

Regulations of the Olympic Football Tournaments

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Games of the XXIX Olympiad Beijing

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PREAMBLE

1. The Olympic Football Tournaments take place every four years, in conjunction with the Olympic Summer Games. The associations affiliated to FIFA are invited to participate with their men's U-23 and women's representative teams.
2. The Games of the XXIX Olympiad Beijing 2008 (8-24 August 2008) shall feature a men's and a women's football tournament scheduled to be played between 6 and 23 August 2008.
3. The Olympic Football Tournaments Beijing 2008 ("Tournaments") are FIFA events embodied in the FIFA Statutes.
4. The Tournaments consist of a preliminary and a final competition.
5. Any rights not ceded by these Regulations to an association participating in the final competition(s) or to a confederation shall belong to the International Olympic Committee (IOC) and/or FIFA as the case may be.
6. Terms used in these Regulations referring to natural persons are applicable to both genders. Any term in the singular applies to the plural and vice versa.

I. ORGANISATION OF THE PRELIMINARY AND FINAL COMPETITIONS

Article 1 FIFA

1. The FIFA Organising Committee for the Olympic Football Tournaments ("FIFA Organising Committee") appointed by the FIFA Executive Committee shall organise the Tournaments in accordance with the FIFA Statutes and the provisions contained in the Regulations of the Olympic Football Tournaments Beijing 2008 ("Regulations").
2. The FIFA Organising Committee may, if necessary, appoint a bureau and/or a sub-committee to deal with emergencies. Any decision taken by the bureau or the sub-committee shall come into effect immediately but shall be subject to confirmation by the plenary committee at its next meeting.
3. The responsibilities of the FIFA Organising Committee include:
 - a) approving all preparations for the Tournaments, in particular the choice of the stadiums;
 - b) approving the draw procedures and conducting the draw for the final competitions;
 - c) appointing match commissioners and, when necessary, assisting the confederations in appointing security officers or any other officials that may be required;
 - d) ensuring that the terms and conditions of Arts. 8-11 are respected;
 - e) reporting the cases referred to under Art. 12, par. 3-7 to the FIFA Disciplinary Committee;
 - f) adjudicating on protests and taking appropriate steps to verify their admissibility (cf. Art. 37);
 - g) replacing associations that have withdrawn from the Tournaments (Art. 12, par. 8);
 - h) settling cases of force majeure;
 - i) dealing with any other aspect of the Tournaments that is not the responsibility of another body under the terms of these Regulations or the FIFA Statutes.

I. ORGANISATION OF THE PRELIMINARY AND FINAL COMPETITIONS

4. During the preliminary competitions, the FIFA Organising Committee shall:
 - a) form groups and/or sub-groups in cooperation with the confederations;
 - b) fix venues, dates and kick-off times in cooperation with the confederations if associations fail to agree;
 - c) decide which matches shall be subject to random doping tests (cf. Arts. 33-35).
5. During the final competitions, the FIFA Organising Committee shall:
 - a) supervise general preparations, decide on the match system and the draw and form groups;
 - b) after consultation with BOCOG, fix the dates and venues for the matches, choose stadiums and training grounds in good condition;
 - c) determine kick-off times;
 - d) choose the official football and the stipulated technical material;
 - e) appoint the referees, assistant referees and fourth officials through the FIFA Referees Committee;
 - f) arrange accident and health insurance cover for the members of its official delegation, including the referees and assistant referees (cf. Art. 40, par. 2).
6. The decisions taken by the FIFA Organising Committee are final and binding .

Article **2** Confederations

1. The preliminary competitions shall be organised by FIFA in collaboration with the confederations. The confederations shall establish a competition format, which shall require approval from FIFA.

2. The confederations may propose to FIFA that existing tournaments serve as the preliminary competitions for the Tournaments. In case of FIFA accepting such a proposal, the respective confederations shall be solely responsible for the organisation of such preliminary tournaments.

Article 3 Host associations/BOCOG

Host associations

1. For the duration of the preliminary competitions, the respective host associations shall be responsible for the safety and security of the guest teams.

BOCOG

2. The responsibilities of BOCOG during the final competitions shall include:
 - a) approving preparations for the Tournaments, in particular the choice of dates;
 - b) ensuring that order and safety are maintained, particularly inside the stadiums and in their immediate surroundings. It shall take adequate measures, if necessary by working closely with the relevant authorities, to prevent and restrain outbreaks of violence. BOCOG shall ensure efficient entry checks and guarantee the safety and security of spectators;
 - c) ensuring that order and safety are maintained around the headquarters and/or the Olympic Village and training grounds of the participating teams;
 - d) ensuring the presence of a sufficient number of ground staff and security stewards to guarantee safety. BOCOG is responsible for the behaviour of these staff while on duty;
 - e) providing suitable local transport from the official hotels to the stadiums where the matches shall be played and to the training grounds for the participating teams, match officials and delegates of FIFA.

I. ORGANISATION OF THE PRELIMINARY AND FINAL COMPETITIONS

- f) providing an adequate number of seats and the necessary technical facilities for accredited local and foreign media representatives (television, press, radio and internet);
- g) preventing journalists, television and radio commentators and accredited film and television crews from entering the playing area at any time before, during or after the match. Only a limited number of photographers and television personnel required to operate the broadcasting equipment, all of them issued with special accreditation, may be admitted to the area between the boundaries of the field and spectators.

Article 4 Participating associations

1. Associations taking part in the Tournaments shall undertake to comply fully with these Regulations and the decisions taken by the relevant FIFA bodies.
2. For the duration of the preliminary competitions and unless otherwise mentioned under Art. 22, the responsibilities of each association taking part in the preliminary competitions shall include:
 - a) guaranteeing law and order as well as safety in the stadiums, if necessary in collaboration with the relevant authorities;
 - b) complying with the guidelines and instructions issued by FIFA.
3. Unless otherwise mentioned hereinafter, the responsibilities of each association taking part in the Tournaments shall include:
 - a) ensuring the good behaviour of all its officials, players, members of its delegation and other persons carrying out duties on its behalf throughout the Tournaments, in particular for the whole duration of their stay in China;
 - b) concluding compulsory and adequate health, accident, travel and other insurance for all members of its delegation and all other persons participating or carrying out duties on its behalf throughout the Tournaments;

- c) paying for incidental expenses incurred by delegation members during the course of their stay in the host country and for any costs incurred by additional members of its delegation;
 - d) paying for any costs of extending the stay;
 - e) applying for visas in good time from the consulate or embassy of the host country, if necessary;
 - f) attending media conferences and other official media activities organised by the host association, FIFA or BOCOG.
4. Each association taking part in the final competition(s) shall ensure, as a condition of its participation, that every player, official or other member of its delegation completes the official entry form provided by FIFA.

II. ENTRIES FOR THE TOURNAMENTS

Article 5 General provisions

1. The associations affiliated to FIFA may participate in the Tournaments provided there is a National Olympic Committee (NOC) in their respective country which is already recognised or about to be recognised by the IOC.
2. The teams of the Chinese Football Association automatically qualify for the Tournaments' final competitions.
3. Entry into the Tournaments is free of charge.

Article 6 Preliminary competitions

1. Associations shall confirm their participation by sending the official entry form, duly completed, and specifying whether the entry concerns their men's and/or women's team, to the FIFA general secretariat by the deadline set by FIFA.
2. Entries sent by fax shall be confirmed by sending the official entry form by post to the FIFA general secretariat.
3. On entering the preliminary competition(s), the participating associations undertake to:
 - a) observe these Regulations and those drawn up by the respective confederation;
 - b) accept that all the administrative, disciplinary and refereeing matters relating to the preliminary competitions shall be dealt with by the respective confederation in compliance with the respective regulations. FIFA shall not intervene unless associations not affiliated to a confederation are involved, or a confederation requests FIFA's intervention, or in any cases specifically provided for in the FIFA Disciplinary Code;
 - c) observe the principles of fair play.

Article **7** **Final competitions**

1. The entry of the 16 men's and twelve women's Olympic teams that qualify for the final competitions shall be communicated to BOCOG in writing by their respective NOC.
2. In addition, associations entitled to take part in the final competitions shall confirm their participation to FIFA by sending the official entry form, duly completed, to the FIFA general secretariat by the deadline set by FIFA.

Entry forms sent by fax shall be confirmed by sending the official form by post to the FIFA general secretariat.
3. Further to completing FIFA's official entry form, each NOC shall be requested to complete BOCOG's final Sport Entry Forms and Eligibility Conditions forms for the purpose of official registration of the athletes for the Beijing 2008 Olympic Games.
4. On entering the final competitions, the participating associations shall automatically undertake to:
 - a) observe these Regulations and to ensure that the players, the officials and all other members of their delegation observe the same;
 - b) accept the decisions passed by the bodies and officials of FIFA under the terms of these Regulations;
 - c) accept all the arrangements made by BOCOG in agreement with FIFA;
 - d) accept any use, recording and broadcast of images of players and officials that may occur in connection with the final competitions.

II. ENTRIES FOR THE TOURNAMENTS

5. The FIFA Executive Committee has decided that the number of places available to each confederation in the final competitions shall be as follows:

Men's Tournament (16 teams):	Women's Tournament (12 teams):
AFC: 3	AFC: 2
CAF: 3	CAF: 1.5 (play-off with CONMEBOL)
CONCACAF: 2	CONCACAF: 2
CONMEBOL: 2	CONMEBOL: 1.5 (play-off with CAF)
OFC: 1	OFC: 1
UEFA: 4	UEFA: 3
Host (China) 1	Host (China) 1

6. The final list of 18 players and four alternate players, indicating the full surname(s), full first name(s), popular name, name on the shirt, date of birth, name and country of the club, position and passport number of each player, and seven officials (per team in the men's and women's Tournaments) shall be sent to BOCOG by midnight on 23 July 2008 (Beijing local time) at the latest, with a copy to the FIFA general secretariat.
7. Associations with men's and/or women's teams participating in the Tournaments shall have their officials accredited by their respective NOC with an indication of the name and function of each person, as per the information contained in the official lists of players and officials.
8. The maximum number of officials in each delegation in the men's and women's final competitions shall be seven, including the head of delegation.

III. ELIGIBILITY OF PLAYERS

Article 8 General provisions

1. Each association shall take the following provisions into account when selecting its representative team(s):
 - a) all players shall be citizens of its country and subject to its jurisdiction;
 - b) all players shall be eligible for selection in accordance with the provisions of Art. 15 of the Regulations Governing the Application of the FIFA Statutes.

Men's tournament

2. All players participating in the preliminary and final competition of the Tournament shall be born on or after 1 January 1985. However, a maximum of three male players who do not meet this age limit may also be included in the official list of players for the final competition.

Women's tournament

3. There are no age restrictions for the players participating in the women's Tournament.
4. Any team that is found guilty of fielding an ineligible player for whatever reason (non-compliance with the age restrictions, omission from the list of players as a potential participant in the match, etc.) shall forfeit the match. Victory and the resultant three points shall be awarded to the opposing team as well as the score of 3-0, or greater, depending on the score of the match. The relevant FIFA committees may take additional disciplinary measures.

Article 9 Preliminary competitions

1. 18 players (eleven selected players and seven substitutes) shall be eligible to take part in the matches. Two of these 18 players must be goalkeepers, with the number one shirt being reserved for one of them.

III. ELIGIBILITY OF PLAYERS

2. In the exceptional event that a group plays all of its qualifying matches at one venue (tournament style), up to 20 players (eleven selected players and nine substitutes) may be registered.
3. A passport that explicitly states the day, month and year of birth shall be the only document considered to be valid proof of a player's identity, nationality and age. A player shall not be entitled to play unless he can produce a valid passport. Identity cards shall not be accepted as a valid means of identification.
4. All players, officials and other delegation members must comply with the reasonable requirements by the organising bodies of the respective preliminary competition.

Article 10 Final competitions

1. If an association's men's or women's team qualifies for its respective final competition, it shall send FIFA a provisional list of players (three of whom shall be goalkeepers) at least 30 days before the opening match of the final competition.
2. This provisional list shall be accompanied by copies of the birth certificate and passport of each player appearing on the list. All this documentation shall reach the FIFA general secretariat by the deadline set in the relevant circular.
3. Each association that qualifies for the final competition(s) may nominate 18 players per team, numbered from one to 18, with the numbers one and 18 being reserved exclusively for the goalkeepers.
4. In addition to the 18 players officially enrolled for the final competition(s), each association is allowed, if deemed necessary, to select a maximum of four alternate players per team, who shall appear in the provisional and the final list of players and officials, but shall not be officially enrolled for the competition and therefore shall not be allowed to play. The following applies to these four alternate players:
 - a) They are not among the 18 players officially enrolled in their team's list of players and officials. They are not allowed to compete in the final competition unless the provisions of Art. 10, par. 4c) apply;

- b) The purpose of selecting alternate players is, in principle, to have them available should one or more of the officially enrolled players sustain an injury or in the case of force majeure once the final competitions have started;
 - c) Any request to change the status of an alternate player in order to enrol him in the official list of 18 players shall be made following approval and confirmation from the relevant FIFA committees and by following the BOCOG Procedure regarding Emergency Medical Replacement. Once the replacement request has been approved by all parties, the relevant form shall be submitted in writing to the BOCOG Accreditation Centre(s) either by the relevant team's head of delegation or by the Chef de Mission of the respective NOC;
 - d) The alternate players shall be numbered 19 to 22, with the number 22 being reserved for the alternate goalkeeper;
 - e) All costs incurred by any alternate player (airfares, board, lodging etc.) shall be borne by either the relevant association or the respective NOC.
5. The numbers on the back of the shirts shall correspond to the numbers indicated on the official team list, which shall be submitted to the FIFA general secretariat, together with copies of the players' passports, using the official form, by 23 July 2008. This list of 18 players and four alternate players shall show the full surname(s), all first names, popular name, name on the shirt, date of birth, passport number, club and country of the club, and position of each player. Only these 18 players (except in cases of force majeure recognised by the FIFA Organising Committee, cf. Art. 10, par. 4b)) shall be permitted to compete in the final competitions.
6. All 18 players shall be named in the starting list for each match (eleven selected players and seven substitutes). Up to a maximum of three of these substitutes may take the place of the selected players at any time during the match. None of the four alternate players, unless their status has been changed in accordance with Art. 10, par. 4c) and they are thus officially enrolled in the official list of 18 players, may be included in the starting list for a match or be seated on the substitutes' bench during a match.

III. ELIGIBILITY OF PLAYERS

7. No more than 14 people (seven substitutes and seven officials) shall be allowed to sit on the substitutes' bench. Each team's media officer must be included among the seven officials sitting on the substitutes' bench.
8. Before the start of the final competitions, all players listed must prove their identity, nationality and age by producing both their legally valid individual passport with photograph (stating day, month, and year of birth) and their birth certificate. Any player who fails to submit these documents shall not be allowed to take part in the final competitions.
9. If any discrepancies are detected in a player's date of birth, the FIFA Organising Committee shall apply the provisions determined by the FIFA Executive Committee for such cases and decide the consequences that such a violation shall have on the rest of the competition. The FIFA Organising Committee shall then forward the file to the FIFA Disciplinary Committee.
10. The official lists of 18 players and four alternate players shall be published by the FIFA general secretariat.

Article **11** Accreditation

1. BOCOG shall issue each player and official with an official accreditation bearing a photograph.
2. Only players in possession of valid accreditation may play in the final competitions. The accreditation shall always be available for inspection by FIFA officials (e.g. referees, general coordinators).
3. Each participating association shall receive 25 accreditations per team (18 for the listed players and seven for officials). An association may request up to a maximum of four extra accreditations for its alternate players. The recipients of the additional accreditations shall appear on the official list of players and officials, but shall not be officially enrolled for the final competitions and their access to zones and Olympic venues shall be limited.

Article 12 Withdrawal

1. All associations that enter a team undertake to play all of their matches.
2. If a team refuses to play in the final competitions, it shall be disqualified, unless Art. 44 of these Regulations applies.
3. Any association that withdraws up to 30 days before the start of the preliminary competitions shall be fined CHF 5,000.
4. Any association that withdraws less than 30 days before the start of the preliminary competitions shall be fined CHF 7,500.
5. Any association that withdraws after the start of the preliminary competitions shall be fined CHF 10,000.
6. Any association whose team withdraws up to 30 days before the start of the final competitions shall be fined CHF 15,000.
7. Any association whose team withdraws less than 30 days before the start of the final competitions shall be fined CHF 20,000.
8. Any association that withdraws prior to or during the preliminary competitions may be replaced by another association. The FIFA Organising Committee shall decide on the matter.
9. Depending on circumstances and the decision of the FIFA Organising Committee, any association that withdraws a team may be ordered to reimburse FIFA, the relevant association(s), the confederation(s) concerned and/or BOCOG for any expenses the latter have already incurred as a result of their involvement, and may also be obliged to pay compensation for any damages or losses incurred.
10. Depending on the circumstances of the withdrawal, the FIFA Disciplinary Committee may also impose appropriate sanctions, including the right to ban the association concerned from subsequent Tournaments and from any other FIFA competition.

III. ELIGIBILITY OF PLAYERS

11. The FIFA Organising Committee shall determine the amount of damages for financial loss upon receipt of a substantiated and documented request from the respective associations, the confederations concerned and/or BOCOG.
12. If, through the fault of any association, a match cannot take place or be played in its entirety, the FIFA Organising Committee shall declare the match forfeit (awarding victory and the resultant three points to the opposing team as well as the score of 3-0 or greater, depending on the score of the match at the time of abandonment) and forward the file to the FIFA Disciplinary Committee.
13. No appeals may be lodged against these decisions. Furthermore, the association responsible shall forfeit any claim to financial remuneration from FIFA.
14. The FIFA Organising Committee shall take whatever action is deemed necessary in the case of force majeure.

IV. MATCH REQUIREMENTS AND REFEREEING

Article 13 Laws of the Game

1. All matches shall be played in accordance with the Laws of the Game laid down by the International Football Association Board and published by FIFA.
2. In the case of any discrepancy in the interpretation of the Laws of the Game, the English version shall be authoritative.

Article 14 Stadiums and fields of play

1. All stadiums and their facilities, in which the matches are to take place, shall fulfil FIFA requirements and comply with the standards of safety and security required for international matches. The fields of play, goals and flag posts shall comply with the provisions stipulated in the Laws of the Game. The pitches and the facilities shall be in optimum condition.
2. As a general rule, the preliminary and final competition matches may only be played in all-seater stadiums. If the only stadiums available have both seating and standing areas, the standing areas shall remain vacant.
3. As a general rule, the matches may be played on natural or artificial surfaces. If artificial surfaces are used, the surface shall meet the standards specified in the FIFA Recommended 2 Star Quality Concept.
4. Any association that organises a match in the preliminary competition shall be responsible for the standard of the stadiums and their facilities.
5. The stadiums selected by BOCOG for the final competitions shall be subject to the approval of the FIFA Organising Committee.

IV. MATCH REQUIREMENTS AND REFEREEING

Article 15 Footballs

1. The footballs chosen for the Tournaments shall conform with the provisions of the Laws of the Game and bear one of the following three designations: the official "FIFA APPROVED" logo, the official "FIFA INSPECTED" logo or the reference "INTERNATIONAL MATCH BALL STANDARD".
2. The FIFA Equipment Regulations in force shall apply to manufacturer identification on the footballs.
3. The footballs for the preliminary competitions shall be supplied by the respective host association.
4. The footballs for the final competitions shall be selected and supplied by FIFA.

Article 16 Duration of matches

1. Each match shall last 90 minutes, comprising two periods of 45 minutes, with an interval of 15 minutes.
2. If, in accordance with the provisions of these Regulations, extra time is required at the end of normal playing time, it shall always consist of two periods of 15 minutes, with an interval of five minutes at the end of normal playing time, but not between the two periods of extra time.
3. If a match is drawn at the end of extra time, kicks from the penalty mark shall be taken to determine the winner, in accordance with the procedure specified in the Laws of the Game.
4. Clocks in the stadium showing the length of time played may run during the match, provided that they are stopped at the end of normal playing time in each half, i.e. after 45 and 90 minutes, respectively. This stipulation also applies in the event of extra time being played, i.e. after 15 and 30 minutes, respectively.

5. At the end of the two periods of normal playing time (45 and 90 minutes), the referee shall indicate to the fourth official the number of additional minutes that he has decided to allow for time lost. This stipulation also applies to the two periods of extra time.
6. Panels or electronic display boards, numbered on both sides, shall be used to indicate the substitution of players and the number of minutes to be allowed for time lost.

Article 17 Referees and match officials

1. The referees, assistant referees and fourth officials for the preliminary competitions and the final competitions shall be selected from the applicable FIFA international list of referees and assistant referees. They shall not represent associations playing in the group in question.
2. A referee, two assistant referees and a fourth official shall be appointed by the confederations, in consultation with FIFA, for each match in the preliminary competitions and by the FIFA Referees Committee for each match in the final competitions.
3. The decisions of the FIFA Referees Committee are final and not subject to appeal.
4. After each match, the referee shall complete and sign an official FIFA report form. The referee shall hand it over to the FIFA general coordinator at the stadium immediately after the match.
5. On the report form, the referee shall note all occurrences before, during and after the match in as much detail as possible, such as:
 - (a) misconduct of players leading to caution or expulsion;
 - (b) unsporting behaviour by officials, supporters or any other person acting on behalf of an association at the match;
 - (c) any other incidents.
6. The match officials shall be given the opportunity to use adequate training facilities.

Article **18** Equipment

1. The participating associations shall undertake to comply with the FIFA Equipment Regulations in force with regard to all issues concerning colours, numbering and the printing of names on the players' equipment, for the preliminary and final competitions.
2. During the final competitions of the Tournaments, unlike other FIFA competitions, the IOC Olympic Charter forms the basis for the acceptance of the equipment of the participating associations. The latter represent their respective NOCs during the Beijing 2008 Olympic Games and shall therefore comply fully with IOC guidelines.
3. Rule 53 and the Bye-Law to Rule 53 of the Olympic Charter (cf. Appendix A) describe the specifications of manufacturer identification allowed on the players' kit and on other clothing worn by substitutes and officials in the stadium and training areas. This ruling takes precedence over the FIFA Equipment Regulations in force in terms of advertising on sports equipment and manufacturers' identification for the duration of the final competitions.
4. Players and officials shall not display political, religious, commercial or personal messages in any language or form on their playing kit, equipment or bodies.
5. In the case of contradictions between the IOC and FIFA regulations, the IOC regulations shall prevail.

V. COMMERCIAL RIGHTS

Article 19 Rights of the participating associations

In the absence of any written agreement with FIFA to the contrary, or as set out herein, no participating association shall have any promotional, advertising, marketing, broadcasting or other commercial exploitation rights in relation to:

- a) the final competitions of the Tournaments;
- b) any event held under the auspices of FIFA;
- c) FIFA or the IOC itself.

Article 20 FIFA marks

1. FIFA is the sole owner of its name, marks, logos, emblems, cup design and other such marks relating to the Tournaments on a worldwide basis, including but not limited to:
 - a) the name "FIFA";
 - b) the FIFA Design Emblem;
 - c) the FIFA Event Mark for the Tournaments.
2. The use of these marks is subject to FIFA's prior written approval and further regulations issued by FIFA. The participating associations shall not use FIFA's marks without obtaining such written approval.

Article 21 Rights of the IOC

All commercial rights in relation to the final competitions (marketing and TV rights) are regulated by the IOC.

Article 22 General provisions

1. The preliminary competitions shall take place between August 2006 and the end of March 2008. Any play-off matches shall be contested by April 2008 at the latest.
2. The FIFA Organising Committee in cooperation with the confederations shall form groups and/or sub-groups for the men's and women's preliminary competitions by seeding and drawing lots, whilst taking sporting, geographical and economic factors into consideration as far as possible.

All decisions made by the FIFA Organising Committee regarding the group formation shall be final and not subject to appeal. In the case of an association withdrawing from the preliminary competitions, the FIFA Organising Committee may change groups in accordance with the above.
3. The dates and venues of the matches of the men's and women's preliminary competitions shall be fixed by the confederations, upon consultation with the associations concerned and subject to the approval of the FIFA Organising Committee. The associations concerned shall also agree upon financial arrangements (cf. Art. 39).
4. If any association fails to agree on the dates, venues, kick-off times or the system of play (Art. 23 par. 1) of the matches in the men's and women's preliminary competitions, the FIFA Organising Committee shall make the final decisions.
5. The matches may be played in daylight or under floodlights. Evening matches may only be played at venues where the floodlighting installations meet the minimum lighting requirements specified by FIFA. The FIFA Organising Committee is entitled to grant exceptions, which shall be final.
6. During the preliminary competitions, the FIFA flag and the flags of the confederation and of both competing associations shall be flown inside the stadium at every match. The national anthems of the two teams shall be played after the line-up.

Article **23** Competition system

1. The matches in the men's and women's preliminary competitions shall be played in accordance with one of the following three systems:
 - a) in groups composed of several teams on a home-and-away basis, with three points for a win, one point for a draw, and none for a defeat (league system);
 - b) one home and one away match per team (knockout system);
 - c) in the form of a tournament in one of the participating countries or in a neutral country, by way of exception and only with the authorisation of the FIFA Organising Committee.

When matches are played in accordance with system (a) or (b), an association may only play home matches in another country with the authorisation of the FIFA Organising Committee.

2. If the league system is applied, the ranking in each group shall be determined as follows:
 - a) greatest number of points obtained in all group matches;
 - b) goal difference in all group matches;
 - c) greatest number of goals scored in all group matches.

If two or more teams are equal on the basis of the above three criteria, their rankings shall be determined as follows:

- d) greatest number of points obtained in all group matches between the teams concerned;
- e) goal difference resulting from all group matches between the teams concerned;
- f) greatest number of goals scored in all group matches between the teams concerned;
- g) play-off on neutral ground (with extra time and penalty kicks, if necessary).

However, with the approval of the FIFA Organising Committee, this play-off may also be held in one of the countries concerned.

VI. PRELIMINARY COMPETITIONS

3. If the knockout system is applied, both teams shall play one home and one away match, the sequence of which shall be determined by lots drawn by the FIFA Organising Committee (in the event that the relevant confederation has not already done so). The team scoring the greater aggregate of goals in the two matches qualifies for the next round. If both teams score the same number of goals over the two legs, the away goals shall be counted as double. If the number of away goals scored is also equal, extra time of two periods of 15 minutes each shall be played at the end of the second leg. If no goal is scored in extra time, kicks from the penalty mark shall be taken to determine the winner.

Article 24 General provisions

1. Associations that qualify for the final competitions shall confirm their participation in accordance with the provisions of Art. 6 of these Regulations.
2. The following number of teams shall compete in the final competitions:

The men's final competition shall be played by 16 teams, namely the Olympic team of the Chinese Football Association and the 15 teams that qualify from the preliminary competition in accordance with the allocation of places specified in these Regulations (cf. Art. 7, par. 5). The women's final competition shall be played by twelve teams, namely the Olympic team of the Chinese Football Association and the eleven teams that qualify from the preliminary competition in accordance with the allocation of places specified in these Regulations (cf. Art. 7, par. 5).
3. The venues, dates and kick-off times of the matches in the final competitions shall be proposed by BOCOG and are subject to approval by the FIFA Organising Committee. The final draw for the final competitions shall be held no later than May 2008.
4. The matches may be played in daylight or under floodlights. Evening matches may only be played at venues where the floodlighting installations meet the minimum lighting requirements specified by FIFA.
5. If a match in the knockout stages is a draw after 90 minutes, extra time shall be played (two periods of 15 minutes each) followed, if necessary, by kicks from the penalty mark to determine the winner.
6. Weather and match schedule permitting, the teams shall be entitled to a training session of a maximum of 45 minutes before the team's first match at the stadium where they are scheduled to play – with the exception of the National Stadium, where the men's final shall be played. If the pitch is not in good condition, FIFA may shorten or cancel the training session.

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7. The teams shall be entitled to warm up on the pitch before the match, weather permitting.
8. BOCOG shall make at least two training grounds available for each group of teams.
9. These training grounds shall be available for use at least five days before the first match at each venue. The teams shall only use these officially designated training grounds.
10. The football grounds reserved for the matches (with the exception of the National Stadium) shall not be used for any other matches or events from 30 days prior to the final competitions until the competitions are completed, unless the FIFA Organising Committee gives special permission.
11. During the final competitions, the following procedures shall be carried out in order to ensure that FIFA match protocol is respected:
 - a) the FIFA anthem shall be played while the two teams are entering the field;
 - b) the national anthems of the two teams shall be played after the line-up;
 - c) in addition to the Olympic flag and any other flag(s) required according to Olympic protocol, the FIFA flag, the FIFA Fair Play flag and the flags of the two teams shall be flown in each stadium during matches;
 - d) the Olympic protocol (cf. Appendix A) shall apply to the final competitions in any matters other than those mentioned in this article.

A. Men's Tournament

Article 25 Group stage

1. The 16 teams taking part in the final competition shall be divided into four groups of four teams.
2. The FIFA Organising Committee shall divide the teams into groups by seeding and drawing lots in public, whilst taking sporting and geographical factors into consideration as far as possible.
3. The teams in the four groups shall be designated as follows:

Group A	Group B	Group C	Group D
A 1	B 1	C 1	D 1
A 2	B 2	C 2	D 2
A 3	B 3	C 3	D 3
A 4	B 4	C 4	D 4
4. The system of play shall be a league system, each team playing one match against each of the other teams in the same group, with three points for a win, one point for a draw, and none for a defeat.
5. The ranking of the teams in each group shall be determined as follows:
 - a) greatest number of points obtained in all group matches;
 - b) goal difference in all group matches;
 - c) greatest number of goals scored in all group matches.

If two or more teams are equal on the basis of the above three criteria, their ranking shall be determined as follows:

 - d) greatest number of points obtained in all group matches between the teams concerned;
 - e) goal difference resulting from all group matches between the teams concerned;
 - f) greatest number of goals scored in all group matches between the teams concerned;

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- g) fair play point system, in which the number of yellow and red cards each team has received is evaluated;
 - h) drawing of lots by the FIFA Organising Committee.
6. The two teams ranked first and second in each group qualify for the quarter-finals.
7. The matches in the group stage shall be played in accordance with a schedule drawn up by the FIFA Organising Committee and BOCOG. The last two matches in each group shall be scheduled to kick off simultaneously.

Article 26 Quarter-finals

1. The eight teams that advance from the group stage shall contest the quarter-finals as follows:
- | | | |
|-------------------------|---|----------|
| Winner A v. Runner-up B | = | Winner 1 |
| Winner B v. Runner-up A | = | Winner 2 |
| Winner C v. Runner-up D | = | Winner 3 |
| Winner D v. Runner-up C | = | Winner 4 |
2. The matches shall be played in accordance with the knockout system (cf. Art. 24, par. 5).

Article 27 Semi-finals

1. The winners of the quarter-finals shall contest the semi-finals as follows:
- | |
|----------------------|
| Winner 1 v. Winner 3 |
| Winner 2 v. Winner 4 |
2. The matches shall be played in accordance with the knockout system (cf. Art. 24, par. 5).

Article 28 Final and play-off for third place

1. The winners of the semi-finals qualify for the final.
2. The losers of the semi-finals contest the play-off for third place.
3. If the play-off for third place is not played directly preceding the final and is a draw after 90 minutes, extra time shall be played (two periods of 15 minutes each) and followed, if necessary, by kicks from the penalty mark to determine the winner. However, if the match is played directly preceding the final and is a draw after 90 minutes, no extra time shall be played and the winner shall be determined immediately by kicks from the penalty mark.
4. If the final is a draw after 90 minutes, extra time shall be played (two periods of 15 minutes each) and followed, if necessary, by kicks from the penalty mark to determine the winner.

B. Women's Tournament

Article 29 Group stage

1. The twelve teams taking part in the final competition shall be divided into three groups of four teams.
2. The FIFA Organising Committee shall divide the teams into groups by seeding and drawing lots in public, whilst taking sporting and geographical factors into consideration as far as possible.
3. The teams in the three groups shall be designated as follows:

Group E	Group F	Group G
E 1	F 1	G 1
E 2	F 2	G 2
E 3	F 3	G 3
E 4	F 4	G 4

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4. The system of play shall be a league system, each team playing one match against each of the other teams in the same group, with three points for a win, one point for a draw, and none for a defeat.
5. The ranking of the teams in each group shall be determined as follows:
 - a) greatest number of points obtained in all group matches;
 - b) goal difference in all group matches;
 - c) greatest number of goals scored in the group matches.

If two or more teams are equal on the basis of the above three criteria, their rankings shall be determined as follows:

- d) greatest number of points obtained in all group matches between the teams concerned;
 - e) goal difference resulting from all group matches between the teams concerned;
 - f) greatest number of goals scored in all group matches between the teams concerned;
 - g) fair play point system, in which the number of yellow and red cards each team has received is evaluated;
 - h) drawing of lots by the FIFA Organising Committee.
6. The two teams ranked first and second in each group and the two best teams among those coming third qualify for the quarter-finals.
7. The two best teams among those coming third shall be determined as follows:
 - a) greater number of points obtained in all the group matches;
 - b) goal difference resulting from all the group matches;
 - c) greater number of goals scored in all the group matches;
 - d) fair play point system, in which the number of yellow and red cards each team has received is evaluated;
 - e) drawing of lots by the FIFA Organising Committee.

Article **30** **Quarter-finals**

1. The eight teams that advance from the group stage shall contest the quarter-finals as follows:
Winner E v. 3rd F or G = Winner 1
Winner F v. Runner-up G = Winner 2
Winner G v. 3rd E or F = Winner 3
Runner-up E v. Runner-up F = Winner 4
2. The matches shall be played in accordance with the knockout system (cf. Art. 24, par. 5).

Article **31** **Semi-finals**

1. The four teams that advance from the quarter-finals shall contest the semi-finals as follows:
Winner 1 v. Winner 3
Winner 2 v. Winner 4
2. The matches shall be played in accordance with the knockout system (cf. Art. 24, par. 5).

Article **32** **Final and play-off for third place**

1. The winners of the semi-finals qualify for the final.
2. The losers of the semi-finals contest the play-off for third place.
3. If the play-off for third place is not played directly preceding the final and is a draw after 90 minutes, extra time shall be played (two periods of 15 minutes each) and followed, if necessary, by kicks from the penalty mark to determine the winner. However, if the match is played directly preceding the final and is a draw after 90 minutes, no extra

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time shall be played and the winner shall be determined immediately by kicks from the penalty mark.

4. If the final is a draw after 90 minutes, extra time shall be played (two periods of 15 minutes each) and followed, if necessary, by kicks from the penalty mark to determine the winner.

VIII. DOPING CONTROL

Article 33 General provisions

1. Doping is prohibited.
2. The FIFA Disciplinary Code, the FIFA Doping Control Regulations and other FIFA directives, as well as the relevant IOC anti-doping rules, shall apply to the Tournaments.

Article 34 Preliminary competitions

1. The FIFA Organising Committee shall be responsible for deciding which of the laboratories accredited by the IOC shall analyse the samples.
2. Any official who encourages or incites a player, either intentionally or through negligence, to commit a doping infringement shall be referred to the FIFA Disciplinary Committee.

Article 35 Final competitions

1. Doping tests shall be carried out in accordance with the instructions issued by FIFA and the IOC. Analyses shall be carried out in laboratories made available by the IOC.
2. Every player, including substitutes, shall be liable to undergo a doping test. Any player or team that refuses to participate in a doping test, falsifies the results of a test, attempts to do so or is found guilty of having taken banned substances, shall be excluded from the final competitions by the IOC Medical Commission and referred to the FIFA Disciplinary Committee.
3. Any official who encourages or incites a player, either intentionally or through negligence, to commit a doping infringement shall be excluded from the final competitions by the IOC Medical Commission and referred to the FIFA Disciplinary Committee.
4. Furthermore, reference is made to the IOC provisions regarding doping control that shall apply for the duration of the final competitions.

Article 36 General provision

The participating associations undertake to comply with the FIFA Disciplinary Code in force and the relevant circular(s).

Article 37 Protests

1. Subject to the following provisions, protests are objections of any kind in relation to matches in the Tournaments.
2. Unless otherwise stipulated in this article, protests shall be submitted in writing to the FIFA match commissioner or general coordinator within two hours of the end of the match and followed up immediately with a full written report, including a copy of the original protest, to be sent in writing to the FIFA general secretariat (preliminary competitions) or the FIFA headquarters in the host country (final competitions).
3. Protests regarding any incidents that occur during matches shall be directed to the referee by the team captain immediately after the disputed incident and before play has restarted. If the playing surface becomes unplayable during a match, the captain of the team concerned shall immediately lodge a protest with the referee in the presence of the captain of the opposing team. The protests shall be confirmed in writing to the FIFA match commissioner or general coordinator by the head of the team delegation not later than two hours after the match in question.
4. Protests regarding the eligibility of players for any final competition matches shall be submitted in writing to the FIFA general secretariat at least five days before the first match of the respective final competition.
5. Protests regarding the state of the pitch, markings, goals, flag posts, or footballs shall be made in writing to the referee before the start of the match by the head of delegation of the team lodging the protest.

6. No protests may be made against the referee's decisions regarding facts connected with play, such decisions being final.
7. If a frivolous or irresponsible protest is lodged, the FIFA Disciplinary Committee may impose a fine.
8. Once the Tournaments have finished, any protests regarding sporting procedure shall be disregarded.

Article **38** Appeals and arbitration

1. Associations taking part in the Tournaments shall undertake to comply fully with these Regulations and the decisions taken by the FIFA Organising Committee, Referees Committee, Disciplinary Committee, Appeal Committee or any other relevant FIFA body.
2. In compliance with the FIFA Statutes, associations may not take disputes to a civil court. Any disputes arising from the application of these Regulations shall be settled by negotiation or, if such proves unfeasible, by the jurisdiction of FIFA.
3. The Appeal Committee is responsible for deciding on appeals against any of the FIFA Disciplinary Committee's decisions that FIFA regulations do not declare as final or referable to another body.
4. The associations, their officials and players acknowledge and accept that, once all stages of appeal have been exhausted at FIFA, their sole recourse shall be to the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) in Lausanne, Switzerland. Any such arbitration proceedings shall be governed by the CAS Code of Sports-related Arbitration.

Article 39 Preliminary competitions

1. All revenue from the exploitation of the commercial rights (advertising, TV and radio broadcasts, film and videos) for the preliminary competition matches belongs to the host association and, with the income from ticket sales, form the gross receipts. The owners of the rights are obliged to provide FIFA, upon request and free of charge, with 15 minutes of action footage per match. FIFA shall use this footage free of charge to promote its fair play campaign and football worldwide . FIFA is also entitled to use the footage for its own electronic data carriers or any such carriers produced on FIFA's behalf, and for its own multimedia database.
2. The following deductions shall be made from the gross receipts:
 - a) a levy of two per cent (minimum CHF 1,000) in favour of FIFA and the levy due to the confederations in accordance with the confederations' statutes and regulations after deduction of the taxes mentioned in Art. 39, par. 2b). The levies due to FIFA and the confederations shall be paid within 60 days after the match at the official rate of exchange on the day the payment is due;
 - b) state, provincial and municipal taxes and any charges for the hire of the stadium, the combined total of which shall not exceed 30% (cf. Art. 10, par. 3 of the Regulations Governing the Application of the FIFA Statutes).
3. The participating associations shall settle the other costs among themselves. If no agreement is reached, the following provisions shall apply:
 - a) the visiting association shall pay for its delegation's own travel costs (by air in economy class, rail/sleeper in first class) to the venue and/or the nearest airport;
 - b) the host association shall pay for expenses incurred by the stay (board and lodging in a first-class hotel, domestic transport) for a maximum of 25 persons for a duration depending on flight connections;

- c) the host association shall pay for board and lodging in a first-class hotel and domestic transport in the host country for the referee, assistant referees, fourth official, and match commissioner, as well as the security officer and/or any other official who may be designated.
4. If the gross receipts of a match in the preliminary competitions are insufficient to cover the expenses, the host association shall bear the deficit (cf. Art. 39, par. 2).
5. FIFA shall bear the costs of:
 - a) international travel (by air – in economy class for domestic and continental flights, and in business class for intercontinental flights – or by rail/sleeper in first class) and the daily allowances, as fixed by FIFA, of referees, assistant referees and fourth officials;
 - b) international travel (by air in business class or by rail/sleeper in first class) and the daily allowances, as fixed by FIFA, of the match commissioner, the security officer and/or any other official who may be designated.

Article 40 Final competitions

1. Each association participating in the final competitions shall be responsible for the costs of concluding compulsory health, accident and travel insurance cover for all players, officials and other members of its delegation.
2. FIFA shall be responsible for the costs of insurance taken out to cover its own risks as follows:
 - a) legal liability insurance;
 - b) financial and consequential losses liability insurance;
 - c) accident insurance for members of the official FIFA delegation (including match officials);
 - d) legal protection insurance;
 - e) luggage insurance for members of the FIFA committees and match officials.

X. FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

3. The following financial terms and conditions are regulated jointly by the Olympic Charter of the IOC, the Host City Contract, and the Memorandum of Understanding signed by FIFA and BOCOG, and are borne jointly by the IOC, BOCOG and the respective NOCs:
 - a) board and lodging of the participating teams and match officials;
 - b) international air travel expenses for the participating teams and match officials;
 - c) domestic travel expenses (by air or road) during the Tournaments for the participating teams and match officials;
 - d) laundry service for the match and training kits of the participating teams and match officials.

XI. AWARDS AND MEDALS

Article 41 Olympic medals and diplomas

1. Each of the players of the three top-ranked teams who feature on the official team lists shall receive a medal:

Olympic champion: an Olympic gold medal and a diploma
Runner-up: an Olympic silver medal and a diploma
3rd place: an Olympic bronze medal and a diploma

These medals and diplomas shall be provided by BOCOG for distribution by the IOC.
2. Each player of the teams ranked fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh and eighth shall receive a diploma. These diplomas shall be provided by BOCOG for distribution by the IOC.

Article 42 FIFA Awards

The FIFA Fair Play Trophy, a fair play medal and a diploma for each player and official as well as a voucher for football equipment (to be used for youth development and whose exact amount shall be fixed by the relevant FIFA committee) shall go to the teams finishing first in the Fair Play competitions of the men's and women's Tournaments (cf. Appendix B). Since presenting the Fair Play Awards in the stadium at the end of the men's and women's finals would contravene Olympic protocol, FIFA shall find another non-Olympic occasion to make these presentations.

Article 43 Seating arrangements, tickets

1. During football matches, the members of the FIFA delegation (including match officials) shall be seated in the Olympic Stand.
2. Members of the FIFA delegation shall only gain access to the Olympic Stand with a valid accreditation.

XI. AWARDS AND MEDALS

3. Teams shall be accommodated in reserved areas in the Athletes' Stands.
4. In the event of double-headers, a specific area shall be reserved in the Athletes' Stand for the teams playing in the matches.
5. Players and officials from the participating associations shall only gain access to the Athletes' Stand with a valid accreditation.
6. As will all other events in the Olympic Games, football falls under the auspices of the IOC. The customary FIFA policy of allocating complimentary tickets to the teams for their matches in the group or knockout stages does not apply. Should an association wish to purchase additional tickets for its own or other matches, requests should be addressed to its NOC, the latter being solely responsible for coordinating any additional ticket requests for all sports disciplines.

XII. FINAL PROVISIONS AND ENFORCEMENT

Article **44** Final provisions

1. Matters not provided for in these Regulations and cases of force majeure shall be decided by the FIFA Organising Committee. All decisions shall be final.
2. All relevant circulars form an integral part of these Regulations.
3. Any communications to FIFA, the confederations, the NOCs, the IOC or BOCOG shall be sent by telefax and confirmed on the same day by registered post.
4. The FIFA Organising Committee shall, in conjunction with BOCOG, issue any instructions necessitated by special circumstances that may arise in the host country. These instructions shall form an integral part of these Regulations.
5. Any disputes arising from the application of these Regulations shall be settled by the jurisdiction of FIFA and, if subsequently necessary, by the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) in Lausanne, Switzerland.
6. In case of discrepancy in the interpretation of the different language versions of these Regulations and/or any other rules referred to within the Regulations, the English text shall be authoritative.
7. The copyright in these Regulations and in the fixture lists drawn up in accordance with the provisions of these Regulations are the property of FIFA.

Article **45** **Enforcement**

These Regulations have been ratified by the FIFA Executive Committee and come into force immediately.

Zurich, January 2007

For the FIFA Executive Committee

Joseph S. Blatter
President

Urs Linsi
General Secretary

Rule 53, bye-law to rule 53 and rule 54 of the Olympic Charter*

53 Advertising, demonstrations, propaganda

1. The IOC Executive Board determines the principles and conditions under which any form of advertising or other publicity may be authorised.
2. No form of advertising or other publicity shall be allowed in and above the stadia, venues and other competition areas which are considered as part of the Olympic sites. Commercial installations and advertising signs shall not be allowed in the stadia, venues or other sports grounds.
3. No kind of demonstration or political, religious or racial propaganda is permitted in any Olympic sites, venues or other areas.

Bye-law to Rule 53

1. No form of publicity or propaganda, commercial or otherwise, may appear on persons, on sportswear, accessories or, more generally, on any article of clothing or equipment whatsoever worn or used by the athletes or other participants in the Olympic Games, except for the identification – as defined in paragraph 8 below - of the manufacturer of the article or equipment concerned, provided that such identification shall not be marked conspicuously for advertising purposes.
 - 1.1 The identification of the manufacturer shall not appear more than once per item of clothing and equipment.
 - 1.2 Equipment: any manufacturer's identification that is greater than 10% of the surface area of the equipment that is exposed during competition shall be deemed to be marked conspicuously. However, there shall be no manufacturer's identification greater than 60cm².
 - 1.3 Headgear (e.g. hats, helmets, sunglasses, goggles) and gloves: any manufacturer's identification over 6cm² shall be deemed to be marked conspicuously.

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- 1.4 Clothing (e.g. T-shirts, shorts, sweat tops and sweat pants): any manufacturer's identification which is greater than 20cm² shall be deemed to be marked conspicuously.
- 1.5 Shoes: it is acceptable that there appear the normal distinctive design pattern of the manufacturer. The manufacturer's name and/or logo may also appear, up to a maximum of 6cm², either as part of the normal distinctive design pattern or independent of the normal distinctive design pattern.
- 1.6 In case of special rules adopted by an International Sports Federation, exceptions to the rules mentioned above may be approved by the IOC Executive Board. Any violation of the provisions of the present clause shall result in disqualification or withdrawal of the accreditation of the person concerned. The decisions of the IOC Executive Board regarding this matter shall be final.

The numbers worn by competitors may not display publicity of any kind and must bear the Olympic emblem of the OCOG¹.

2. To be valid, all contracts of the OCOG containing any element whatsoever of advertising, including the right or licence to use the emblem or the mascot of the Olympic Games, must be in conformity with the Olympic Charter and must comply with the instructions given by the IOC Executive Board. The same shall apply to contracts relating to the timing equipment, the scoreboards, and to the injection of any identification signal in television programmes. Breaches of these regulations come under the authority of the IOC Executive Board.
3. Any mascot created for the Olympic Games shall be considered to be an Olympic emblem, the design of which must be submitted by the OCOG to the IOC Executive Board for its approval. Such mascot may not be used for commercial purposes in the country of an NOC without the latter's prior written approval.

¹ *Organising Committee for the Olympic Games*

4. The OCOG shall ensure the protection of the property of the emblem and the mascot of the Olympic Games for the benefit of the IOC, both nationally and internationally. However, the OCOG alone and, after the OCOG has been wound up, the NOC of the host country, may exploit such emblem and mascot, as well as other marks, designs, badges, posters, objects and documents connected with the Olympic Games during their preparation, during their holding and during a period terminating not later than the end of the calendar year during which such Olympic Games are held. Upon the expiry of this period, all rights in or relating to such emblem, mascot and other marks, designs, badges, posters, objects and documents shall thereafter belong entirely to the IOC. The OCOG and/or the NOC, as the case may be and to the extent necessary, shall act as trustees (in a fiduciary capacity) for the sole benefit of the IOC in this respect.
5. The provisions of this bye-law also apply, mutatis mutandis, to all contracts signed by the organising committee of a Session or an Olympic Congress.
6. The uniforms of the competitors and of all persons holding an official position may include the flag or Olympic emblem of their NOC or, with the consent of the OCOG, the OCOG Olympic emblem. The IF officials may wear the uniform and the emblem of their federations.
7. The identification on all technical gear, installations and other apparatus, which are neither worn nor used by athletes or other participants at the Olympic Games, including timing equipment and scoreboards, may on no account be larger than 1/10th of the height of the equipment, installation or apparatus in question, and shall not be greater than 10cm high.
8. The word "identification" means the normal display of the name, designation, trademark, logo or any other distinctive sign of the manufacturer of the item, appearing not more than once per item.
9. The OCOG, all participants and all other persons accredited at the Olympic Games and all other persons or parties concerned shall comply with the manuals, guides, or guidelines, and all other instructions of the IOC Executive Board, in respect of all matters subject to Rule 53 and this Bye-law.

54 Protocol

1. Throughout the period of the Olympic Games, the IOC Executive Board alone has the authority to determine the protocol applicable at all sites and venues placed under the responsibility of the OCOG.
2. At all Olympic functions and events during the Olympic Games, the members, Honorary President, honorary members and honour members of the IOC in their order of seniority, the President, Honorary President and Vice-Presidents leading, take precedence followed by the members of the OCOG, the Presidents of the IFs and the Presidents of the NOCs.
3. The OCOG, the IFs, the NOCs and all other persons accredited at the Olympic Games, in any capacity whatsoever, shall comply with the IOC Protocol Guide, and all other instructions of the IOC Executive Board, in respect of all matters subject to this Rule.

* In the event of any divergence in the wording of the different language versions, the French text of Rule 53 and its bye-law as well as Rule 54 of the Olympic Charter in force as of 1 September 2004 shall be authoritative.

Fair play contest regulations

I. General provisions

1. As part of its campaign to promote fair play, FIFA regularly holds a fair play contest during its championships, based on an appraisal of the teams' conduct by a FIFA delegate such as the match commissioner, a member of the Technical Study Group or a member of a standing committee.
2. The objective of fair play activities is to foster a sporting spirit among players, team officials and spectators, thereby heightening the fans' enjoyment of the game.
3. At the final whistle of each game, the delegate shall complete the appropriate fair play form after consulting the referee and the referee assessor.
4. Every match in the final competitions shall be taken into account.
5. The Organising Committee shall compile and publish the ranking at the end of the final competitions. Its decision is final.
6. FIFA shall award the team that wins the fair play contest a trophy, 25 medals and a diploma, all of which the team can keep permanently. The team shall also receive a voucher valued at USD 10,000, which shall be exchanged for a supply of football equipment to be used exclusively for youth development.

II. Assessment criteria

7. The assessment form contains six criteria by which the teams' fair play performance shall be judged, stressing the positive aspects rather than negative. As a general rule, maximum points shall only be awarded if the team concerned displays a positive attitude.
8. Red and yellow cards shall be deducted from a maximum of 10 points:
- first yellow card: minus 1 point
 - yellow/red card: minus 3 points
 - direct red card: minus 3 points
 - yellow card & direct red card: minus 4 points
- Red and yellow cards are the only criteria entailing minus points.

9. Positive play

Minimum 1 point

Maximum 10 points

The aim of this criterion is to reward attacking and attractive play, and shall take into account such aspects as:

(a) Positive aspects

- attacking rather than defensive tactics;
- speeding up the game;
- constantly attempting to score even if the desired result (e.g. qualification) has already been achieved.

(b) Negative aspects

- tactics that rely on rough play;
- play-acting;
- time-wasting, etc.

As a general rule, positive play is correlated with the number of scoring chances created and the number of goals scored.

10. Respect towards the opponent
 Minimum 1 point
 Maximum 5 points

Players are expected to respect the Laws of the Game, the competition regulations and opponents, etc.

When assessing the players' behaviour towards the opponents, duplication of the judgment for red and yellow cards should be avoided. However, the delegate may take into account the seriousness of the offences punished by cards as well as those overlooked by the referee.

Assessment shall be based on positive attitudes (e.g. helping an injured opponent) rather than on infringements. Behaviour that is basically faultless but does not outwardly show any particularly positive attitude or gesture towards opponents shall be given a mark of 4 rather than 5.
11. Respect towards the referee/match officials
 Minimum 1 point
 Maximum 5 points

Players are expected to respect the match officials and the decisions they take.

A positive attitude towards the referee, including acceptance of decisions without protest, shall be rewarded. Behaviour that is basically faultless but does not outwardly show any particularly positive attitude or gesture towards the match officials shall be given a mark of 4 rather than 5.
12. Behaviour of the team officials
 Minimum 1 point
 Maximum 5 points

Coaches and other team officials are expected to encourage the sporting, technical, tactical and ethical standards of their team and to direct the players to behave in accordance with the principles of fair play.

Both positive and negative factors in the behaviour of the team officials shall be included in the assessment, e.g. whether they calm down angry players or how they accept the referee's decisions. Inciting or provoking players shall be rated negatively.

Cooperation with the media shall also be a factor in the assessment. Behaviour that is faultless but does not outwardly show any particularly positive attitude or gesture shall be given a mark of 4 rather than 5.

13. Behaviour of the crowd

Minimum 1 point

Maximum 5 points

The crowd is considered to be an integral part of a football match. Fans can contribute to the positive atmosphere of a match by encouraging their team by cheering and singing etc. in the spirit of fair play.

Spectators are, however, expected to respect the opponents and the referee. They should appreciate the opponents' performance regardless of the result and in no way intimidate or frighten opponents, the referee or the opponents' supporters.

The maximum number of points (5) may only be awarded if all these requirements have been satisfied, especially as regards creating a positive atmosphere.

This criterion is applicable only if a substantial number of fans of the team concerned are present. If the number of fans is negligible, "n.a." (not applicable) shall be entered under this item.

III. Final assessment

14. The final assessment of a team is obtained as follows:

- a) the points awarded are added together, e.g. for team A:
 $8 + 7 + 3 + 4 + 5 + 4 = 31$;
- b) this total is divided by the maximum number of points possible (40): $31:40 = .775$;
- c) this figure is multiplied by 1000: $.775 \times 1000 = 775$.

If, however, the number of fans supporting a certain team is negligible and the criterion "behaviour of the crowd" consequently disregarded („n.a." – cf. §13 above), the maximum number of points obtainable shall be 35.

Thus the final assessment would be attained as follows:

- a) the points awarded are added together, e.g. for team B:
 $7 + 8 + 2 + 5 + 2 = 24$;
- b) this total is divided by the maximum number of points possible
 $(35) : 24 : 35 = .686$;
- c) this figure is multiplied by 1000 = 686.

The overall assessment of a team during the final competitions shall be calculated by adding the points attained at each match and dividing this figure by the number of matches played.

15. Teams that are eliminated after the group stage of the final competitions shall be excluded from the fair play contest.
16. In addition to making the assessment, members of FIFA may give a short oral account of the teams' fair play performance to explain the positive and negative factors, which form the basis of their assessment. The account may also point out any outstanding gestures of fair play from a player, official, referee or any other person. However, no additional points shall be awarded for this reason.
17. These regulations have been approved by the Organising Committee for the Olympic Football Tournaments.

