and/or Clubs and represent Peoples, Nations, Ethnicities, Minorities and geographically or sportingly isolated territories populations in the same continent, accepted by CONIFA. CONIFA may, in exceptional circumstances, authorize a confederation to grant membership to a Football Association that belongs geographically to another continent and is not affiliated to the confederation on that continent. The opinion of the confederation concerned geographically shall be obtained.

#### Clubs

Officially represents their People, Nation, Ethnicity, Minority and geographically or sportingly isolated territory population in areas where an official Football Association do not exist as member.

#### **ACTIVE and ASSOCIATED MEMBER**

The Annual General Meeting decides whether to admit, suspend or expel an active or associated member by proposal made by the Executive Committee.

#### Admission

- I. Any Football Association, Confederation, League and/or Club which represents a Nation, People, Ethnicity, Minority or a geographically or sportingly isolated territory population, defined by the Internal Regulations for membership, may become an Active and/or Associated member of CONIFA.
- II. Any Football Association, Confederation, League and/or Club wishing to become an Active and/or Associated member of CONIFA shall register its application on the official CONIFA website or send their application to the CONIFA General Secretary.
- III. The legally valid status as CONIFA member will be officially announced at the official CONIFA website after the Executive Committee and/or Annual General Meeting approval and paid annual subscription.
- IV. The Internal Regulations regulate the details of the procedure for admission. It decides the preliminary conditions for admission for all kind of memberships, according to precise criterions and in order to respect the CONIFA philosophy, especially concerning the non-interference of political or religious spheres within those memberships, which must guarantee their democratic functioning. By applying for CONIFA membership, each member automatically approves and guarantees to follow the Constitution and the Internal Regulations.

## Request and procedure for application

The Executive Committee shall request the Annual General Meeting either to admit or not admit an entity. The requesting body may state the reasons for its application to the Annual General Meeting. The new Active and/or Associated member shall acquire membership rights and duties as soon it has been admitted and paid the annual membership subscription. Active member's delegates are eligible to vote and be elected with immediate effect after this.

#### Active and /or Associated membership rights

#### **Active member**

to take part in the Annual General Meeting with 10 votes

to draw up proposals for inclusion in the agenda for Annual General Meeting

to nominate candidates for the CONIFA presidency

to propose candidates for the Executive Committee and for the different CONIFA bodies

to receive revenue share for business projects operated by CONIFA, when its applicable and decided by the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee has sole decision rights on split percentage.

## Active and/or Associated member

to take part in competitions organized by CONIFA

to exercise all other rights arising from these Constitution and other regulations.

to access own webpage on official CONIFA website with presentation of the team, people, region, culture, history, pictures, videos, latest fixture/results, ranking and more.

to participate in tournaments and games arranged outside the CONIFA organization

to be member in several organizations outside CONIFA.

## **Associated member rights**

to take part in the Annual General Meeting with 0 votes

the Associated member have no rights to receive any revenue shares from CONIFA

## **Active membership obligations**

- I. to comply fully with the Constitution, Internal Regulations, regulations, directives and decisions of CONIFA bodies at any time.
- II. to pay their annual membership subscription in time
- III. to ensure that their own members comply fully with the Constitution, Internal Regulations, regulations, directives and decisions of CONIFA bodies
- IV. to respect the Laws of the Game
- V. to comply fully with all other duties arising from this Constitution and other regulations.
- VI. Promote the CONIFA membership in all printed and digital media

#### **Associated membership obligations**

- I. to comply fully with the Constitution, Internal Regulations, regulations, directives and decisions of CONIFA bodies at any time.
- II. to ensure that their own members comply fully with the Constitution, Internal Regulations, regulations, directives and decisions of CONIFA bodies
- III. to respect the Laws of the Game
- IV. to comply fully with all other duties arising from this Constitution and other regulations.
- V. Promote the CONIFA membership in all printed and digital media

## HONORARY MEMBER

#### **Honorary membership rights**

I. to take part in the Annual General Meeting with 0 vote

II. to take part in the Annual General Meeting with consultative role

#### **Honorary membership obligations**

- I. to comply fully with the Constitution, Internal Regulations, regulations, directives and decisions of CONIFA bodies at any time.
- II. to be an ambassador for the spirit of CONIFA
- III. to respect the Laws of the Game
- IV. to comply fully with all other duties arising from this Constitution and other regulations.

Violation of the above mentioned obligations by any member may lead to sanctions provided for in this Constitution.

## **Suspension**

- I. The Annual General Meeting is responsible for suspending any member. The Executive Committee may nevertheless suspend a member that seriously and repeatedly violates its obligations as a member with immediate effect. The suspension shall last until the next Annual General Meeting, unless the Executive Committee has lifted it in the meantime.
- II. A suspension shall be confirmed at the next Annual General Meeting by a two-thirds majority of the votes taken. If it's not confirmed, the suspension is automatic lifted.
- III. A suspended member shall be suspended of voting at the Annual General Meeting. The Executive Committee may impose further sanctions.
- IV. An Active member which not participates in at least one international game over a period of three consecutive years shall be suspended from voting at the Annual General Meeting until they have fulfilled their obligations in this respect.

#### **Expulsion**

- I. The Annual General Meeting may expel an member:
  - a) If it fails to fulfill its financial obligations towards CONIFA, and/or:
  - b) If it seriously violates the Constitution, Internal Regulations, regulations and decisions of CONIFA, and/or:
  - c) If it loses the status of a Football Association representing football for its People, Nation, Ethnicity, Minority or geographical or sportingly isolated territory population or Club.
- II. The member must be official informed and invited to the Annual General Meeting which will have to decide about its destiny
- III. A expulsion shall be confirmed at the next Annual General Meeting by a two-thirds majority of the votes taken. If it's not confirmed, the expulsion is automatic lifted.

IV. The decision shall be notified to the party concerned by the Executive Committee within 14 days.

## Resignation

I. An Active and/or Associated member may resign from CONIFA with effect from the end of a calendar year. Notice of resignation must reach the general secretariat no later than three months before the end of the calendar year and be sent by registered letter. The resignation is not valid until the member wishing to resign has fulfilled its financial obligations towards CONIFA and its other members.

#### **ORGANIZATION**

#### **Bodies**

- I. The Annual General Meeting is the supreme and legislative body
- II. The Board of Directors, called Executive Committee, is the executive body
- III. The general secretariat is the administrative body
- IV. Standing and ad-hoc committees shall advise and assist the Executive Committee in fulfilling its duties. Their primary duties are defined in this Constitution and their composition, function and additional duties are defined in special regulations.

## **Annual General Meeting**

## **Annual General Meeting**

- I. A General Meeting may be an Ordinary or an Extraordinary General Meeting.
- II. The Ordinary General Meeting shall be held every year. The Executive Committee shall fix the place and date. The members shall be notified in writing at least one month in advance. The formal convocation shall be made written at least one month before the date of the General Meeting. The Agenda, the President's report and the financial statements shall be distributed to confirmed participants before the General Meeting.
- III. The Executive Committee may convene an Extraordinary General Meeting at any time.
- IV. The Executive Committee shall convene an Extraordinary General Meeting if two-thirds of the members make such a request in writing. The request shall specify the items for the agenda. An Extraordinary General Meeting shall be held within four months of receipt of the request.

V. The members shall be notified of the place, date and agenda at least one month before the date of an Extraordinary General Meeting. The agenda of an Extraordinary General Meeting may not be altered.

## **Obligatory resolutions**

A resolution by the General Meeting shall be necessary for the following items:

- I. Amendment to the Constitution
- II. Appointment or dismissal of members of the Executive Committee
- III. Approval of budget and accounts
- IV. Dissolution of CONIFA
- V. Exclusion of a member

#### **Votes and delegates**

- I. Each Active member has ten votes in the General Meeting. Only the Active members present or represented by proxy, are entitled to vote. An affiliated member is represented by its delegate.
- II. Each member can be represented by another member, bearer of a written proxy which is delivered to the President of the Executive Committee or sent by email to the General Secretary before the General Meeting. Only one proxy is authorized per member.
- III. Delegates must belong to the affiliated member that they represent and be appointed by the appropriate body of that Football Association.
- IV. During their term of office, members of the Executive Committee, is allowed to be appointed as delegates for their Football Association.
- V. The President shall conduct the General Meeting business in compliance with the Internal Regulations.

#### **Candidates for the Presidency of CONIFA**

- I. All Active members may propose candidates for the presidency of CONIFA. Members shall notify the CONIFA general secretariat in writing of the name of the candidate for the CONIFA presidency at least one month before the date of the Annual General Meeting.
- II. The general secretariat shall notify all the members of the names and lists of proposed candidates before the date of the Annual General Meeting.

#### Ordinary Annual General Meeting Agenda (AGM)

The General Secretary shall draw up the agenda based on proposals from the Executive Committee and the members. Any proposal that a member wishes to submit to the AGM shall be sent to the general secretariat in writing, with a brief explanation, at least one month before the date of the AGM. The AGM agenda shall include the following mandatory items:

- I. a declaration that the AGM has been convened and composed in compliance with the Constitution;
- II. approval of the agenda;
- III. an address by the President
- IV. suspension or expulsion of a member (if applicable);
- V. approval of the minutes of the preceding AGM;
- VI. activity report (containing the activities since the last General Meeting);
- VII. approval of the financial statements;
- VIII. approval of the budget;
  - IX. admission for membership (if applicable);
  - X. votes on proposals for amendments to the Constitution and the Internal Regulations (if applicable);
  - XI. discussion of proposals submitted by the members and the Executive Committee within the period stipulated under par. 1 (if applicable);
- XII. election of the President and members of the Executive Committee (if applicable).;

The agenda of an Ordinary AGM may be altered, provided two-thirds of the members present at the Ordinary General Meeting and eligible to vote agree to such a motion.

## Amendments to the Constitution and the Internal Regulations

- I. The AGM, at which a quorum is present, shall represent the universality of the members. It shall have the widest powers to have all the instruments concerning the CONIFA ratified. Resolutions shall be binding on all members, including those absent or dissenting.
- II. The AGM is responsible for amending the Constitution and the Internal Regulations.
- III. Any proposals for an amendment to the Constitution must be submitted in writing with a brief explanation to the general secretariat by a member or by the Executive Committee. A proposal submitted by a member is valid, provided it has been supported in writing by at least two other members.
- IV. Proposals for amending the Constitution or for an early dissolution shall be formally stated in the agenda.

- V. For a vote on an amendment to the Constitution to be valid, an absolute majority (half of the members plus one member) of the present members.
- VI. A proposal for an amendment to the Constitution shall be adopted only if two-thirds of the members present and eligible to vote agree to it.
- VII. Any proposal to amend the Internal Regulations must be submitted in writing with a brief explanation to the general secretariat by a member or by the Executive Committee.
- VIII. A proposal for an amendment to the Internal Regulations shall be adopted only if a simple majority of the members present and eligible to vote agree to it.

## **Early dissolution**

- I. For a vote on an early dissolution of the CONIFA, the two-thirds of the members eligible to vote must be present.
- II. A proposal for an early dissolution of the CONIFA shall be adopted only if three-quarters of the members present and eligible to vote agree to it.

## Elections, other decisions, majority

- I. Elections and decisions shall be conducted by show of hands or by secret ballot.
- II. If a show of hands does not result in a clear majority in favour, the vote by secret ballot shall be taken by the present members.
- III. For the election of the President, two-thirds of the votes recorded and valid are necessary in the first ballot. In the second and any other requisite ballot, an absolute majority of the votes recorded is sufficient. If there are more than two candidates, whoever obtains the lowest number of votes is eliminated as from the second ballot until only two candidates are left.
- IV. Unless otherwise stipulated in the Constitution, a simple majority is sufficient for a vote to be valid. The number of valid votes counted shall decide the simple majority. Abstentions are disregarded in calculating the majority.

#### **Minutes**

- I. The General Secretary shall be responsible for recording the minutes at the AGM.
- II. The decisions of the AGM shall be recorded in minutes contained in a special register and signed by the President and the General Secretary. The decisions concerning third parties and, in any case, any amendments to the Constitution, as well as any appointment, resignation or dismissal of a Director (member of the Executive Committee)), shall be published on the official CONIFA website within the month of their dates of occurrence. Copies or extracts shall be signed by the President or two Directors.

## Effective dates of decision

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

#### **Executive Committee**

## **Composition**

The Executive Committee consists between twelve (12) and twenty (20) members

The President, Vice President, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, General Secretary and eight to sixteen (8-16) individual members (Continental Presidents, Directors) elected by the Annual General Meeting.

#### **Election of President and Executive Committee Directors**

- I. The President shall be elected by the Annual General Meeting for a period of three years. The mandate shall begin after the end of the Annual General Meeting which has elected him. A President may be re-elected.
- II. The mandates of the members of the Executive Committee shall last for two years, starting upon their installation by the Annual General Meeting. They may be re-elected.
- III. Not more than one member from the same Football Association may serve on the Executive Committee simultaneously.

## **Substitution and/or Deputies**

- I. If the President is permanently or temporarily prevented from performing his official function, the Vice-president shall represent him until the next Annual General Meeting. This Annual General Meeting shall elect a new President, if necessary.
- II. If the Vice-President is permanently or temporarily prevented from performing his official function, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-president shall represent him until the next Annual General Meeting. This Annual General Meeting shall elect a new Vice-President, if necessary.
- III. If any other member of the Executive Committee is permanently or temporarily prevented from performing his official function, the President can appoint a new member for the remaining period of office as a deputy assignment.

#### **Executive Committee rights, duties and obligations**

- I. The Executive Committee shall pass decisions on all cases that do not come within the sphere of responsibility of the Annual General Meeting or are not reserved for other bodies by law or under this Constitution.
- II. The Executive Committee can appoint managers for special value added duties.
- III. The Executive Committee may decide to set up ad-hoc committees if necessary at any time.
- IV. The Executive Committee shall appoint the delegates from CONIFA to the different authorities.
- V. The Executive Committee shall compile the regulations for appointed managers and ad-hoc committees.

- VI. The Executive Committee shall decide the place and dates of the competitions of CONIFA tournaments and the number of teams taking part.
- VII. The Executive Committee is responsible to support each Director and Continental President for their development and maintenance.
- VIII. The members of the Executive Committee do not take any personal duty or responsibility in relation to the commitments of CONIFA. They are only responsible for the executive of their non-benefit warrant, as well as the errors made in their management. The Annual General Meeting can decide of an annual Executive Committee reimbursement.
  - IX. Each member of the Executive Committee owns 1 vote at the Annual General Meeting.

#### **Executive Committee Meetings**

- I. The Executive Committee meets minimum two times a year at least, and any time that the association's interest requires it.
- II. The President shall convene the Executive Committee meetings. If the fifth of its members request a meeting, the President shall convene the Executive Committee
- III. The President shall compile the agenda. The agenda shall be mentioned in the convocations. Each member of the Executive Committee is entitled to propose items for inclusion in the agenda.
- IV. The agenda of an Executive Committee may be altered, provided half of the members present agree to such a motion.
- V. A Member of the Executive Committee may be represented by another member of the Executive Committee, bearer of a written proxy. Only one proxy per member is authorized.
- VI. A proposal shall be adopted only if an absolute majority (half of the members plus one member) of the members of the Executive Committee agree to it. In the case of equality, a second ballot is organized. In the case of new equality, the President's vote is casting. The vote shall be conducted by secret ballot if any member of the Executive Committee asks for.
- VII. The Executive Committee shall give priority to video conference meetings for effectiveness and to save the planet from unnecessary pollution.

#### **Lawsuits**

Legal actions, whether as claimant or defendant, shall be brought and continued, on behalf of CONIFA, equally by the Executive Committee.

#### **Actions binding on CONIFA**

Unless the Executive Committee approves a special delegation, the actions binding on CONIFA shall be signed by the President or, if not, by a Director (member of the Executive Committee) delegated for this purpose and by the General Secretary or, if not, by a Director delegated by the Executive

Committee for this purpose, without there being any need to give proof to third parties of a resolution by the Executive Committee.

## **Day-to-Day Management**

Day-to-day management of CONIFA, as well as the use of the CONIFA signature assigned to said management (up to 1.500 euros), shall be conferred on the President of the Executive Committee or on a Director and/or Continental President (member of the Executive Committee) delegated for this purpose. Any amount beyond 1 500 euros, the signatures of the General Secretary or, if not, of a Director or Continental President, delegated for this purpose, and the President shall be required, with the exception of protective measures.

#### Official register

The decisions made by the Executive Committee shall be recorded in an official register. All minutes shall be signed by the President and the General Secretary. Extracts to be submitted to courts or elsewhere shall be signed by the President or two Directors (members of the Executive Committee).

## President, Vice President and 2nd Vice President

#### **Presidency**

The President represents CONIFA, he or she is primarily responsible for:

- I. implementing the decisions passed by the General Meeting and the Executive Committee through the general secretariat
- II. supervising the work of the general secretariat
- III. relations between CONIFA and the confederations, members, political bodies and international organisations
- IV. the President shall preside over the General Meeting, the Executive Committee meetings and those committees of which he/she has been appointed chairman.
- V. the President shall have an ordinary vote on the Executive Committee and, whenever votes are equal, shall have a casting vote.
- VI. if the President is absent or unavailable, the Vice-president shall deputise.
- VII. if the Vice President is absent or unavailable, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President shall deputise.
- VIII. any additional powers of the President shall be contained in the Internal Regulations.
  - IX. the President, Vice President and 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President can be assigned additional duties, decided by the Executive Committee and based on interest and competences.

## **General Secretary**

#### General secretariat

The General Secretary carries out all the administrative work of CONIFA, he or she is responsible for:

- I. Implementing decisions passed by the General Meeting and Executive Committee in compliance with the President's directives
- II. Compiling the minutes for the meetings of the General Meeting and Executive Committee
- III. CONIFA's correspondence
- IV. Relations with the confederations, members and committees
- V. Organising and coordinating the general secretariat
- VI. Checking the communication tools, CONIFA website and social medias

## **Directors - Continental Presidency**

The Annual General Meeting elects eight to sixteen (8-16) Executive Committee Directors and a Continental President, representing Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America, North America/Caribbean's and Oceania. Latest the day after the AGM the Executive Committee shall conduct an inaugural meeting in which the roles for each Director will be determined, based on needs, interests and competences. Examples of assignments, if applicable:

#### I. Financial Director

The Director shall monetarize the annual budget and financial statements. Keep records of all financial transactions in CONIFA and at each Executive Committee meeting deliver a financial statement. He or She shall also be responsible to present the annual financial statement and budget at the Annual General Meeting. If No Financial Director can be appointed, the Executive Committee has the right to assign another member of the Executive Committee for these duties.

## II. Culture and Youth Exchange

The Director has global responsibility to organize, prepare and implement cultural events in connection with official CONIFA competitions in collaboration with participating teams, continental equivalent manager elected by the Continental Committees and/or third party.

The Director of Culture and Youth Exchange shall also organize and implement youth exchange programs in collaboration with participating teams, continental equivalent manager elected by the Continental Committees and/or third party.

For each activity a budget shall be prepared and approved by the CONIFA Executive Committee.

#### III. Social Media, Media and Communications

The Director/s has global responsibility to setup a media and communication strategy together with each elected Continental Communication Manager. The strategy plan must be approved by the Executive Committee. Any changes in the strategy plan must be approved by the Executive Committee before it goes operational. These one to three (1-3) Director roles are responsible for global strategies, actions/activities and follow-ups (quality assurance) within these fields of their operations.

#### **Continental Presidents**

The six Continental Presidents of Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America, North America/Caribbean's and Oceania is responsible to build and maintain an operational Continental Committee.

**Guideline**: the Continental Committees structure:

- The Continental President
- General Secretary
- Culture and Youth Exchange Director
- Communications / Media Director
- Commercial / Sponsorship Director
- Tournament/Event Director
- Others chosen by the Continental President and/or Continental Committee.

The Continental President owns the right to give structure to its Continental Committee. The final structure shall be approved by the CONIFA Executive Committee. The Continental President is main responsible to prepare, organize and implement Continental Championships, tournaments and matches. The Continental President is responsible to conduct an Annual General Meeting for its Continent two months before the CONIFA Global General Meeting, if applicable. Any decision taken at the Continental General Meeting shall be approved by the CONIFA Global General Meeting to take legal action.

The Continental Committee/s are obligated to follow the Constitution, Continental Guidelines (Internal Regulation), stated by the CONIFA Executive Committee and the AGM.

## **Managers and Committees**

The CONIFA Executive Committee has the right and obligation to appoint additional competences for the operational duties within CONIFA to fulfil the organizations vision and objectives. Example of assignments, if applicable:

- Referee Manager
- Football for Disabled Manager
- Commercial Manager
- Development Manager
- **❖** Sales/Sponsorship Manager
- Brand Manager
- International Relationship Manager
- Futsal Manager
- Beach Soccer Manager

- Social Media Manager
- PR / Media Manager
- TV rights Manager
- \* TV Distribution and Operation Manager
- Marketing Manager
- Legal Manager
- ❖ Host, Tournament and/or Event Manager
- Others

The Managers can be invited to Executive Committee meetings as advisers in their role, but have no voting rights inside the Executive Committee

#### **Visibility**

All elected and assigned Executive Committee members, members of any Continental Committee and/or Managers shall be published on the CONIFA website, with pictures, roles, area of responsibility and contact details.

#### **Appeal authority**

The Executive Committee is the only appeal authority. It is responsible for hearing appeals against decisions from the standing committees. Decisions pronounced shall be irrevocable and binding on all the parties concerned.

## SUBMISSION TO DECISION OF CONIFA

## **Principle**

- I. All members shall agree to comply fully with any decisions passed by the relevant CONIFA bodies which, according to this Constitution, are final and not subject to appeal.
- II. They shall take every precaution necessary to ensure that their own members, players and officials comply with these decisions.

#### **Sanctions**

Any violation of the foregoing provision will be punished by the decision of the Executive Committee or disciplinary committee of any tournament or the Annual General Meeting.

#### **FINANCE**

## **Business year**

The business year shall start on 1<sup>st</sup> January and finish on 31<sup>st</sup> December. Each year, at the end of the business year, the account books shall be closed. The Executive Committee shall give an account of the year and the budget for the following year and submit them for approval by the Annual General Meeting.

When preparing the annual budget, the Executive Committee shall decide on the use of the funds collected or to be collected, should there be a positive balance after the auditing of the administration and running costs. The CONIFA reserves the right to claim the funds paid or obtain them through the courts, should their use not correspond to what had been planned by CONIFA.

## **Annual membership fees**

- I. Membership subscriptions are due on 1 January of each year. The annual subscription for members for the upcoming year in question shall be paid Q4 of the current year (Oct-Dec) to be valid as Active members, in other case the status will be Associated member. The Executive Committee have the rights to decide on exceptions, if a written request from the member is handed over to the Executive Committee.
- II. The Annual General Meeting shall fix the amount of the annual membership subscription

#### **Settlement**

CONIFA may debit any members account to settle claims.

## RIGHTS IN COMPETITIONS AND EVENTS

## **Rights**

- I. CONIFA and its members are the original owners of all of the rights emanating from competitions and other events coming under their respective jurisdiction, without any restrictions as to content, time, place and law. These rights include, among others, every kind of financial rights, audio visual and radio recording, reproduction and broadcasting rights, multimedia rights, marketing and promotional rights and incorporeal rights such as emblems and rights arising under copyright law.
- II. The Executive Committee shall decide how and to what extent these rights are utilised and draw up special regulations to this end. The Executive Committee shall alone decide whether these rights shall be utilised exclusively, or jointly with a third party or entirely through a third party.

#### **Authorization**

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

## Venue

The Executive Committee shall decide the venue for all the competitions organised by CONIFA. The Executive Committee shall issue guidelines in this connection.

#### **COMPETITIONS**

## Internal match calendar

CONIFA shall host an international match calendar on the CONIFA website were affiliated members can register scheduled games and results.

## **Broadcasting / streaming**

All official tournaments/cups/matches arranged by CONIFA shall be streamed through internet and/or broadcasted by TV. With exception for friendly games and minor tournaments

## **International matches and competitions**

- I. The Executive Committee shall be responsible for issuing provisions for organising international matches and competitions between national representative teams.
- II. The Executive Committee may draw up further technical provisions.

#### **Contacts**

Matches may be played or sporting contacts be made between an member of CONIFA and a Football Associations which is not member of CONIFA

## FINAL DISPOSITIONS

## **Internal regulations**

The Executive Committee shall draw up Internal Regulations which shall be submitted to the Annual General Meeting for approval. After this, the Executive Committee may propose, during the Ordinary General Meeting, the amendments it seems useful for these regulations.

## Official writs

All instruments, invoices, declarations, publications and other records issued by CONIFA shall include the association name.

## **Administrative control**

CONIFA shall register chosen accountant a copy of the Constitution, of the writs relative to the appointment, the end of functions of the representatives and agents of the CONIFA, as well as a copy of the members' register and of the annual accounts. The chosen accountant shall provide an audit report to the Annual General Meeting.

## Non planned and overpowering circumstances

Decisions pronounced by the Executive Committee shall be irrevocable for all the non- planned and overpowering circumstances

## **Enforcement**

This Constitution was adopted by the Annual General Meeting in Kyrenia, North Cyprus on 6<sup>th</sup> January 2018.

Kyrenia, 6<sup>th</sup> January 2018

For the CONIFA Executive Committee

Per-Anders Blind

**CONIFA Global President** 

Sascha Düerkop CONIFA General Secretary