

STATUTES

FOR

STATE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

2010

STATE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION STATUTES

DEFINITIONS

The following terms, abbreviations, and/or acronyms are used in the interpretation of these Statutes.

1. **“FIFA”** stands for Federation International de Football Association
2. **“CAF”** means Confederation of African Football
3. **“WAFU”** means West African Football Union
4. **“NFF”** means Nigeria Football Federation
5. **“State Football Association”** means the Football Association of the state
6. **“NPL”** means Nigeria Premier League the body duly recognized by the NFF and responsible for the organization of non-amateur football in Nigeria.
7. **“LFC”** means Local Government Football Council duly affiliated to the State Football Association
8. **“IFAB”** means International Football Association Board, which authorizes and modifies the law of the game.
9. **“Officials”** mean all the board members, coaches, assistants, technical, medical or administrative supervisors of the relevant organizations.
10. **“Federation”** means the NFF
11. **“League”** means any other body duly affiliated to the State Football Association that has been granted the authority to organize a competition or competitions which have been sanctioned by the State Football Association in accordance with the statute.
12. **“State General Assembly”** means the supreme body of State Football Association which is the assembly of delegates affiliated and entitled to attend such assembly convened in accordance with this statute.
13. **“State Executive Committee”** means executive body of State Football Associations elected in accordance with these statutes.

14. **“Auditing Organ”** means any other auditing body so selected by the State Football Association.
15. **“Consultative Committee”** means a Standing or Ad-Hoc Committee.
16. **“Laws of the game”** refers to the laws of the game authorized by the International Football Association Board.
17. **“Territory State”** means the territory of the state.
18. **“Association Football”** means the game controlled by FIFA and organized in accordance with the laws of the game.
19. **“Arbitration”** means quasi-judicial panel acting instead of an ordinary Court.
20. **“Ordinary Courts”** means any court so properly called anywhere within the territory of ---- State.
21. **“CAS (TAS)”** means the Court of Arbitration for Sport (Tribunal Arbitral du Sport) in Lausanne, Switzerland.

NB: References to natural persons include both genders. The singular case applies to the plural and vice-versa.

I. GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1

NAME, HEADQUARTER, LEGAL FORM

1. State Football Association is a public organization of an associative nature, in compliance with the laws of Federal Republic of Nigeria. It is formed for an unlimited period.
2. The Headquarter is in ----
3. ---- State football Association is a member of FIFA, CAF, WAFU and NFF.
4. The flag of the association shall be determined by the general assembly of the State Football Association.
5. The emblem of the association shall be determined by the general assembly of the State Football Association.
6. The logo of the association shall be determined by the general assembly of the State Football Association.
7. The abbreviation of the association is --- SFA
8. The flag, emblem, logo and abbreviation are legally registered with Trade Marks Registry of the appropriate authority of Nigeria.

Article 2

NEUTRALITY AND NON- DISCRIMINATION

1. ---- State Football Association is neutral in matters of politics and religion.
2. Discrimination of any kind against a country, a private person or group on account of ethnic origin, gender, language, religion, politics or any other reason is strictly prohibited and punishable by suspension or expulsion.

Article 3

PROMOTING FRIENDLY RELATIONS

1. --- State Football Association shall promote friendly relations between its members, clubs, officials, players and society for humanitarian objectives.
2. Every person and organization involved in the game of football is obliged to observe the statutes, regulations and the principles of fair play as well as the principles of loyalty, integrity and sportsmanship.
3. --- State Football Association shall provide the necessary institutional means to resolve any internal dispute that may arise between Members, Clubs, Officials and Players of the ---- State Football Association.

Article 4

LAWS OF THE GAME

1. ---- State Football Association and each of its Members play association football in compliance with the laws of the game issued by IFAB. Only IFAB may lay down and alter the Laws of the Game.

Article 5

CONDUCT OF BODIES OFFICIALS

The Bodies and Officials of ----- State Football Association must observe the Statutes, regulations, directives, decisions and the Codes of ethics of FIFA, CAF, WAFU, NFF and – State Football Association in their activities.

Article 6

OFFICIAL LANGUAGES

The official languages of the -----State Football Associations shall be English and - of the state. Official documents and texts shall be written in these languages. In the event of any divergence between the interpretations of texts in different languages, the texts written in English shall be regarded as authoritative.

The official languages of the State General Assembly shall be English and –

II MEMBERSHIP

Article 7

ADMISSION, SUSPENSION AND EXPULSION

1. The State General Assembly shall decide whether to admit, suspend or expel a member.
2. (a) Admission may be granted if the applicant fulfills the requirements of the ---- State Football Association
(b) Notwithstanding that an application may satisfy such criteria and conditions, the SFA shall have the power in its absolute discretion to refuse an application to be a full member and accordingly, only on the written confirmation of the State Executive Committee shall an applicant be accorded the status of a member.
3. Membership is terminated by resignation or expulsion. Loss of membership does not relieve a member from its financial obligations towards ---- SFA or other members but leads to cancellation of all rights in relation to ---- SFA.

Article 8

ADMISSION

1. The members of the – SFA are:
 - (a) Local Government Football Council, subordinates to ---- SFA
 - (b) The Premier division clubs subordinate to ---- SFA
 - (c) The players association, subordinate to ---- SFA
 - (d) The Nigeria Football Coaches Association ---- State chapter, subordinate to ---- SFA
 - (e) The State Referees Council, subordinate to ---- SFA
 - (f) The Leagues, subordinate to the ---- SFA to the Government of State in charge of sports, subordinate to ---- SFA.
2. Any legal or natural person wishing to become a member of SFA shall apply in writing to the Secretariat of the ---- SFA

3. The application must be accompanied by the following mandatory items.
 - a. A copy of its legal valid statutes and regulations
 - b. A declaration that it will always comply with statutes, regulations and decisions of the ---- SFA, NFF, WAFU, CAF and FIFA and ensure that these are also respected by its own members, clubs, officials and players.
 - c. A declaration that it will comply with Laws of the Game in force.
 - d. A declaration that it recognizes the judicial bodies of the ---- SFA and the Court of Arbitration for Sports in Lausanne, as specified in these statutes.
 - e. A declaration that its location and registered office is in the territory of the ---- SFA.
 - f. A declaration that it will play all official home matches in the territory of the ---- SFA.
 - g. A declaration to the effect that the legal composition of the applicant guarantees that it can make decisions independently of any external entity.
 - h. A list of its officials, specifying those who are authorized signatories, with the right to enter into legally binding agreements with the third parties.
 - i. A declaration that it undertakes to organize or participate in friendly matches only with the prior consent of ---- SFA.
 - j. A copy of the minutes of its last general assembly or constitutional meeting.
 - k. A declaration to the effect that it recognizes the exclusive authority of an arbitral tribunal of the Appeals Committee of the ---- SFA in respect of all legal disputes involving itself and any of its members.
 - l. A declaration to the effect that it agrees to be bound by the statutes, regulations and directives in their current form and subject to later amendments as well as by the decisions of FIFA, CAF, WAFU, NFF and ----- SFA to which it is affiliated.

4. This article shall affect the statutes of existing members.
5. The State Executive Committee may propose to exempt a candidate from the 6. conditions specified under (6e) and/or (6f)

Article 9

REQUEST AND PROCEDURE FOR APPLICATION

1. The procedure for admission shall be regulated by special regulation approved by the State Executive Committee of the ---- SFA.
2. The State Executive Committee shall request the State General Assembly either to admit or not to admit an applicant. The applicant may state the reasons for its application to the General Assembly.
3. The new member shall acquire membership rights and duties as soon as it has been admitted. Its delegates are eligible to vote and be elected with immediate effect, subject however to the provisions of the article above.
4. The State General Assembly of ---- SFA has the sole right to decide on the affiliation of a member.

Article 10

MEMBERS' RIGHTS

1. The members of ---- SFA have the following rights:
 - a. To take part in the State General Assembly of ----- SFA, know its agenda in advance, be called to the General Assembly within the prescribed time and exercise their voting rights.
 - b. To draw up proposals for inclusion in the agenda of the State General Assembly.
 - c. To nominate candidates for all bodies of ---- SFA to be elected.
 - d. To be informed of the affairs of SFA through the official bodies of ---- SFA.
 - e. To take part in competitions and/or other activities organized by ---- SFA.

- f. To exercise all other rights arising from the statutes and regulations of the ---- SFA.
2. The exercise of these rights is subject to other provisions in these statutes and the applicable regulations.

Article 11

MEMBERS' OBLIGATIONS

1. The members of – SFA have the following obligations:
 - a. To comply fully with the Statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of FIFA, CAF, WAFU, NFF and SFA at all times and to ensure that these are also respected by its members.
 - b. To ensure the elections of its decision making bodies.
 - c. To take part in competition and other activities organized by ---- SFA.
 - d. To pay their membership subscriptions/ Affiliation.
 - e. To respect the Laws of the Game as laid down by IFAB and to ensure that these are also respected by its members through a statutory provision.
 - f. To adopt statutory clause specifying that any dispute requiring arbitration involving itself or one of its members and relating to the Statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of FIFA, CAF, WAFU, NFF or ---- SFA shall be determined by the Judicial bodies within this Statute without resource whatsoever to ordinary courts.
 - g. To communicate to ---- SFA any amendment of its Statutes and regulations as well as the list of its officials or persons who are authorized signatories with the right to enter legally binding agreements with third parties.
 - h. Not to maintain any relations of a sporting nature with entities that are not recognized or with members that have been suspended or expelled.
 - i. To observe the principles of loyalty, integrity and good sporting behavior as an expression of fair play through statutory provisions.

- j. To observe mandatory items for the duration of their affiliations.
 - k. To administer a register of members this shall regularly be updated.
 - l. To comply fully with other duties arising from the Statutes and other regulations of FIFA, CAF, WAFU, NFF and ---- SFA.
2. Violation of any of the above mentioned obligations by any member may lead to sanctions provided for in this Statute.

Article 12

CONSTITUTION OF MEMBERS

Any change or changes in the constitution or in the rules of a full or associate member or of a recognized football body shall become operative only if it is/they are submitted to the Secretary in writing by recorded delivery letter and have been approved by the State Executive Committee.

Article 13

OFFICIAL RETURN

Each member shall lodge with the Secretary not later than 90 days in each year the Official Return and shall notify in writing without delay any subsequent changes to the details contained in such Official Return. Each member shall ensure that the relevant official secretary, director or member of the board of management of committee of such member will personally confirm to the ---- SFA utilizing the form prescribed by the Executive Committee.

Article 14

EXPULSION/ DISMISSAL

1. The State General Assembly may suspend or dismiss a member, body or person if:
 - a. It seriously violates the Statutes, regulations, directives or decisions of FIFA, CAF, WAFU, NFF and ---- SFA.

- b. The State Executive Committee may place suspension or dismissal of a member, person or body on the agenda of the General Assembly. The State Executive Committee may also dismiss a member, person or body provisionally. Any State Executive Committee member may submit a proposal to place such a motion for suspension or expulsion on the agenda of the State Executive Committee or General Assembly.
2. The Executive Committee may place the suspension or dismissal of a member, person or body on the agenda for the General Assembly. The State Executive Committee may also dismiss a member, person or body provisionally. Any Executive Committee member may submit a proposal to place such a motion for suspension or expulsion on the agenda of the Executive Committee or General Assembly.
3. The motion for suspension or expulsion to be justified, it will be sent to the members of ---- SFA along with the agenda.
4. The member, person or body in question has the right to speak in his or its defense.
5. If the motion for suspension or expulsion is carried, the state General Assembly or Executive Committee shall reach a decision by means of secret ballot. For the motion to be passed, a majority of two third of valid votes is required.

The member, person or body dismissed provisionally shall be relieved of his or its functions with immediate effect.

Article 15

RESIGNATION

A member may resign from ---- SFA with effect from the end of a calendar year. Notice of such resignation must reach the General Secretariat not later than three months before the end of the year.

The resignation is not valid unless and until the member wishing to resign has fulfilled its financial obligations towards ---- SFA and other members of ---- SFA.

Article 16

DISSOLUTION

The dissolution of the legal entity of a member may be voluntary or legal. In either case, it results in the loss of member status, even before the liquidation stage is reached.

Article 17

STATUS OF LOCAL FOOTBALL COUNCIL, CLUBS ETC

1. Local Football Council, clubs, leagues or any other group of clubs affiliated to ---- SFA shall be subordinate to and recognized by ---- SFA. These Statutes define the scope of authority and rights and duties of these clubs and groups. Their Statutes and regulations must be approved by the Executive Committee of ---- SFA.
2. The affiliated clubs and groups of ---- SFA shall take all decisions on any matter regarding their membership independently on any external body. This obligation applies regardless of their corporate structure.
3. In any case, no natural or legal person shall exercise control over more than one club or group whenever the integrity of any match or competition could be jeopardized.

Article 18

AFFILIATION FEES PAYABLE

1. Affiliation fees payable by the members/bodies or any other organization taking part in any competition organized by the ---- SFA, shall be determined by the Executive Committee.
2. It is the responsibility of the ---- SFA to ensure that affiliation fees are paid.

3. All payments shall be made on or before ---- SFA deadline and defaulting members/bodies shall be penalized by the ---- SFA, in accordance with this statutes.
4. The proceeds from affiliation fee shall be disbursed in accordance with an agreed formula of may be decided by the ---- SFA.

Article 19

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION FEES PAYABLE

1. Annual subscription fees are payable by the members/bodies or other organizations taking part in any competition/ activity organized by the – SFA.
2. It is the responsibility of the Executive Committee to ensure that the above is adhered to.
3. All payments shall be made on or before ---- SFA deadline, and defaulting members/bodies shall be penalized by the ---- SFA in accordance with the Statutes.
4. The proceeds from subscription fees shall be disbursed in accordance with an agreed formula or as may be decided by the ---- SFA.

Article 20

STATE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATIONS

1. ---- State Football Association shall consist of the local government football councils within the State.
2. The ---- State Football Association shall establish, run and maintain a permanent headquarters at the State Capital.
3. The powers and functions of ----- State Football Association shall include the following:
 - a. It shall have the power to make such rules and regulations deemed necessary to provide for matters arising from their activities and to

implement these rules in so far as such rules or regulations are not in conflict any rules or regulations of the NFF, WAFU, CAF and FIFA.

- b. It shall have authority to perform the functions of the NFF within its area of jurisdiction in the State and shall perform on behalf of the NFF other functions that may be delegated to it from time to time.
- c. It shall have the power to deal with violations of the Laws of the Game, the Statutes, rules and regulations of the NFF or misconduct of any of their clubs or players, officials or members in accordance with the rules and regulations of the ---- State Football Association and NFF subject to the right of appeal.
- d. It shall cooperate with Local Government Football Councils in the area of jurisdiction and shall involve them in the administration of football as and when necessary.
- e. It shall be responsible to the NFF for the conduct or action of its players, officials and spectators and is required to take all precaution(s) necessary to prevent them from threatening or assaulting officials and players, before, during and after matches. Such conduct or action shall include the use of abusive language.
- f. It shall procure funds required to fulfill its duties adequately and shall keep a cash book in which shall be entered all receipt and payments. A duly audited balance sheet shall be issued each season and a copy sent to the Federation. All receipt shall be entered into the cash book and all books and vouchers of the Association shall be retained and produced when required by the NFF.
- g. It shall also have the power to constitute all the bodies necessary and take all actions it deems useful to fulfill the duties incumbent upon it.
- h. It shall comply with and enforce compliance with the NFF Statutes, regulations and decisions and cooperate with the NFF in all matters

relating to the organization of local, national and international competitions and Football in general.

- i. It shall have the power to organize its own inter-club and schools competitions.
- j. It shall have the power to elect or appoint its representatives on the NFF standing committees in conformity with the Statutes of NFF and it shall ensure that such representatives exercise their functions.
- k. It shall maintain good relations and cooperation with NFF, other members and clubs affiliated to the NFF.

4. Annual General Assembly:

- a. The – State Football Association shall host its Annual General Assembly before the NFF General Assembly except the Elective General Assembly which shall succeed NFF Elective Assembly.
- b. At the State Annual General Assembly, each council shall be represented by two delegates and shall be entitled to one vote.
- c. Officials of the NFF or its nominee shall be eligible to attend meetings of the State Association.

5. State Executive Committee:

- a. The – State Football Association shall be composed of nine (9) persons, three (3) from each Senatorial District and made up as follows:-
 - Chairman
 - Vice Chairmen
 - Seven (7) Ordinary Members
- b. All the above officials shall be elected by the Annual General Assembly of the State Football Association.
- c. The positions of the State Secretary shall be by appointment by the Executive Committee.

Only the Chairman can recommend the appointment and dismissal of the Secretary to the Executive Committee.

Article 21

ELIGIBILITY

A. CHAIRMAN

1. To be eligible to contest for the position of Chairman of the Executive Committee, the candidate must have been involved in football management and administration for a period of four (4) unbroken years preceding the date of the election in his state, and must show concrete and verifiable evidence.
2. The candidate must possess a minimum educational qualification of school certificate or its equivalent.
3. The candidate must possess three (3) years tax clearance preceding the date of the election.
4. The candidate must be solvent and must not have been convicted by any court in Nigeria.
5. The candidate must be of sound mind.
6. The candidate must not have taken in the past or during the period of the election any footballing or football cause or matter to the ordinary courts.
7. The candidate must have been nominated by the ---- SFA or its affiliates and seconded by his local football council.
8. The candidate must not be in the employment of any Government or its agencies or an aide to any government official.

B. VICE CHAIRMEN

1. As applicable in the case of the Chairman in (Article 21(1-8) Supra), to be eligible to contest for the position of Vice Chairman of the Executive Committee, the candidate must have been involved in footballing/football related matters for an

unbroken period of three (3) years preceding the date of the election in his state and must show concrete and verifiable evidence.

OTHER MEMBERS

1. As applicable to the conditions aforementioned in Articles 21(A&B), to be eligible to contest for the position of ordinary member, the candidate must have been involved in footballing/football related matters for an unbroken period of two (2) years preceding the date of the election in his state and must show concrete and verifiable evidence.

Article 22

LOCAL FOOTBALL COUNCILS

1. A Local Government Football Council shall consist of not more than three (3) elected members and secretary.
2. Each Council shall affiliate with the ---- SFA with a sum to be determined by the Executive Committee together with an annual subscription fee every calendar year thereafter.
3. Each Council shall have the power to make such rules and regulations deemed necessary to provide for matters arising from its activities and to implement these rules in so far as such rules and regulations are not in conflict with any rules or regulations of the ---- SFA. Such rules and regulations shall be approved by the State Executive Committee before being implemented.
4. Each Council shall have authority to perform the functions of the ---- SFA within its area of jurisdiction and shall perform on behalf of the ---- SFA other functions that may be delegated to it from time to time.
5. Each Council shall cooperate with clubs under their area of jurisdiction and shall involve them in the administration of Football as and when necessary.
6. Each Council shall have the power to deal with violations of the Laws of the Game, the Statutes, rules and regulations of the ---- SFA, or misconduct of any

- of the rules and regulations of FIFA, CAF, WAFU, NFF and ---- SFA subject to the right of appeal to the ---- SFA.
7. Each Council shall be responsible to the ---- SFA or its agents for the conduct of action of their players, officials and spectators and is required to take all precaution necessary to prevent them from threatening or assaulting officials and players before, during and after matches. Such conduct or action shall include the use of objectionable language.
 8. Each Council shall procure funds required to fulfill its duties adequately and shall keep a cash book in which shall be entered all receipts and payments. A duly audited balance sheet shall be issued each season and a copy sent to the – SFA. A receipt shall be entered with the cash book and all books and vouchers of the Council shall be retained and produced as when required by the – SFA.
 9. It shall have the power to constitute all the bodies necessary and take actions deemed useful to fulfill the duties incumbent upon it.
 10. Each Council shall comply with and enforce compliance with the NFF Statutes, regulations and decisions and cooperate with the ---- SFA in all matters relating to the organization of local, national and international competitions and football in general.
 11. Each Council shall have the power to organize its own inter-club and schools competitions with the approval of the ---- SFA.
 12. Each Council shall have the power to elect or appoint its representative on the ---- SFA standing Committees in conformity with the Statutes of ---- SFA.
 13. Each Council shall be deemed to have knowledge of and be bound by the Statutes, rules and regulations of the ---- SFA. Each Council shall maintain good relations and cooperation with NFF, other member councils, State Football Associations and clubs affiliated to the NFF.

14. Each Council shall maintain good relations and cooperation with NFF, other member councils, ---- SFA and clubs affiliated to the NFF.
15. Each Council shall be deemed to have knowledge of and be bound by the decisions taken by the ---- SFA.

Article 23

LEGAL FORM OF MEMBERS

The members of the ---- SFA are brought together in the form of a public organization of an associative nature in compliance with the laws of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

III. ORGANISATION

Article 24

Bodies of ---- SFA

1. The State Congress is the supreme and legislative body.
2. The State Executive Committee is the executive body.
3. Standing and ad hoc committees shall advice and assist the Executive Committee in fulfilling its duties. Their duties, composition and functions are defined in the Statutes and/or special regulations drawn up by the Executive Committee.
4. The General Secretariat is the Administrative body.
5. The judicial bodies are the Disciplinary and Appeal Committees
6. The bodies of the ---- SFA shall be elected/ appointed by itself without any external influence and in accordance with the procedures described in the Statutes.

Article 25

DEFINITION OF AND COMPOSITION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The General Assembly is the meeting at which all of the members of the ---- SFA regularly convene. It represents the supreme and legislative authority of the ---- SFA.

A State General Assembly may be ordinary or extra-ordinary General Assembly.

The Chairman shall conduct the ---- SFA General Assembly business in compliance with the standing orders of the General Assembly.

The Congress may appoint observers who take part in the Congress without the right to debate or vote.

Article 26

DELEGATES AND VOTES

1. The number of delegates is allocated as follows:
 - a. Each local football council, duly affiliated to the --- SFA shall have one vote.
 - b. The State Referees' Council, subordinate to the ---- SFA, each shall have one delegate
 - c. The Players' association to the ---- SFA, each shall have one delegate.
 - d. The Nigeria Football Coaches Association, subordinate to the ---- SFA, each shall have one delegate.
 - e. Each League in the ---- SFA duly affiliated to the ---- SFA shall have one vote.
2. Delegates must belong to the member that they represent and be appointed or elected by the appropriate body of that member. They must also be able to produce evidence of this upon request.
3. Each delegate of the same category of Member has an equal number of votes in the General Assembly. Only the delegates present are entitled to vote. Voting by proxy or by letter is not permitted.
4. The ---- State Football Association Executive Committee and the – State Football Association General Secretary shall take part in the General Assembly without voting rights. During their term of office, members of the Executive Committee may not be appointed as delegates for their association.

Article 27

AREAS OF AUTHORITY

The General Assembly has the following area of authority:

- a. Adopting or amending the Statutes, regulations governing the application of the statutes and standing orders of the General Assembly.
- b. Appointing three (3) members to check the minute and approving the minutes of the last meeting.
- c. Approving the scrutineers.
- d. Approving the financial statements.
- e. Approving the Chairman's activity report.
- f. Appointing the independent auditors upon the proposal of the Executive Committee.
- g. Approving the budget.
- h. Nominating the accounts auditing organ each year.
- i. Approving membership, affiliation/subscription.
- j. Electing the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and other members of the Executive committee.
- k. Appoint members of the judicial bodies every two (2) years.
- l. Deciding on the proposal of Executive Committee, whether to bestow the title of honorary Chairman or member on a person who has made a particularly valuable contribution to football within the ---- SFA.
- m. Admitting and approving suspension and expulsion of a member.
- n. Approving the resignation of a member.
- o. Revoking the mandate of one or a number of members of an organ of the ---- SFA.
- p. Dissolving the ---- SFA.

Article 28

QUORUM OF THE STATE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

1. Decision passed by the State General Assembly shall only be valid if the absolute majorities (50%+1) of the members who are entitled to vote are present.
2. If a quorum is not achieved, a second State General Assembly shall take place within 24 hours after the first with the same agenda.
3. A quorum is not required for the second meeting unless any item on the agenda proposes the amendment of the Statutes of the ---- SFA, the election of the Chairman and of the Vice-Chairman and members of the Executive Committee, the dismissal of one or a number of members of a body of the ---- SFA, the expulsion of a member of the –SFA or the dissolution of the ---- SFA.

Article 29

DECISIONS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Unless otherwise stipulated in the Statutes, a simple majority of the members entitled to vote is sufficient for a vote to be valid. The number of valid votes counted shall decide the majority. Spoiled or blank voting slips or any other form of abstentions are disregarded in calculating the majority.

A decision that requires a vote shall be reached by a shadow of hands or by means of balloting. If a show of hands does not result in a clear majority in favor of a motion, the votes shall be taken calling the role in alphabetical order.

Article 30

ELECTIONS

1. Elections shall be conducted by open/secret ballot.
2. For a person to be elected, a simple majority of the votes recorded and valid is necessary in the first ballot. In the second and any other requisite ballot, a simple majority of the vote recorded is also sufficient.

3. If there are more than two (2) candidates for one available position, the candidate that obtains the lowest number of votes is eliminated as from the second ballot until only two candidates are left.
4. The State Executive Committee shall draw up a guideline for the election. (i.e. a bye law)
5. All members of the State Executive Committee must be elected by the State General Assembly.

Article 31

STATE ORDINARY GENERAL ASSEMBLY

1. The Ordinary General Assembly shall be held every year.
2. The State Executive Committee shall fix the place and date. The members shall be notified in writing at least seven (7) days in advance.
3. The formal convocation shall be made in writing at least one (1) week before the date of the State General Assembly. The convocation shall contain the agenda, the Chairman's activity report, the financial statements and the auditors' report and any other relevant documents.

Article 32

GENERAL ASSEMBLY AGENDA

1. The – SFA General Secretary shall draw up the agenda based on the proposals from the State Executive Committee and the members. Any proposal that a member wishes to submit to the State General Assembly shall be sent to the General Secretariat in writing with a brief explanation, at least one (1) month before the date of the State General Assembly.
2. The General Assembly shall include the following mandatory items:
 - a. A declaration that the State General Assembly has been convened and composed in compliance with the Statutes of the – SFA.
 - b. Approval of the agenda.

- c. An address by the Chairman.
- d. Appointment of members to check the minutes.
- e. Appointment of scrutineers
- f. Suspension or expulsion of members (if applicable)
- g. Approval of the minutes of the preceding General Assembly
- h. Chairman's activity report (containing the activities since the last State General Assembly)
- i. Presentation of the consolidated and revised balance sheet and the profit and loss statement.
- j. Approval of the financial statement
- k. Approval of the budget
- l. Admission for membership (if applicable)
- m. Votes on proposal for amendments to the Statutes, the regulations governing the application of the Statute and the standing orders of the Congress (if applicable)
- n. Discussion of proposals submitted by the members and the Executive Committee.
- o. Appointment of independent auditors (if applicable) upon the proposal of the Executive Committee
- p. Dismissal of a person or a body (if applicable)
- q. Election of the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and members of the State Executive Committee (if applicable)
- r. Any further items proposed by the members or the State Executive Committee of the ---- SFA
- s. Any Other Business

Article 33

STATE EXTRA-ORDINARY ASSEMBLY

1. The State Executive Committee may convene an Extraordinary General Assembly at any time.
2. The State Executive Committee shall convene an Extraordinary General Assembly if one-fifth of the members of the – SFA make such a request in writing. The request shall specify the – SFA items for the agenda. An Extra-Ordinary General Assembly shall be held within three (3) months of receipt on the request. If an Extraordinary General Assembly is not convened, the Members who requested it may convene the State General Assembly themselves. As a last resort, the members may request assistance from the NFF.
3. The members shall be notified of the place, date and agenda at least one (1) month before the date of an Extraordinary General Assembly.
4. When an Extraordinary General Assembly is convened on the initiative of the State Executive Committee, it must draw up the agenda. When an Extraordinary Assembly is convened on request of the members, the agenda must contain the points raised by the members.
5. The agenda of the Extraordinary General Assembly may not be altered.

Article 34

AMENDMENTS OF THE STATE STATUTES

1. The State General Assembly is responsible for amending the Statutes.
2. Any proposal for an amendment to the Statutes must be submitted in writing with a brief explanation to general secretariat by a member or by the State Executive Committee. A proposal submitted by a member is valid, provided it has been supported in writing by at least ten (10) other members.

3. For a vote for the amendment of the Statutes to be valid, an absolute majority (50% +1) of the members eligible to vote must be present.
4. A proposal for an amendment to the Statutes shall be adopted only if three-quarters of the members present and eligible to vote agree to it.
5. Any proposal to amend the regulations governing the application of the Statutes and the standing orders of the congress must be submitted in writing with a brief explanation to the general secretariat by a member or by the State Executive Committee.
6. A proposal for an amendment to the regulations governing the application of the Statutes and the standing orders of the Congress shall be adopted only if a simple majority of the members present and eligible to vote agree on it.

Article 35

MINUTES

The General Secretariat shall be responsible for recording the minutes at the General Assembly. The minutes shall be checked by those members designated and finally approved at the next General Assembly

Article 36

EFFECTIVE DATES OF DECISION

Decisions passed by the Congress shall come into effect for the members immediately after the close of the State General Assembly. As an affiliate or member of the association, a club, school or other organizations shall sign a declaration in which it undertakes:

- a. To conform at all times to the Statutes, regulations and decisions of the --- SFA and NFF.
- b. To observe the Laws of the Game in force with the International Football Board.

- c. To pay when and as when due the annual subscription fee as laid down in the Statutes.

IV CLUBS

Article 37

1. "Clubs" shall be interpreted to include social groups, educational institutions, professional bodies, corporate bodies, commercial and/or industrial bodies, youth organizations etc interested in organized football.
2. Each club shall be made up of not less than sixteen (16) players and six (6) officials who are identifiable and can be held responsible for the actions of the club and who shall form an organized executive of the club.
3. Each club shall be registered with the ---- SFA.
4. Each club shall have the following duties and rights:
 - a. To comply with and enforce compliance with the Statutes, rules and regulations and decisions of the ---- SFA among its players, officials and supporters.
 - b. To register for and take part in competitions organized by its SFA, Zonal working Committee and the NFF to organize and/or take part in inter-club, inter-state, inter-zonal and international friendly or competitive matches with the approval of the ---- SFA.
 - c. To appoint its representatives into relevant bodies and committees as may be directed by the ---- SFA, the Zonal working Committee and the NFF.
 - d. To appointment Committee and take all actions deemed necessary to encourage the development of football and in accordance with the rules and Statutes of the ---- SFA and NFF.
 - e. To procure the funds required to fulfill its duties adequately.

Article 38

PLAYERS

1. All football players shall be registered by their clubs with the ---- SFA through their respective LFC
2. All players shall be licensed by the ---- SFA.
3. All players shall submit themselves to and comply with the Statutes, rules, regulations and decisions of the ---- SFA and its affiliates.
4. Registration of player shall be affected at the beginning of the season and shall lapse at the end of the season unless a contract is signed between club and player for a specific duration.
5. Any player who has not been properly registered and who takes part in any competition organized by the ---- SFA or its affiliates shall be sanctioned. The same shall apply to players who though properly registered, have not been properly cleared.
6. Players shall be transferred according to the laid down rules in the regulations governing competitions organized by the Federation or its affiliates.

Articles 39

UNFORESEEN MATTERS AND FORCE MAJEURE

All matters unprovided for in this Statute shall be resolved in line with provision of the ---SFA Statutes.

Event not provided for in the ---- SFA Statutes, the State Executive Committee shall have the final decision in such matters including Force Majeure.

Article 40

ADOPTION AND ENFORCEMENT

These Statutes were adopted at the NFF General Assembly _____