



# OFC Disciplinary Code

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## OFC disciplinary code

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With specific reference to Art.28 (5) of the OFC Statutes the Extraordinary Congress of the Oceania Football Confederation (OFC) rules:

## PRELIMINARY TITLE

### Article 1 Object

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

### Article 2 Scope of application

This code applies to every match and competition organised by OFC.

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

### Article 3 Scope of application: Natural and Legal persons

The following are subject to this code:

- a) member associations;
- b) members of these associations, in particular the clubs;
- c) officials;
- d) players;
- e) match officials;
- f) anyone with an authorisation from OFC, in particular with regard to a match, competition or other event organised by OFC;
- g) spectators.

### Article 4 Scope of Application: Time

1. This code applies to facts that have arisen after it has come into force. It also applies to previous facts if it is more favourable for the perpetrator of the facts and if the judicial bodies of OFC are deciding on these facts after the code has come into force.

### Article 5 Definitions

1. **Post-match:** the time between the final whistle from the referee and the team's departure from the confines of the stadium.
2. **Pre-match:** the time between the teams' arrival in the confines of the stadium and the whistle for kick-off from the referee.
3. **International match:** a match between two teams belonging to different Member Associations (two clubs, one club and one representative team or two representative teams).

4. **Friendly match:** a match organised by a football organisation, club or other person between teams chosen for the occasion and possibly belonging to different Member Associations of the OFC; the score has effect only on the match or competition in question and, in the case of national teams, on the FIFA rankings.
5. **Official match:** a match organised under the auspices of a football organisation for all of the teams or clubs and possibly belonging to different Member Associations of the OFC; the score has an effect on the rights of participation in other competitions unless the regulations in question stipulate otherwise.
6. **Official:** anyone, with the exception of players, performing an activity connected with football at a Member Association or club, regardless of his title, the type of activity (administrative, sporting or any other) and the duration of the activity; in particular, managers, coaches, medical and support staff are officials.
7. **Match official:** the referee, assistant referees, fourth official, match commissioner, referee inspector, the security officer, and any other persons appointed by OFC to assume responsibility in connection with a match.
8. **OFC regulations:** the Statutes, rules, regulations, directives, instructions and circulars of OFC.
9. **FIFA regulations:** the Statutes, regulations, directives and circulars of FIFA as well as the Laws of the Game issued by the International Football Association Board.

### Article 6 Gender

The provisions of this code apply to the male and female gender, regardless of the choice of words and expressions. Any term in the singular applies to the plural and vice-versa.

### Article 7 Member Associations' Disciplinary Regulations

Member Associations are required to adapt their provisions to this code so as to harmonise disciplinary regulations.

# FIRST TITLE — MATERIAL LAW

## CHAPTER I. GENERAL PART

### SECTION 1 — CONDITION S FOR SANCTION S

#### Article 8 Culpability

1. Unless otherwise specified, infringements are punishable regardless of whether they have been committed deliberately or negligently.
2. Exceptionally, a match may have to be played without spectators or on neutral territory, or a certain stadium may be banned purely for safety reasons, without an infringement having been committed.

#### Article 9 Acts amounting to attempt

1. Acts amounting to attempt are also punishable.
2. In the case of acts amounting to attempt, the body may reduce the sanction envisaged for the actual infringement accordingly. It will determine the extent of mitigation as it sees fit; it shall not go below the general lower limit of the fine (cf. Art. 16, par.2).

#### Article 10 Involvement

1. Anyone who knowingly takes part in committing an infringement, either as instigator or accomplice, is also punishable.
2. The judicial bodies shall take into account the degree of guilt of the party involved by reducing, increasing or modifying the sanction as it sees fit. It shall not go below the general lower limit of the fine (cf. Art. 16, par.2).

### SECTION 2 — VARIOUS SANCTIONS

#### Article 11 Sanctions common to natural and legal persons

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

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

#### Article 12 Sanctions applicable to natural persons

The following sanctions are applicable only to natural persons:

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

#### Article 13 Sanctions applicable to legal persons

The following sanctions are applicable only to legal persons:

- a) playing a match without spectators;
- b) playing a match on neutral territory;
- c) ban on playing in a particular stadium;
- d) annulment of the result of a match;
- e) exclusion;
- f) deduction of points;
- g) forfeiture.
- h) transfer ban;
- i) demotion and/or relegation to the next lower division;

#### Article 14 Warning

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

#### Article 15 Reprimand

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

#### Article 16 Fine

1. The fine is issued in NZ Dollars (NZD). It shall be paid in the same currency.
2. The fine shall not be less than NZD300, or in the case of a competition subject to an age limit not less than NZD200, and not more than NZD1,000,000.
3. The body that pronounces the sanction decides the terms and time limits for payment. If the fine is added to a match suspension, it shall be paid before the suspension has ended.
4. Member Associations are jointly liable for fines imposed on national team players and officials. The same applies to clubs in respect of their players and officials. The fact that a natural person has left a club or national association does not cancel out joint liability.

#### Article 17 Return of awards

1. The person required to return an award shall return all of the benefits received, in particular sums of money and symbolic objects (medal, trophy, etc.).
2. The money received shall always be returned in full. The body pronouncing the sanction decides any interest that may be due as it sees fit.

## **Article 18 Caution**

1. A caution (yellow card) is a warning from the referee to a player during a match to sanction unsporting behaviour of a less serious nature (cf. Law 12 of the Laws of the Game).
2. Two cautions received during the same match incur an expulsion (indirect red card, cf. Art. 53 g) and, consequently, automatic suspension from the next match (cf. Art.19 par. 4). The two cautions that incurred the red card are rescinded.
3. If a player receives a caution in two separate matches of the same OFC competition, he is automatically suspended from the next match in that competition. The Disciplinary Committee may exceptionally depart from or amend this rule before the start of a particular competition. Any such decision reached by the Disciplinary Committee is final.
4. If an abandoned match is to be replayed, any caution issued during the abandoned match shall be annulled. If the match is not to be replayed, the cautions received by the team responsible for causing the match to be abandoned are upheld; if both teams are responsible, all of the cautions are upheld.
5. If a player is guilty of serious unsporting behaviour as defined in Law 12 of the Laws of the Game and is sent off (direct red card), any other caution he has previously received in the same match is upheld.

## **Article 19 Expulsion**

1. An expulsion is the order given by the referee to someone to leave the field of play and its surroundings, including the substitutes' bench, during a match. The person who has been sent off may be allowed into the stands unless he is serving a stadium ban.
2. Expulsion takes the form of a red card for players. The red card is regarded as direct if it sanctions serious unsporting behaviour as defined by Law 12 of the Laws of the Game; it is regarded as indirect if it is the result of an accumulation of two yellow cards (cf. Art. 18, par. 2).
3. An official who has been sent off may give instructions to the person replacing him on the substitutes' bench. He shall, however, ensure that he does not disturb the spectators or disrupt the flow of play.
4. An expulsion automatically incurs suspension from the subsequent match, even if imposed in a match that is later abandoned and/or cancelled and/or forfeited. The Disciplinary Committee may extend the duration of the suspension.

## **Article 20 Match suspension**

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

2. The player who has been suspended shall not be included on the players' list for the match.
3. The suspension is imposed in terms of matches, days or months. Unless otherwise specified, it may not exceed twenty-four (24) matches or two (2) years.
4. If the suspension is to be served in terms of matches, only those matches actually played count towards execution of the suspension. If a match is abandoned, cancelled or finally forfeited (except of violation of art 73), suspension is only considered to have been served if the team to which the suspended player belongs is not responsible for the facts that led to abandonment, cancellation or forfeiture of the match.
5. A match suspension is regarded as no longer pending if a match is retroactively forfeited because a player took part in a match despite being ineligible (art. 73). This also applies to the match suspension imposed on the player who took part in the match despite being ineligible.
6. If a suspension is combined with a fine, it is prolonged until the fine has been paid in full.

## **Article 21 Ban from dressing rooms and/or substitutes' benches**

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

## **Article 22 Stadium ban**

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

## **Article 23 Ban on performing any football related activity**

A person may be banned from performing any kind of football related activity (administrative, sports or any other).

## **Article 24 Transfer Ban**

A transfer ban prevents a club from signing any player during the period in question.

## **Article 25 Playing a match without spectators**

The obligation to play a match behind closed doors requires Member Associations and clubs to have a certain match played without spectators.

## **Article 26 Playing on neutral ground**

The obligation to play a match on neutral ground requires Member Associations and clubs to have a certain match played in another country or in a different region of the same country.



**Article 27 Ban on playing in a particular stadium**

A ban on playing in a certain stadium deprives Member Associations and clubs of the right to have their teams play in a certain stadium.

**Article 28 Annulment of the result of a match**

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

**Article 29 Exclusion**

Exclusion is the deprivation of the right of Member Associations and clubs from taking part in a current and/or future competition.

**Article 30 Demotion and/or Relegation to the next lower division**

A club may be demoted to the next lower division.

**Article 31 Deduction of points**

A national team or club may have points deducted from those already attained in any current OFC tournament.

**Article 32A Forfeit**

1. Teams sanctioned with a forfeit are considered to have lost the match by 0-3.
2. If the goal difference is greater than three, the higher score is upheld.

**Article 32B Replay of a Match**

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

## SECTION 3 — COMMON RULES

**Article 33 Combined sanctions**

1. Unless otherwise specified, the sanctions provided for in the general and special parts of this code may be combined.
2. In less serious cases, the body may only pronounce a reduced sanction or a caution or a reprimand.

**Article 34 Partial suspension of implementation of the sanction**

1. The body that pronounces a match suspension (cf. Art. 20), a ban on access to dressing rooms and/or the substitutes' bench (cf. Art. 21) or a ban on playing in a certain stadium (cf. Art. 27) shall examine whether it is possible to suspend the implementation of the sanction partially.
2. Partial suspension is permissible only if the duration of the sanction does not exceed six (6) matches or six (6) months and if the circumstances generally allow it, in particular the previous record of the person sanctioned.

3. The body shall decide which part of the sanction may be suspended. In any case, half of the sanction is definite.
4. By suspending implementation of the sanction, the body subjects the person sanctioned to a probationary period of from six (6) matches to two (2) years.
5. If the person benefiting from a suspended sanction commits another infringement during the probationary period, the suspension is automatically revoked and the sanction applied; it is added to the sanction pronounced for the new infringement.

**Article 35 Time sanctions: calculation of time limit**

Rest periods during or between seasons are included in the duration of time sanctions.

**Article 36 Limitation period of sanctions**

1. The limitation period for sanctions is five years.
2. The limitation period begins on the day on which the decision comes into force.

**Article 37 Centralisation of sanctions**

1. Records of cautions, expulsions and match suspensions are stored in the central system of OFC. The Disciplinary Committee secretariat confirms them in writing to the Member Association or club concerned or, in the case of final competitions, to the head of the delegation concerned.
2. This communication serves only as confirmation: sanctions (cautions, expulsions, automatic match suspensions) have an immediate effect on subsequent matches even if the letter of confirmation reaches the Member Association, club or head of delegation concerned later.

## SECTION 4 — CARRYING OVER AND CANCELLING CAUTIONS AND MATCH SUSPENSIONS

**Article 38 Carrying over cautions**

1. Cautions received during one competition are not carried over to another competition.
2. They are, however, carried over from one round to the next in the same competition. The Disciplinary Committee may exceptionally depart from this rule before the start of a particular competition. This provision is subject to Art. 39.

### **Article 39 Cancellation of cautions**

1. At the request of a member association, the Disciplinary Committee may cancel cautions that have not resulted in a match suspension so as to restore the balance among several teams that have not played the same number of matches during the first round of a competition, or in other exceptional circumstances.
2. In any case, the Disciplinary Committee may do this only once in any competition.
3. The Disciplinary Committee's decision is final.

### **Article 40 Carrying over match suspensions**

1. As a general rule, every suspension (of players and other persons) is carried over from one round to the next in the same competition.
2. Match suspensions resulting from several cautions issued to a player in different matches of the same competition are never carried over to another competition.
3. Match suspensions in relation to an expulsion pronounced on a player outside of a competition (separate match[es]) or not served during the competition for which they were intended (elimination or the last match in the competition) are carried over as follows:
  - a) OFC competitions for national teams (including age-group competition) shall be carried over to the national team's subsequent official match.
  - b) OFC club competitions shall be carried over to the club's subsequent official match in an OFC competition.
  - c) Friendly matches shall be carried over to the national team's subsequent friendly match.

## **SECTION 5 — DETERMINING THE SANCTION**

### **Article 41 General rule**

1. The body pronouncing the sanction decides the scope and duration of it.
2. Sanctions may be limited to one or more certain categories of match and competition.
3. Unless otherwise specified, the duration of a sanction is always defined.
4. When deciding the sanction, the body will take account of all of the circumstances of the case, in particular the age of the person sanctioned, his record, personal situation, culpability (intentional or negligent), the reasons prompting him to commit the infringement and the degree of seriousness of the infringement.

### **Article 42 Repeated infringements**

1. Unless otherwise specified, the body shall increase the sanction to be pronounced by half (+ 50%; if this is not possible, another sanction shall be imposed in the form of a fine) if an infringement has been repeated.

2. The sanction may be increased by half only once whenever this provision applies.
3. These provisions are subject to the special rules governing repeated doping infringements.

### **Article 43 Infringements against match officials**

1. If the victim of an infringement is a match official, the sanction to be pronounced will be increased by half (+50%).
2. This rule does not apply to infringements, which by definition can only be committed against match officials (cf. Art. 57 and 58).

### **Article 44 Concurrent infringements**

1. If someone incurs several fines as the result of one or several deeds, the body shall impose the fine envisaged for the most serious infringement and may increase it according to circumstances but not by more than half of the maximum envisaged for this infringement.
2. The same applies if a person incurs several time sanctions of a similar type (two (2) or more match suspensions, two (2) or more stadium bans, etc.) as the result of one or several deeds.
3. The body that applies par. 1 is not obliged to adhere to the general upper limit of the fine (cf. Art. 16 par. 2)

## **SECTION 6 — LIMITATION PERIOD ON DISCIPLINARY SANCTIONS**

### **Article 45 Duration**

1. Infringements committed during a match may no longer be prosecuted after a lapse of two (2) years. As a general rule other infringements may not be prosecuted after a lapse of ten years.
2. Prosecution for corruption (cf. Art. 60) is not subject to a limitation period.

### **Article 46 Commencement of the limitation period**

The limitation period runs as follows:

- a) from the day on which the perpetrator committed the infringement;
- b) if the infringement is recurrent, from the day on which the most recent infringement was committed;
- c) if the infringement lasted a certain period, from the day on which it ended.

### **Article 47 Interruption**

The limitation period no longer applies if the Disciplinary Committee reaches a decision before it has expired.

## CHAPTER II. SPECIAL PART

### SECTION 1 — PHYSICAL ASSAULT

#### Article 48 Physical injury

1. A player who deliberately assaults someone physically or damages his health will be suspended for at least four (4) matches. An official who commits such an infringement will be suspended for at least eight (8) matches.
2. The suspension shall be imposed at every level (local, national and international).
3. In any case, the body shall also impose a minimum fine of NZD\$500  
In the case of tournaments with an age limit, the fine can be reduced appropriately.

#### Article 49 Violence

1. A player who deliberately assaults someone, but without harming him physically or damaging his health, will be suspended for at least two (2) matches. An official who commits such an infringement will be suspended for at least four (4) matches.
2. If a person assaults someone by spitting at him, he will be suspended for at least six (6) matches.
3. In any case, the body shall also impose a minimum fine of NZD250.  
In the case of tournaments with an age limit, the fine can be reduced appropriately.

#### Article 50 Brawl

1. Involvement in a brawl is sanctioned with a suspension for at least six (6) matches.
2. The scope of the suspension extends to all official international matches.
3. Anyone who has tried to prevent a fight, shield others or separate those involved in a brawl is not subject to punishment.

#### Article 51 Unidentified aggressors

1. If, in the case of a group of people involved in violence, it is not possible to identify the instigator(s), the body will sanction the captain and the club or Member Association to which the aggressors belong. The person sanctioned may be reprieved by naming the guilty person(s) to the disciplinary body.
2. If, in the case of group violence, it is impossible to establish each participant's exact share of guilt, the Disciplinary Committee shall consider every participant identified as a perpetrator of the infringements committed.

## SECTION 2 — INFRINGEMENTS OF THE LAWS OF THE GAME

#### Article 52 Minor infringements

A player is cautioned if he commits one of the following infringements (cf. Law 12 of the Laws of the Game and Art. 18 above):

- a) unsporting behaviour such as foul play, dangerous play or holding on to an opponent's shirt or any part of his body;
- b) showing disapproval of match officials by word or action (criticizing decisions, protesting);
- c) violation of the Laws of the Game;
- d) delaying the restart of play;
- e) failing to comply with the required distance during corner kicks or free kicks;
- f) entering or re-entering the field of play without prior permission from the referee;
- g) leaving the field of play without prior permission from the referee;
- h) play acting (diving, feigning injury, etc.).

#### Article 53 Serious infringements

A player is sent off if he commits one of the following infringements (cf. Law 12 of the Laws of the Game and Art. 19 above):

- a) serious foul play such as excessive or brute force;
- b) brutal action such as violent or aggressive conduct;
- c) spitting at an opponent or anyone else;
- d) denying the opposing team a goal or an obvious goal scoring opportunity by deliberately handling the ball;
- e) denying an obvious goal-scoring opportunity to an opponent moving towards the opposing goal by committing an infringement punishable by a free kick or a penalty kick;
- f) making offensive, insulting or abusive remarks;
- g) second caution during the same match (cf. Art. 18 par. 2)

#### Article 54 Team's Misconduct

1. The following constitutes misconduct by a team and are sanctioned by a maximum fine of NZD500:
  - a) when four (4) or more players are cautioned during one match;
  - b) when three (3) players are sent off during one match;
  - c) when several players together make threats (cf. Art. 57) or show force (cf. Art. 58) against a match official.
  - d) for spitting at a match official
2. When determining the amount of the fine, the type of competition shall be taken into account.

## SECTION 3 — OFFENSIVE AND RACIST BEHAVIOUR

### Article 55 Offensive behaviour

1. A player or official who insults someone in any way, especially by using offensive gestures or language, will be sanctioned with a match suspension. If the perpetrator is a player, he will be suspended from at least two (2) matches; if he is an official, he will be suspended from at least four (4) matches.
2. If the victim of the attack is OFC itself or one of its bodies, the duration of the suspension will be doubled (+100%); the sanction applies to all official matches at OFC level. A minimum fine of at least NZD500 shall be imposed.

### Article 56 Racism

1. Anyone who publicly disparages, discriminates against or denigrates someone in a defamatory manner on account of race, colour, language, religion or ethnic origin will be subject to match suspension for at least five (5) matches at every level. The body will also impose a ban on his entering the confines of any stadia and a fine of at least NZD5,000. If the perpetrator is an official, the fine will be at least NZD10,000.
2. Any spectator who commits such an infringement will be subject to a stadium ban for two (2) years.
3. If spectators display banners bearing racist slogans at a match, the body will sanction the Member Association or club, which these spectators support with a fine of at least NZD5,000 and force it to play its next official international match without spectators.

## SECTION 4 — INTIMIDATION

### Article 57 Threats

Anyone who intimidates a match official with serious threats will be sanctioned with a fine of at least NZD1,000 and a match suspension. These sanctions constitute a departure from Art. 33 in that they may not be combined with others.

### Article 58 Force

Anyone who uses violence or threats to pressure a match official into taking certain action or to hinder him in any other way from acting freely will be sanctioned with a fine of at least NZD1,000 and a match suspension. These sanctions constitute a departure from Art. 33, in that they may not be combined with others.

## SECTION 5 — FORGERY AND FALSIFICATION

### Article 59 Forgery and Falsification

1. Anyone who, during any football related activity, creates a false document, forges a document, makes a false claim in a document with potentially legal repercussions or uses a forged document to deceive others will be sanctioned with a suspension for at least six (6) matches.
2. If the perpetrator is a player, a suspension of at least six (6) matches will be pronounced.
3. If the perpetrator is an official, the body will impose a ban on performing any football related activity for a period of at least twelve (12) months.
4. An association may be held liable for an infringement as defined in par.1 committed by one of its officials and/or players. In such a case, an expulsions from a competition may be pronounced in addition to a fine for the association.
5. The body may also pronounce a fine of at least NZD1,000

## SECTION 6 — CORRUPTION

### Article 60 Corruption

1. A player or official who offers, promises or grants an unjustified advantage to a body of OFC, a match official, a player or an official on behalf of himself or a third party in an attempt to incite it or him to violate OFC regulations will be sanctioned:
  - a) with a minimum fine of NZD5,000;
  - b) with a ban on performing any football related activity; and
  - c) with a ban on entering any stadium;
2. Passive corruption (soliciting, being promised or accepting an unjustified advantage) will be sanctioned in the same manner.
3. In serious cases and in the case of repetition, sanction b) may be imposed for life.
4. In any case, the body will pronounce confiscation of the assets involved in committing the infringement. These assets will be used for the football development programme.

## SECTION 7 — DOPING

### Article 61 Definition

1. Doping and doping offences are defined in the Doping Regulations for OFC Competitions and out of Competition.
2. These acts constitute doping whether detected during or out of a competition.

## Article 62 Therapeutic justification

1. Any player who consults a doctor and is prescribed treatment or medication for therapeutic reasons shall enquire whether the prescription contains prohibited substances or methods (cf. the list in the OFC Doping Control Regulations).
2. If so, the player shall request alternative treatment or medication.
3. If there is no alternative treatment, the player shall obtain a medical certificate explaining the circumstances. This certificate shall be sent to the relevant OFC body within 48 hours of the medical consultation. If a match takes place during this period, the certificate shall reach the relevant body before the match begins or be produced at the doping test.  
Once this time limit has passed, no medical certificate will be accepted.
4. The treatment will only be considered justifiable if endorsed by the relevant body of OFC.
5. These provisions are subject to the OFC and FIFA Doping Control Regulations.

## Article 63 Sanctions

1. The following sanctions will, in principle, apply to doping offences in accordance with Chapter II of the Doping Control Regulations for FIFA Competitions and Out of Competitions:
  - a) Any violation of Chapter II .1 (The presence of prohibited substance or its metabolites or markers), Chapter II .2 (Use or attempted use of a prohibited substance or prohibited method), Chapter II .3 (Refusing, or failing without compelling justification, to submit to sample collection), Chapter II .5 (Tampering or attempting to tamper with any part of a doping control test) and Chapter II .6 (Possession of prohibited substances and methods) shall incur a two-year suspension for the first offence and a lifelong ban in the case of repetition.
  - b) If any specified substances contained in the list of prohibited substances and methods (cf. Annex A of the Doping Control Regulations for FIFA Competitions and Out of Competitions) are detected, for which proof can be produced that the specified substances were not intended to enhance sporting performance, at least a caution shall be given for the first offence and a two year suspension in the case of repetition. A third offence shall incur a lifelong ban.
  - c) Any violation of Chapter II .7 (Trafficking in any prohibited substance or prohibited method) or Chapter II .8 (Administration of a prohibited substance or method) shall incur a suspension of at least four years. If any of the players concerned are under the age of 21, and the offence does not involve a specified substance, a lifelong ban shall be imposed on the perpetrator.

d) Any violation of Chapter II .4 (Failure to provide the required information on the whereabouts of players on their availability for testing) shall incur a suspension of at least three months and no more than two years.

2. If the suspect can prove in each individual case that he bears no significant fault or negligence the sanction may be reduced, but only by up to half of the sanction under para.1; a lifelong ban may not be reduced to less than eight years.
3. If the suspect can prove in each individual case that he bears no fault or negligence the sanction otherwise applicable under the terms of para.1 becomes irrelevant.
4. If help given by the suspect leads to the exposure or proof of a doping offence by another person, the sanction may be reduced, but only by up to half of the sanction applicable under the terms of para.1; a lifelong ban may not be reduced to less than eight years.
5. If more than one player from the same team is sanctioned for doping offences, the team may also be sanctioned. The team may have points deducted and in a final competition the team's results may be annulled. The club or the association of the team concerned may also be subject to disciplinary sanctions.
6. A fine may also be imposed in all cases.

## Article 64 Repeat Testing

OFC may order any player sanctioned for a doping offence to undergo further doping tests while serving a suspension.

## Article 65 Procedure

The formal and technical aspects of the doping control procedure shall comply entirely with the Doping Control Regulations for FIFA Competitions and Out of Competition.

## Article 66 Player's Obligation

1. Every player taking part in a competition or event organized by OFC, or in training leading up to such a competition or event, shall agree to undergo tests conducted by the relevant bodies of OFC.
2. He agrees to samples being taken as to detect the presence of any prohibited substances or to establish the use of any prohibited methods.

## Article 67 Government sanctions against doping

Even if a state body imposes a legal sanction for a doping offence, the legal bodies of OFC shall still review the case and decide whether to impose a sanction in line with its own regulations.

#### **Article 68 Sanctions imposed by other international sports federations**

Any legally binding sanctions imposed by another international sports federation or national doping organization that comply with fundamental legal principles shall, in principle, automatically be adopted by OFC.

### **SECTION 8 — DISORDERLINESS AT MATCHES AND COMPETITIONS**

#### **Article 69 Inciting hatred and violence**

1. A player or official who openly incites others to hatred or violence during a match will be sanctioned with match suspension for not less than twelve (12) months and with a minimum fine of NZD5,000.
2. In serious cases, in particular when the infringement is committed using the mass media (such as the press, radio or television) or if it takes place on a match day in or around a stadium, the minimum fine will be NZD10,000.

#### **Article 70 Provoking the general public**

Anyone who provokes the general public during a match will be suspended for two (2) matches and sanctioned with a minimum fine of NZD1,000.

#### **Article 71 Abandonment**

1. If a club or representative team of a Member Association refuses to play a match or to continue playing one which it has begun, it will be sanctioned with a minimum fine of NZD10,000 and will, in principle, forfeit the match (cf. Art.32A).
2. In serious cases, the team will also be disqualified from the competition in progress and may be barred from future competitions.
3. If a Member Association condones such an action of a club or representative team, the Member Association shall be liable for sanctions which may include suspension.

### **SECTION 9 — FAILURE TO RESPECT DISCIPLINARY DECISIONS**

#### **Article 72 Payment of sums of money**

1. Anyone who fails to pay, such as a player, a coach, a club or a Member Association, a sum of money in full, even though instructed to do so by a body of OFC:
  - a) will be sanctioned with a minimum fine of NZD500 for failing to comply with the instructions issued by the body that imposed the payment;
  - b) will be given a final time limit by the judicial bodies of OFC in which to settle the debt;

- c) if it is a club, it will be warned and threatened with deduction of points or relegation to the next lower division if it has not paid by the final time limit.

2. If the club disregards the final time limit, the body will request the Member Association concerned to implement the threat.
3. If points are deducted, they shall be proportionate to the amount owed.
4. A ban on any football related activity may also be imposed against natural persons.

#### **Article 73 Ineligibility**

1. If a player takes part in an official match despite being ineligible, his team will be sanctioned by forfeiting the match (cf. Art. 32A) and paying a minimum fine of NZD500.
2. If a player takes part in a friendly match despite being ineligible, his team will be sanctioned by forfeiting the match and paying a minimum fine of NZD500.

### **SECTION 10 — MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS' RESPONSIBILITIES**

#### **Article 74 Organisation of matches**

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

#### **Article 75 Liability for spectator conduct**

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

2. The guest Member Association is liable for improper conduct among its own group of supporters, regardless of the question of culpable conduct or culpable oversight, and, depending on the situation, may be fined. Supporters occupying the guest sector of a stadium are regarded as the guest association's supporters, unless proven to the contrary.
3. Improper conduct includes violence towards persons or objects, letting off incendiary devices, throwing missiles, displaying racist or insulting slogans in any form, or uttering racist or insulting sounds, or invading the pitch.
4. A Member Association's liability as described in par. 1 and 2 also includes matches played on neutral ground, especially at final competitions.

**Article 76 Other obligations**

Member Associations shall also:

- a) vet the age of players shown on the passports, birth certificates and school records they produce at competitions that are subject to age limits;
- b) ensure that no one is involved in national football management who is or has been convicted for action unworthy of such a position (especially doping, corruption, forgery etc.) during the past five years.

**Article 77 Failure to comply**

1. Any Member Association that fails to comply with the obligations contained in the provisions of Section 10 shall be sanctioned with a fine.
2. In the case of serious infringement as set out in Art. 74 , the body may impose other sanctions, such as a stadium ban (cf. Art. 22) or ordering a team to play on neutral ground (cf. Art. 26)
3. The right is reserved to impose certain sanctions for safety reasons, even if no infringement has been committed (cf. Art. 8 par. 2)

**SECTION 11 — MANIPULATING MATCH RESULTS**

**Article 78 Manipulating match results**

Anyone who conspires to distort the result of a match in a manner incompatible with sporting ethics will be sanctioned with a match suspension and a minimum fine of NZD10,000. The body will also impose a ban on performing any football related activity; in serious cases this sanction will apply for life.

**SECOND TITLE: ORGANISATION AND PROCEDURE**

**CHAPTER I. ORGANISATION**

**SECTION 1 — JURISDICTION OF OFC, MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS AND OTHER ORGANISATIONS**

**Article 79 General Rule**

1. With regard to matches and competitions not organised by OFC or FIFA, Member Associations and sports entities that organise matches for cultural, geographical, historical or other reasons are responsible for enforcing sanctions imposed against infringements committed in their area of jurisdiction.
2. The judicial bodies of OFC reserve the right to sanction serious infringements of the statutory objectives of OFC, if member associations, and other sports organisations fail to prosecute the infringements committed or fail to prosecute in compliance with the fundamental principles of law.
3. Member associations and other sports organisations shall notify OFC of any serious infringements of the statutory objectives of OFC.

**Article 80 Friendly matches between two national teams**

1. Any disciplinary action to be taken at friendly matches between two representative teams from different member associations is the responsibility of that member association to which the sanctioned player belongs. However, in serious cases, the Disciplinary Committee may intervene.
2. The member association shall inform OFC of the sanctions enforced.
3. OFC ensures compliance with the sanctions by means of this code.

**SECTION 2 — AUTHORITIES**

**Article 81 Referee**

1. During matches, disciplinary decisions are taken by the referee.
2. These decisions are final.
3. In certain circumstances, the jurisdiction of the judicial bodies may apply (cf. Art. 85).

**Article 82 Judicial bodies**

The judicial bodies of OFC are the Disciplinary Committee, Ethics Committee and the Appeals Committee.

### **Article 83 Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS)**

Certain decisions passed by OFC Appeals Committee may be appealed against before the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS).

### **Article 84 OFC Medical Committee**

The OFC Medical Committee, or other bodies under its supervision, carries out the doping tests, analyses of samples and examination of medical certificates.

## **SECTION 3 — THE DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE**

### **Article 85 General jurisdiction**

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

### **Article. 86 Specific jurisdiction**

The Disciplinary Committee is responsible for:

- a) sanctioning serious infringements which have escaped the match officials' attention;
- b) rectifying obvious errors in the referee's disciplinary decisions;
- c) extending the duration of a match suspension incurred automatically by an expulsion (cf. Art. 18, par.5 and Art. 19, par. 4)
- d) pronouncing additional sanctions, such as a fine, to those imposed by the referee.

### **Article 87 Jurisdiction of the chairman ruling alone**

1. The chairman of the Disciplinary Committee may take the following decisions alone:

- a) suspend a person for up to three matches or for up to two months;
- b) impose a fine of up to NZD 500;
- c) rule on a request to extend a sanction (cf. art. 142);
- d) settle disputes arising from objections to members of the Disciplinary Committee;
- e) pronounce, alter and annul provisional measures (cf. art. 138 ).

2. If the chairman is prevented from attending and/or participating the deputy chairman replaces him. If the deputy chairman is prevented from attending and/or attending the member holding the most senior position will replace him.

Whenever the Disciplinary Committee meets on such occasions as a final competition, the chairman may decide to take the decisions mentioned under par. 1 for the committee.

## **SECTION 4 — THE APPEALS COMMITTEE**

### **Article 88 Jurisdiction**

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

### **Article 89 Jurisdiction of the chairman ruling alone**

1. The chairman of the Appeal Committee may take the following decisions alone:

- a) decide on an appeal against a decision to extend a sanction (cf. art. 147);
- b) resolve disputes arising from objections to members of the Appeal Committee;
- c) rule on appeals against provisional decisions passed by the chairman of the Disciplinary Committee;
- d) pronounce, alter and annul provisional measures (cf. art. 138 ).

2. If the chairman is prevented from attending and/or participating the deputy chairman replaces him. If the deputy chairman is prevented from attending and/or participating the member holding the most senior position will replace him

Whenever the Appeal Committee meets on such occasions as a final competition, the chairman may decide to take the decisions mentioned under par. 1 for the committee.

## **SECTION 5 — COMMON RULES FOR THE JUDICIAL BODIES**

### **Article 90 Composition/Quorum/Meetings**

1. The Executive Committee appoints the members of the Disciplinary and Appeals Committees for a period of 4 years. It designates the number of members deemed necessary for the Committees to function properly.
2. The Executive Committee appoints the chairman and deputy chairman of each committee from among the members for a period of 4 years.
3. The committee meetings are deemed to be valid if not less than half the number that constitutes the quorum are present.
4. At the behest of the Chairman, the Secretariat shall call the number of members deemed necessary to each meeting.

### **Article 91 Chairman**

1. The chairman conducts the meetings and delivers the decisions.
2. If the chairman is prevented from attending, the deputy chairman replaces him. If the deputy chairman is prevented from attending, the member holding the most senior position will replace him.



**Article 92 Secretariat**

1. The General Secretariat of OFC provides the judicial bodies with a secretariat and the necessary staff at OFC headquarters.
2. It designates the secretary.
3. The secretary takes charge of the administrative work and writes the minutes and decisions of the meetings.
4. He takes care of the filing of the documents. The decisions passed and the relevant files shall be kept for at least ten (10) years.
5. He takes charge of publishing the decisions passed by the judicial bodies, in a suitable manner.

**Article 93 Independence**

1. The judicial bodies of OFC pass their decisions entirely independently; particularly, they shall not receive instructions from any other body.
2. A member of another OFC body may not stay in the meeting room during the judicial bodies' deliberations unless he has been explicitly summoned to attend.

**Article 94 Incompatibility of office**

The members of the judicial bodies may not belong either to the Executive Committee or a Standing Committee of OFC

**Article 95 Objection**

1. Members of the judicial bodies of OFC shall decline to participate in any meetings if there are serious grounds for questioning their impartiality.
2. This applies in the following cases:
  - a) if the member in question is directly involved in the outcome of the matter;
  - b) if he is associated with any of the parties; official, player, etc.);
  - d) if he has already dealt with the case under different circumstances.
3. Members against whom an objection might be raised shall notify the chairman immediately. Each party may also raise an objection to a member.
4. In the case of a dispute, the chairman decides.
5. Proceedings that have involved someone against whom an objection has been raised will be considered null and void.

**Article 96 Confidentiality**

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

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

**Article 97 Exemption from liability**

Neither members of the OFC judicial bodies nor the OFC Secretariat may be made liable for any deeds or omissions relating to any disciplinary procedure.

## CHAPTER II. PROCEDURE

### SECTION 1 — GENERAL RULES

**SUBSECTION 1. TIME LIMITS****Article 98 Calculation**

1. Time limits to which member associations shall adhere to, commences the day after they have received the relevant legal document.
2. Time limits to which other persons shall adhere to, commences four (4) days after receipt of the document by the member association responsible for forwarding it except when the document is not also or solely sent to the person concerned or his legal representative. If the document was also or solely sent to the parties or their legal representatives, the time limit commences on the day after receipt of the document in question.
3. If the last day of the time limit coincides with a public holiday in the place of domicile of the person required to comply with the document by a certain deadline, the time limit shall expire on the next day that is not a public holiday.

**Article 99 Compliance**

1. The time limit has been met only if the action required has been carried out before expiry of the time limit.
2. The document is sent to the address of the relevant authority no later than midnight on the last day of the time limit.
3. If the document is sent by telefax, the time limit has been met if the document reaches the authority on the last day of the time limit and the original document reaches it within another five (5) days.
4. Parties are not permitted to observe time limits by sending electronic mail.
5. In the case of appeals, the deposit demanded (cf. Art. 132) is considered to have been paid in time if the payment has irreversibly been made to OFC's account by midnight on the last day of the time limit.

#### **Article 100 Interruption**

1. Time limits are interrupted:
  - a) during the period starting two (2) days before the OFC Congresses and up to two (2) days after;
  - b) during the period starting two (2) days before the Oceania Nations Cup final competition and up to two (2) days after except for facts arising during the final competition and facts which occurred before but which may have repercussions on the final competition.
2. In certain circumstances, the special procedures may apply.

#### **Article 101 Extension of time limits**

1. The judicial bodies may extend the time limits set, up on request. The time limits fixed in this code may not, however, be extended.
2. A time limit may not be extended more than twice and, the second time, only in exceptional circumstances.
3. If the judicial bodies refuse to extend the time limit, the applicant will be granted two (2) extra days. In emergencies, the judicial bodies may announce a negative decision to the applicant orally.

### **SUBSECTION 2. RIGHT TO BE HEARD**

#### **Article 102 Contents**

1. The parties shall be heard before any decision is passed.
2. They may, in particular:
  - a) refer to the file;
  - b) present their argument in fact and in law;
  - d) be involved in the production of proof;
  - e) obtain a reasoned decision.

#### **Article 103 Restrictions**

1. The right to be heard may be restricted in exceptional circumstances, such as when confidential matters need to be safeguarded for the proceedings to be conducted properly.
2. In certain circumstances the special procedures may apply.

### **SUBSECTION 3. PROOF**

#### **Article 104 Various types of proof**

1. Any type of proof may be produced.
2. The only proof that may be rejected is that which violates human dignity or obviously does not serve to establish relevant facts.

3. The following are, in particular, admissible: reports from referees, assistant referees, match commissioners and referees inspectors, declarations from the parties and witnesses, the production of documents, expert opinions and audio or video recordings.

#### **Article 105 Absolute discretion regarding proof**

1. The judicial bodies will have absolute discretion regarding proof.
2. They may, in particular, take account of the parties' attitudes during the proceedings, especially the manner in which they cooperate with the judicial bodies and the secretariat (cf. Art. 119)
3. They decide on the basis of their personal convictions.

#### **Article 106 Match Officials' Reports**

1. Facts contained in match officials' reports are presumed to be accurate.
2. Proof of the inaccuracy of the contents of these reports may be provided.
3. If there is any discrepancy in the reports from the various match officials and there are no means of resolving the different versions of the facts, the referee's report is considered authoritative regarding incidents that occurred on the field of play; the match commissioner's report is considered authoritative regarding incidents that took place outside the field of play.

#### **Article 107 Burden of proof**

1. The burden of proof regarding disciplinary infringements rests on OFC.
2. In the doping procedure, it is the responsibility of the person who has been tested positive to prove his innocence.

### **SUBSECTION 4. REPRESENTATION AND ASSISTANCE**

#### **Article 108 Representation and Assistance**

1. The parties may arrange to be assisted by a third party.
2. They may be represented even if they are not required to appear personally.
3. The parties are free to choose their own assistance and representation.

### **SUBSECTION 5. LANGUAGE USED IN PROCEEDINGS**

#### **Article 109 Language used in proceedings**

1. The language used in all proceedings shall be English or French. The body and the parties may choose any of the languages.
2. OFC may, if necessary, use the services of an interpreter.

## **SUBSECTION 6. NOTIFICATION AND COMMUNICATION**

### **Article 110 Addressees**

1. All parties are notified of the decisions.
2. Decisions and other documents intended for players, clubs and officials are addressed to the member association concerned on condition that it forwards the documents to the parties concerned. These documents are considered to have been notified/communicated properly to the ultimate addressee four (4) days after notification/communication of the documents to the member association (cf. Art. 98)

### **Article 111 Form: General Rule**

1. Decisions communicated by fax shall be legally binding. If necessary decisions may be communicated by registered letter which shall also be legally binding.
2. Electronic mail is not permitted.
3. In certain circumstances, the special provisions set out in Art. 109 may apply.

### **Article 112 Form: Special Cases**

If a party is present when a decision is taken, the terms of the decision shall be communicated to him orally. The reasoned decision shall then be sent to him by telefax within thirty (30) days. The legal limits do not begin until the reasoned decision has been delivered.

## **SUBSECTION 7. VARIOUS RULES**

### **Article 113 Obvious errors**

A judicial body may rectify any mistakes in calculation or any other obvious errors at any time.

### **Article 114 Costs and Expenses**

1. Costs and expenses shall be paid by the unsuccessful party.
2. If there is no unsuccessful party, they will be borne by OFC.
3. If considered fair to do so, they may be split among several persons.
4. The body that rules on the substance of the matter decides how costs and expenses will be allocated. The amounts are stipulated by the chairman, against which no appeal may be made.
5. The chairman may exceptionally decide to curtail or dispense with costs and expenses.
6. No procedural compensation shall be awarded in proceedings of the Disciplinary and Appeals Committees

### **Article 115 Enforcement of decisions**

1. Decisions will be enforced immediately if they are not liable to appeal or if this code provides such action.
2. Otherwise they are enforced upon expiry of the time limit for appeal.

### **Article 116 Closing of proceedings**

Proceedings maybe closed if:

- (a) the parties each agreement
- (b) a party declares bankruptcy
- (c) it becomes baseless

## **SECTION 2 — DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE**

### **SUBSECTION 1. COMMENCEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS AND INVESTIGATION**

#### **Article 117 Commencement of proceedings**

1. Disciplinary infringements shall be automatically prosecuted.
2. Any person or authority may report conduct that he or it considers incompatible with the regulations of OFC to the judicial bodies via the OFC Secretariat. Complaints may not be made orally all complaints shall be in writing.
3. Match officials are obliged to expose infringements, which have come to their notice.

#### **Article 118 Investigation**

The Secretariat carries out the necessary preliminary investigation ex officio under the Chairman's guidance.

#### **Article 119 Collaboration among the parties**

1. The parties are obliged to collaborate to establishing the facts. In particular, they shall comply with requests for information from the judicial bodies.
2. Whenever deemed necessary, the secretariat verifies the parties' versions of the facts.
3. If the parties are dilatory in responding, the judicial body may impose a fine of NZD500, after first warning them.
4. If the parties fail to collaborate, especially if they ignore the stipulated time limits, the judicial bodies will decide on the case, using the file in their possession.

## **SUBSECTION 2. ORAL STATEMENTS, DELIBERATIONS, DECISION**

### **Article 120 Oral statements, Principles**

1. As a general rule, there are no oral statements and the Disciplinary Committee decides on the basis of the contents of the file.
2. At the request of one of the parties, the body may arrange for oral statements to be heard.
3. Oral statements are always heard behind closed doors.

### **Article 121 Oral statements, procedure**

1. The Chairman shall decide on the sequence of the oral statements.
2. Once the preliminary proceedings have ended, the chairman allows the person against whom proceedings are being conducted a final opportunity to speak.
3. The oral statements terminate with the parties' closing statement.

### **Article 122 Deliberations**

1. The Disciplinary Committee deliberates behind closed doors.
2. If any oral statements have been heard, they will immediately be followed by deliberation.
3. They are conducted without interruption, unless there are exceptional circumstances.
4. The chairman decides in which order the various questions will be submitted for deliberation.
5. The members present express their opinion in the order set out by the chairman, who always speaks last
6. The committee secretary have consultative powers.

### **Article 123 Passing the decisions**

1. Decisions are passed by a simple majority of the members present.
2. Every member present shall vote.
3. If the votes are equal, the chairman has the casting vote.

### **Article 124 Form and contents of the decision**

1. The decision contains:
  - a) the composition of the committee;
  - b) the designation of the parties;
  - c) the summary of the facts;
  - d) the legal reasons for the decision
  - e) the provisions on which the decision was made
  - f) the terms of the decision;
  - g) notice of the channels for appeal
2. The decisions are signed by the General Secretary of the OFC.

### **Article 125 Decisions without grounds**

1. The judicial bodies may decide not to communicate the grounds of a decision and instead communicate only the terms of the decision. At the same time, the parties shall be informed that they have ten days from receipt of the terms of the decision to request, in writing, the grounds of the decision, and that failure to do so will result in the decision becoming final and binding.
2. If a party requests the grounds of a decision, the motivated decision will be communicated to the parties in full, written form. The time limit to lodge an appeal, where applicable, begins upon receipt of this motivated decision.
3. If the parties do not request the grounds of a decision, a short explanation of the decision shall be recorded in the case files.

## **SUBSECTION 3. PROCEEDINGS BEFORE THE CHAIRMAN OF THE DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE**

### **Article 126 Proceedings before the chairman of the Disciplinary Committee**

The rules governing the Disciplinary Committee similarly apply whenever the chairman decides alone.

## **SECTION 3 — APPEALS COMMITTEE**

### **Article 127 Contestable decisions**

An appeal may be lodged to the Appeals Committee against any decision passed by the Disciplinary Committee and Ethics Committee, unless the sanction pronounced is:

- a) a warning;
- b) a reprimand;
- c) a suspension for less than three (3) matches or of up to two (2) months;
- d) a fine of less than NZD1,000 imposed on a Member Association or a club and of less than NZD500 in other cases

### **Article 128 Eligibility to appeal**

1. Anyone who is affected by a decision and has an interest justifying amendment or cancellation of the decision may submit it to the Appeals Committee.
2. Member Associations may appeal against decisions sanctioning their players, officials or members. They shall have written agreement of the person concerned.

#### **Article 129 Time Limit for Appeal**

1. The party intending to appeal shall announce his decision in writing within fifteen (15) days of the communication of the decision.
2. The announcement of the intention to appeal shall be sent directly to OFC. The petition of appeal shall, however, be forwarded to OFC via the member association.
3. The member association receiving the petition of appeal shall forward it immediately to OFC. The decisive moment for complying with the time limit for lodging this petition is the moment it reaches the OFC.

#### **Article 130 Grounds for complaint**

The appellant may object to insufficient representation of the facts and wrong application of the law.

#### **Article 131 Petition of appeal**

1. The appellant shall submit his petition of appeal in writing.
2. The appellant's petition of appeal shall include the necessary arguments, reasons and means of proof and be signed by the appellant or his representative, subject to Art. 128.

#### **Article 132 Deposit**

1. A party intending to lodge an appeal shall deposit the amount of NZD1500 to OFC's bank account within fifteen (15) days from the date of the appeal.
2. The appeal shall be deemed inadmissible without the aforesaid deposit.
3. This amount shall be reimbursed to the appellant should the appeal be upheld. Costs and expenses payable by an appellant who loses the case are deducted from this amount. Any remaining amount is reimbursed to him. If the deposit is insufficient, the appellant will be ordered to pay the difference.
4. If an appeal is dismissed, the deposit shall be forfeited.

#### **Article 133 Effects of the Appeal**

1. The Appeals Committee has full power in fact and in law to rule on the appeal.
2. The appeal does not have a suspensive effect except with regard to orders to pay a sum of money.

#### **Article 134 Sequence in the proceedings leading up to the decision**

1. The sequence in proceedings is determined as described in this code.
2. The decision are signed by the General Secretary
3. Decisions may not be amended to the detriment of the party contesting them.

#### **Article 135 Conclusion to the proceedings**

1. The Appeals Committee rules, in principle, as a body in the last instance.
2. The right is reserved for an appeal to be made to the Court of Arbitration for Sport.

#### **Article 136 Proceedings before the chairman of the Appeal Committee**

The rules governing the Appeal Committee similarly apply whenever the chairman of the committee decides alone.

### **SECTION 4 — COURT OF ARBITRATION FOR SPORT (CAS)**

#### **Article 137 Court of Arbitration for Sport**

The OFC Statutes stipulate which decisions passed by the judicial bodies of OFC may be taken before the Court of Arbitration for Sport.

### **SECTION 5 — SPECIAL PROCEDURES**

#### **SUBSECTION 1. PROVISIONAL MEASURES**

##### **Article 138 Principle**

1. If an infringement appears to have been committed and a decision on the main issue cannot be taken early enough, the chairman of the judicial body may, in emergencies, provisionally pronounce, alter or revoke a sanction
2. In similar circumstances, he may take other provisional measures at his discretion, especially to ensure compliance with a mandatory sanction.
3. He will take action upon request or ex officio.

##### **Article 139 Procedure**

1. The chairman shall make his decision based on the evidence available at the time.
2. He is not obliged to hear the parties.

##### **Article 140 Decision**

1. The chairman delivers his decision immediately.
2. That decision shall be implemented immediately.

#### **SUBSECTION 2. EMERGENCIES**

##### **Article 141 Emergencies**

1. If circumstances so require, the secretariat may arrange deliberations and decision taking to be conducted via telephone conference, videoconference or any other similar method.
2. Art. 120 par. 2 is, in this case, no longer applicable
3. The secretary takes minutes as if it were a chaired meeting.

### **SUBSECTION 3. EXTENDING SANCTIONS TO HAVE WORLDWIDE EFFECT**

#### **Article 142 Request**

1. If the infringement is serious, in particular doping (cf. section 7 of the special part), corruption (cf. art. 60), manipulation of match results (cf. art. 78), physical assault of a match official (cf. art. 47), forgery (cf. art. 59) or violation of the rules governing age limits (cf. art. 76a), the OFC shall request FIFA to extend the sanctions they have imposed so as to have worldwide effect.
2. The request shall be submitted in writing and enclose a certified copy matching the decision. It shall show the address of the person who has been sanctioned and that of the club and the association concerned.
3. If the judicial bodies of OFC discover that associations, confederations and other sports organisations have not requested a decision to be extended to have worldwide effect, even though it should have been, these bodies may themselves pass a decision.

#### **Article 143 Conditions**

1. The sanction will be extended if:
  - a) the person sanctioned has been cited properly;
  - b) he has had the opportunity to state his case;
  - c) the decision has been notified properly;
  - d) the decision complies with the regulations of OFC;
  - e) extending the sanction does not conflict with public order and accepted standards of behaviour.

#### **Article 144 Procedure**

1. The chairman makes his decision, in principle, without negotiations or hearing any of the parties, using only the file and/or evidence before him.
2. He may exceptionally decide to summon the parties concerned.

#### **Article 145 Decision**

1. The chairman is restricted to ascertaining that the conditions of art. 143 have been fulfilled. He may not review the substance of the decision.
2. He either grants or refuses to grant the request to have the sanction extended.

#### **Article 146 Effect**

The sanction passed by the association or confederation requesting it to be extended has the same effect in each member association of FIFA as if the sanction had been passed by any one of them.

#### **Article 147 Appeal**

1. Both the body requesting extension of the sanction and the person affected by it may appeal against it.

2. A reasoned appeal shall be lodged within four days of receipt of notification of the decision.
3. Any grounds for complaint may only refer to the terms set out in art. 142 and 143. It is inadmissible to question the substance of the initial decision.

### **SECTION 5 — PROCEDURE TO BE FOLLOWED IN COMBATING DOPING**

#### **Article 148 Tests**

1. The test procedure is governed by the OFC Doping Control Regulations.
2. Member Associations shall ensure that tests and sanctions conform to the relevant OFC Doping Control Regulations.

#### **Article 149 Player's obligations**

1. Every player taking part in a competition or any other event organised by OFC, or in training leading up to such a competition or event, shall agree to undergo any tests conducted by the relevant bodies of OFC.
2. He agrees to samples being taken so as to detect the presence of any prohibited substances or to establish the use of any prohibited methods.

#### **Article 150 Government sanctions against doping**

If a government authority sanctions a player for a doping offence, the judicial bodies of OFC will examine whether disciplinary sanctions should be imposed.

#### **Article 151 Doping sanctions imposed by other international sports federations**

1. Sanctions for doping offences imposed by any other international sports federation are automatically recognised by OFC.
2. As soon as they come into force in accordance with the regulations of the international sports federation concerned, these sanctions have the same effect as those imposed by OFC.
3. The person sanctioned may object to the chairman of the Disciplinary Committee on the basis that the initial decision for the sanction did not comply with the conditions set out in Art. 143, and request OFC not to recognise it.

### **SUB SECTION 6. REVIEW**

#### **Article 152 Review**

1. A review may be requested after a legally binding decision has been passed if a party discovers facts or proof that would have resulted in a more favourable decision and that, even with due diligence, could not have been produced sooner.
2. A request for a review shall be made within ten days of discovering the reasons for the review.

## FINAL TITLE

## NOTES

### **Article 153 Diverging texts in the Disciplinary Code**

1. This code exists in the English and French.
2. In the event of a discrepancy in the two texts, the original English version is authoritative.

### **Article 154 Scope of the Code, omissions, custom, doctrine and jurisprudence**

1. This code governs every subject to which the text or the meaning of its provisions refers.
2. If there are any omissions in this code, the judicial bodies will decide in accordance with the association's custom or, in the absence of custom, in accordance with rules they would lay down if they were acting as legislators

### **Article 155 Adoption and Enforcement**

The OFC Executive Committee adopted this Code on March 29 2014 in Auckland, New Zealand and comes into effect on 30 March 2014.

Auckland, March 2014

**FOR THE OFC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**President:**

David Chung

**General Secretary:**

Tai Nicholas

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