

**2023 CONCACAF CARIBBEAN CLUB
SHIELD**

REGULATIONS

ORGANIZERS

**CONFEDERATION OF NORTH, CENTRAL AMERICA, AND CARIBBEAN ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL
(Concacaf)**

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GENERAL PROVISIONS

1. NAME OF COMPETITION

- 1.1 The official name of the competition is the Concacaf Caribbean Club Shield (hereinafter: The Competition). Concacaf, at its sole discretion, can change the official name of The Competition and include a title or presenting sponsor in the official name and the official marks. The Competition is played every year.
- 1.2 The Competition is an official event of The Confederation of North, Central America and Caribbean Association Football (Concacaf).
- 1.3 The Competition consists of three (3) rounds:
 - 1.3.1 Group Stage
 - 1.3.2 Semifinals
 - 1.3.3 Final and 3rd Place Match
 - 1.3.4 When referring to all three (3) rounds – hereinafter: The Competition.
- 1.4 Concacaf’s Caribbean Member Associations (hereinafter: Associations) may enter a certain number of clubs for The Competition in accordance with the qualification process as defined by Concacaf for each Association.
- 1.5 Concacaf is the sole owner of The Competition and of all rights emanating from The Competition and has the exclusive right to organize, control and manage The Competition. These rights include, among others, every kind of financial rights, audiovisual and radio recording, reproduction and broadcasting rights, multimedia rights, marketing, sponsorship and promotional rights and incorporeal rights such as emblems and rights arising under copyright law. Any rights relating to The Competition that these Regulations do not specifically grant to a participating club or Member Association will belong to Concacaf.
- 1.6 This Competition will also serve as a qualifying tournament for the 2023 Concacaf Caribbean Cup.
- 1.7 The Competition’s Regulations (hereinafter: Regulations) govern the rights, duties and responsibilities of all taking part in The Competition. The Regulations, Concacaf Statutes and all other Concacaf rules, regulations, circulars, directives and decisions in force will apply and are binding for all participating associations, officials, players and their

respective clubs and for all persons involved in the preparation, organization and hosting of The Competition.

2. SCHEDULE

Group Stage:	August 3-8, 2023
Semifinals:	August 11, 2023
Final and 3 rd Place Match:	August 13, 2023

3. Concacaf

- 3.1 The responsibilities of Concacaf, among other matters, include but are not limited to:
- 3.1.1 Organizing The Competition.
 - 3.1.2 Supervising general preparations, deciding on the competition format, draws and the forming of groups.
 - 3.1.3 Approving the match schedule and kick-off times.
 - 3.1.4 Inspecting and approving venues.
 - 3.1.5 Selecting the team hotels, with the recommendations given by the Local Organizing Committee (LOC).
 - 3.1.6 Appointing Match Officials.
 - 3.1.7 Paying for all Match Officials meals, excluding Refereeing group (Referees, Referee Assessor, Fitness Instructor, etc.).
 - 3.1.8 Deciding which laboratories will carry out any doping analyses.
 - 3.1.9 Deciding which matches will be subject to doping tests.
 - 3.1.10 Informing the Disciplinary Committee of any breach of any applicable regulations for appropriate action.
 - 3.1.11 Replacing clubs that have withdrawn from the competition and on what basis such a replacement may occur.
 - 3.1.12 Settling cases of force majeure.
 - 3.1.13 Dealing with any aspect of the competition that is not the responsibility of any other body under the terms of these Regulations or the Concacaf Statutes.

3.1.14 Selecting the official match ball and the stipulated technical material.

3.1.15 Organizing and coordinating the post-match ceremony immediately following the last match in the final round.

3.2 The decisions taken by Concacaf are final and binding and not subject to appeal.

3.3 Concacaf may modify these Regulations, from time to time, in order to comply with the laws of a specific jurisdiction, when applicable. All parties' responsibilities, rights and obligations hereunder shall be subject to the compliance of local laws, regulations, ordinances, and other rules issued by competent authorities from the applicable jurisdictions.

4. PARTICIPATING CLUBS

4.1 Each Participating Club shall be responsible throughout The Competition for:

4.1.1 The conduct of all players, coaches, managers, officials, media officers, representatives and guests of its delegation (hereinafter: Team Delegation Members), and of any person carrying out duties on its behalf throughout The Competition.

4.1.2 Ensuring the provision of adequate insurance to cover its Team Delegation Members and any other persons carrying out duties on its behalf against all risks, including but not limited to health, injury, accident, disease and travel in consideration of the relevant rules or regulations.

4.1.3 Providing Concacaf with all the information and/or documentation requested within the stipulated deadlines. Participating Clubs that fail to provide Concacaf with all requested information and/or documentation within the stipulated deadlines shall be imposed a fine of five hundred dollars (USD 500), except in unforeseen circumstances and cases of force majeure as determined by the Concacaf General Secretariat. The fine shall be increased by 50% for each time the offence is repeated.

4.1.4 Applying for visas within the required time as stated by the diplomatic missions of the countries to be visited, when necessary.

4.1.5 Attending press conferences and other official media activities organized by Concacaf and in accordance with its instructions.

4.1.6 Attending the mandatory Match Coordination Meeting (MCM), at the predesignated time and location.

4.1.7 Allowing Concacaf to use their marks for the promotion of the Competition and allow the event sponsors to use the marks in a collective form only, for the sole purpose of promoting The Competition as per the Regulations.

4.1.8 Collaborating and supporting Concacaf with the promotions and activations of tournament sponsors as per the Regulations.

4.2 The LOC (hereinafter: Host) shall be responsible throughout The Competition for:

4.2.1 Providing two (2) stadiums that meet the criteria established by Concacaf.

4.2.2 Ensuring that the stadiums are made completely available for the duration of the competition, for sole use by Concacaf Staff and officials, to conduct walk-throughs, install signage, and conduct any other activity reasonably requested. No other activities, unrelated to The Competition, may be held during this time.

4.2.3 Providing access to at least one (1) training field per group of four (4) teams that is similar in size and surface type as the match stadiums.

4.2.4 Providing for the local transportation of the designated Concacaf Delegates and Match Officials upon arrival until departure for all official functions.

4.2.5 Providing for the local hotel rooms (including breakfast and internet) for the designated Match Officials and Participating Clubs.

4.2.6 Reserving and providing the necessary rooms and/or equipment for the Team Arrival Meeting (TAM) and MCM.

4.2.7 Providing all local information as may be reasonably requested by the visiting opponents in accordance with the schedule determined by Concacaf.

4.2.8 Providing the following amounts of water and isotonic beverages per Participating Club:

- Three (3) cases of 24 water bottles of 20 oz each on practice and match days.
- Two (2) cases of 24 isotonic bottles of 20 oz each on practice and match days.
- Additional hydration needs for the refereeing group are detailed in the Hosting Rights Agreement (HRA) for the Competition.

4.2.9 Obtaining insurance for the training fields and stadiums.

4.2.10 Ensuring that the police escort (unless otherwise agreed is not necessary by Concacaf) is arranged and on time for all official movements.

4.2.11 Providing a team liaison who will be responsible for and available to each visiting team throughout their stay and must:

4.2.11.1 Speak the language of the team.

4.2.11.2 Meet the team upon arrival at the airport and

accompany them to training(s) and the match(es).

- 4.2.11.3 Assist the team with special requests such as arranging special menus.
- 4.2.11.4 Arrange the transportation to and from the MCM for the team's delegation.
- 4.2.11.5 Make certain that the team locker room is cleaned and ready with the required provisions as required by Concacaf.
- 4.2.11.6 Confirm the seating arrangements for the team VIPs as outlined.
- 4.2.11.7 Any reasonable requests for the locker room on match day by the club or Concacaf.
- 4.2.12 Providing the designated match tickets by no later than Match Day -1.
- 4.2.13 Guaranteeing law and order as well as safety in the stadium in collaboration with the relevant authorities.
- 4.2.14 Providing a segregated safe section for the visiting clubs' supporters.
- 4.2.15 Undertaking and arranging adequate liability insurance coverage with respect to the stadium in which the matches are to be held and adding Concacaf and The Competition's marketing parts as an "Additional Insured" party in the policy and providing Concacaf with a copy of such policy prior to the clubs' first match in The Competition.
- 4.2.16 Providing an office at the stadium(s) with a dedicated wireless internet connection and printer for the Match Officials.
- 4.2.17 Providing for a minimum of twelve (12) ball kids for each match who are 14 years of age or older.
- 4.2.18 For the Final match of The Competition, assisting and cooperating with Concacaf to coordinate the arrangements for the post-match awards presentation on the field immediately following the match.
- 4.2.19 Covering all costs associated with section 4.2.
- 4.3 Each Participating Club shall be responsible throughout The Competition for:
 - 4.3.1 Arriving to the host city no later than 48 hours prior to kick-off of their first match in The Competition to conduct the uniform and player checks as well as fulfill

their media obligations (if any).

- 4.3.2 Providing for their own international and local travel and transport and any costs incurred in obtaining visas.
 - 4.3.3 Paying any airport taxes, laundry costs and tips as a customary.
 - 4.3.4 Having a cell phone that has the capacity to make and receive phone calls while abroad.
 - 4.3.5 Making any reasonable request for guidance, information and assistance from the Host in good time.
 - 4.3.6 Advising the Host of any special requests, no later than one week before the match, of their travel and accommodation arrangements.
 - 4.3.7 Advising the Host of any special requests such as a training field, transportation needs, beverages for training, etc. no later than one week prior to the match.
 - 4.3.8 Advising the Host of the approximate number of supporters who will be attending and if they are aware of any problematic supporters who might attend or might try to access the stadium.
 - 4.3.9 Traveling with a minimum of 18 players from the approved 20-Player Roster for any match.
 - 4.3.10 Covering all costs associated with section 4.3 unless otherwise agreed by the Host and Concacaf.
- 4.4 Clubs and their players and officials participating in The Competition shall agree to fully respect and comply with:
- 4.4.1 The Laws of the Game and the principles of Fair Play.
 - 4.4.2 The Concacaf Statutes and all Concacaf regulations, rules, codes, protocols, circulars, directive, guidelines, and decisions (including these Regulations).
 - 4.4.3 All decisions and directives of the Concacaf Council.
 - 4.4.4 The FIFA Disciplinary Code of Ethics and the Concacaf Code of Conduct.
 - 4.4.5 The FIFA Doping Control Regulations.
 - 4.4.6 All Concacaf protocols during matches and fully cooperate in their enforcement (e.g., Concacaf protocol for racist incidents during matches).
 - 4.4.7 All Concacaf anti-match manipulation and anti-discrimination stipulations.

- 4.4.8 All Concacaf marketing and media requirements, as stipulated in the Concacaf Media and Commercial Regulations.
- 4.4.9 All kit and equipment requirements as per section 16 of these regulations.
- 4.4.10 Providing to Concacaf prior to the start of The Competition, statistics, players photographs, stadium information, to include aerial photographs, and any additional information as requested to assist in the promotion of The Competition.
- 4.4.11 Responsible for fielding only eligible players. Failure to do so will lead to the consequences stipulated in the applicable regulations.
- 4.5 Clubs shall take all necessary actions for their players and officials to be bound by and comply with all the aforementioned statutes, regulations, rules, codes, protocols, circulars, directives, decisions, stipulations and requirements.
- 4.6 Refrain from any illegal, immoral or unethical behavior that damages, or could damage the integrity and reputation of football and must cooperate fully with Concacaf at all times in efforts to prevent, investigate and sanction such behavior.
- 4.7 All clubs who have entered The Competition shall not refer (directly or indirectly) to its team as an inferior team publicly or in the print and/or electronic media.

5. ENTRIES FOR THE COMPETITION

- 5.1 The specific entry criteria for each Association will be agreed upon between Concacaf and each Association in question.
- 5.2 Concacaf's amateur Caribbean leagues will each receive one (1) slot to the competition assigned for their latest league champions, providing that the clubs and leagues comply with the 2023 Concacaf Club Licensing criteria.

The following professional Caribbean leagues will each receive one slot to the competition as follows:

- 5.3 Dominican Republic's qualification criteria:
 - 5.3.1 The non-champion club with the 3rd most accumulated points in the Liga Dominicana de Futbol 2022 will qualify as DOM4.
- 5.4 Jamaica's qualification criteria:
 - 5.4.1 The 4th best placed club from the 2021-2022 Jamaica Premier League will qualify as JAM4.
- 5.5 Trinidad and Tobago's qualification criteria:

- 5.5.1 The club which holds the 3rd position in the 2023 Trinidad and Tobago Premier Football League season by end of Matchday 18, on May 28th, 2023, will qualify as TRI3.
- 5.6 In the event of any disagreement in establishing or applying the entry criteria, Concacaf will determine and apply the entry criteria at its sole discretion.
- 5.7 As a matter of principle, clubs will earn the right to be entered by their Association into The Competition through:
- 5.7.1 Fair play and sporting merit.
- 5.7.2 Compliance with their Association’s Regional Club Licensing requirements.
- 5.7.3 Financial good standing with their Association and Concacaf.
- 5.7.4 Proper submission of participation requirements.
- 5.7.5 In the event of a disagreement establishing the entry criteria, Concacaf will determine and apply the entry criteria at its sole discretion.
- 5.7.6 Qualified clubs must submit:
- 5.7.6.1 The signed Participation Agreement (sent by Concacaf) by the date specified by Concacaf, at which point they will be officially registered for The Competition.
- 5.7.6.2 All other documents required by the dates specified as per Concacaf.
- 5.7.7 Upon entering The Competition each club agrees:
- 5.7.7.1 To play in The Competition until their elimination.
- 5.7.7.2 To ensure that their league schedule does not conflict with The Competitions dates and times as determined and approved by the Confederation.
- 5.7.7.3 To field their strongest team throughout The Competition.
- 5.7.7.4 To play all scheduled matches on dates and times as determined by Concacaf and set forth in accordance with these Regulations.
- 5.7.7.5 To provide Concacaf with any requirements defined in these Regulations.

- 5.7.7.6 To take all necessary actions for its players, officials and staff to be bound by and comply with all applicable laws, regulations, rules, codes, protocols, directives and decisions, including but not limited to, all disciplinary and appeals rules and procedures, all anti-doping requirements, all anti-match manipulation and anti-racism stipulations and all marketing and media requirements.
- 5.7.7.7 To refrain from any illegal, immoral or unethical behavior that damages, or could damage, the integrity and reputation of football and must cooperate fully with Concacaf always, in its efforts to prevent, investigate and sanction such behavior.
- 5.7.7.8 That the club itself as well as its players, officials and staff recognize the jurisdiction of the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS), as defined by the Concacaf and FIFA Statutes.
- 5.7.8 The Competition’s Champion:
 - 5.7.8.1 Does not gain automatic entry to the next edition of The Competition.
 - 5.7.8.2 Will qualify to the 2023 Concacaf Caribbean Cup.
- 5.7.9 The runner-up will qualify to the 2023 Concacaf Caribbean Cup.

6. LAWS OF THE GAME

- 6.1 All matches shall be played in accordance with the Laws of the Game in force at the time of The Competition and as laid down by the International Football Association Board. In the case of any discrepancy in the interpretation of the Laws of the Game, the English version shall be authoritative.
- 6.2 Each match shall last 90 minutes, comprising of two periods of 45 minutes, with a half-time interval of 15 minutes.

COMPETITION

7. WITHDRAWAL, UNPLAYED MATCHES AND ABANDONED MATCHES

- 7.1 If an Association does not properly enter an eligible club into The Competition, or such club is unable to meet the criteria established in these Regulations (considered “non-entry”), then Concacaf will decide, at its sole discretion, the course of action in relation to the vacant space(s) in The Competition. The same will also apply in cases where an Association and/or a club are not in good standing with Concacaf, or a club is not in good standing with its Association. This decision may include:

- 7.1.1 Providing for an alternate club(s) from the Association(s) in question.
- 7.1.2 Providing for an alternate club from a different Association(s).
- 7.1.3 Leaving a space vacant and granting a “bye” to their opponent(s).
- 7.2 Once having entered The Competition, participating clubs must meet all obligations including participating in all matches. Failure to participate in any match may be considered by Concacaf, at its sole discretion, as a withdrawal from the event. A withdrawal may have a serious impact on the integrity of the event and as such, the penalties as specified below will apply, except in cases of force majeure or unforeseen circumstances deemed acceptable by Concacaf.
- 7.3 The following fines will apply in the case of withdrawal of a club:
 - 7.3.1 After signing the Participation Agreement up to one week prior to the draw: A fine of USD 5,000.
 - 7.3.2 From one week prior to the draw up to the first match in The Competition: A fine of USD 7,500.
 - 7.3.3 Anytime during The Competition: USD 10,000.
- 7.4 Failure to play or complete any specific match does not release a team from its obligation to play in other matches as scheduled in The Competition. All cases will be subject to review by the Concacaf Disciplinary Committee (hereinafter: Disciplinary Committee) for possible sanctions and/or fines.
- 7.5 Except in cases of force majeure or unforeseen circumstances as deemed acceptable by Concacaf, a club that withdraws at any stage of The Competition:
 - 7.5.1 May be ordered to reimburse the opposing club(s) and/or Concacaf of any expenses that they have already incurred as a result of its proposed involvement or non-involvement in The Competition.
 - 7.5.2 May be required to pay compensation for any damages or losses arising from its withdrawal.
 - 7.5.3 Will be disqualified from taking part in the next two editions of The Competition.
 - 7.5.4 Will be referred to the Disciplinary Committee for additional sanctions.
- 7.6 The Association of any penalized club will be responsible for ensuring that specified

sanctions are carried out and complied with.

- 7.7 Failure of the Competition's Champion and runner-up to participate in the 2023 Concacaf Caribbean Cup will result in a fine of USD \$50,000 payable to Concacaf.
- 7.8 No appeal can be lodged against these decisions.
- 7.9 If a match cannot commence on-time or is stopped by the Referee before the end of normal time due to force majeure or any other incidents such as, but not limited to, the field is not fit for play, weather conditions, floodlight failure, etc. the following procedures must be followed:
- 7.9.1 The match must first be delayed for a minimum of 30 minutes, unless the Referee decides that the match can commence earlier, before a decision to reschedule the match is taken.
 - 7.9.2 At the discretion of the Referee, another delay of a maximum of 30 minutes will be allowed if in the Referee's opinion this extra period of delay will allow the match to commence.
 - 7.9.3 Otherwise, at the end of this second 30-minute period, the Referee must declare the match to have been cancelled.
 - 7.9.4 In the case of a cancelled match, Concacaf will decide within two hours of the Referee's decision to cancel the match, whether the match can be rescheduled (taking sporting and organizational considerations into account), or whether any other action and decision is needed to continue with The Competition. Any disciplinary sanctions resulting from the cancelled match will remain in force.
 - 7.9.5 If the match is stopped and cannot resume for the reasons stated above, then it will be considered abandoned. Play will resume the following day at the point where it was stopped and played to completion. If it is still impossible to complete the match the next day for the same reasons, Concacaf will determine how and when the match will be completed.
- 7.10 The following principles will apply to the recommencement of the match:
- 7.10.1 The match will recommence with the same players on the field and substitutes available as when the match was initially abandoned.
 - 7.10.2 No additional substitutes may be added to the list of players on the Start List.
 - 7.10.3 The teams can make only the number of substitutions to which they were still entitled when the match was abandoned.

- 7.10.4 Players sent off during the abandoned match cannot be replaced.
- 7.10.5 Any sanctions imposed before the match was abandoned remain valid for the remainder of the match.
- 7.10.6 The kick-off time, date (foreseen for the following day) and location will be decided by Concacaf in consultation with the participating clubs.
- 7.10.7 Any matters requiring further decision will be treated by Concacaf.

8. REPLACEMENTS

- 8.1 If any club withdraws or is excluded from The Competition, the Concacaf Council shall decide whether or not to replace the club in question with another club.

9. ELIGIBILITY OF PLAYERS

- 9.1 A player who is elected to represent his club in The Competition, must comply with all Concacaf statutory requirements for eligibility of players.
- 9.2 Protests regarding the eligibility of players shall be decided by the Concacaf Disciplinary Committee in accordance with the FIFA Disciplinary Code and upon its entry into force, the Concacaf Disciplinary Code.
- 9.3 The club shall be responsible for fielding only eligible players. Failure to do so shall lead to the consequences stipulated in the FIFA Disciplinary Code and upon its entry into force the Concacaf Disciplinary Code.
- 9.4 If Concacaf believes a player's eligibility is in question, Concacaf reserves the right to consider the said player ineligible to participate in any stage of The Competition until the player's eligibility status is confirmed by Concacaf in accordance with the applicable regulations.
- 9.5 Any team found to have fielded an ineligible player will forfeit the match. If the result of the match was a victory for the club fielding the ineligible player, three points will be awarded to the opposing club on the basis of a 3-0 score, or higher depending on the result of the match. This incident will be submitted to the Disciplinary Committee for further review.

10. PLAYERS' LISTS

- 10.1 Competition Roster
 - 10.1.1 Clubs must provide their 30-player roster to Concacaf no later than 14 days prior to start of The Competition, **on July 20th, 2023**. This list is binding and must contain the names of no less than 18 players and no more than 30.

- 10.1.2 If the roster does not include the maximum 30 players, then additional players may be added provided the maximum of 30 players is not exceeded.
- 10.1.3 Clubs must provide their 20-player final match roster (with a minimum of 18 players), selected from their approved 30-player competition roster, to Concacaf no later than the date specified on The Competition's Administrative Requirements Circular.
- 10.1.4 A player already registered by a club cannot be deleted from the roster regardless of the reason.
- 10.1.5 Clubs must register at least three (3) goalkeepers on their 30-player roster of which a minimum of two (2) must be listed on the 20-player roster.
- 10.1.6 If any registered goalkeeper on the 20-player roster suffers long-term injuries or illness, then the club may replace the goalkeeper in question with a goalkeeper at any time during The Competition from the 30-player roster. An injury or illness is considered long-term if it incapacitates the goalie for longer than 35 days. A medical report must be submitted to Concacaf detailing the extent of the injury to the goalkeeper before a replacement player, from the 30-player roster, will be permitted as a replacement.
- 10.1.7 All rosters must be approved by club's Federation prior to being sent to Concacaf.
- 10.2 Once a player has had active time on the field for a club in The Competition, that player may not be registered for any other club during the same edition of The Competition.
- 10.3 All players must be registered with the club and the appropriate Federation and eligible to play in any league match for the current playing season per the FIFA transfer deadlines in each country.
- 10.4 All participating players must have a legal and valid government issued identification containing a photograph and giving full particulars on the date of birth (day, month, and year).

11. START LISTS AND SUBSTITUTES ON THE BENCH

- 11.1 Up to twenty (20) players may be entered on the start list (eleven [11] starters and nine [9] substitutes). Up to a maximum of five (5) substitutes may take the place of the selected players during the three (3) substitution windows. Halftime does not count as a substitution window.
- 11.2 A player that is inscribed on a team's roster as per section 10.1 and plays in an official match

cannot be registered for a club in the same edition of The Competition in which they are participating.

- 11.3 Upon arrival at the venue and no later than 90 minutes prior to any match, a representative from each team must submit their start list, selected from within the previously submitted 20-Player Roster, to the Venue Coordinator or other authorized Concacaf official, and should also have the aforementioned identification documentation for verification if needed. Any player without the relevant documentation may be deemed ineligible to play.
- 11.4 If a starting player sustains a serious injury or is so ill that he cannot longer be expected to play, he may be replaced prior to pregame protocol without penalty by an eligible substitute but must be listed as injured on the Start List and will be ineligible to play the match.
- 11.5 A maximum of nine (9) substitute players and five (5) club officials are permitted on the substitute bench. The club officials must have their names and functions indicated on the official form provided by Concacaf prior to the match. Note: a suspended player or official are not permitted to sit on the substitute's bench.

12. FORMAT AND STRUCTURE OF THE COMPETITION

- 12.1 The Competition will consist of three (3) rounds:
 - 12.1.1 Group Stage
 - 12.1.2 Semifinals
 - 12.1.3 Final and 3rd Place Match
- 12.2 Teams will be split into four (4) groups of four (4) teams each, and they will play in a round robin format within their group, playing against each opponent once. Each group winner will advance to the Semifinal round.
- 12.3 Teams will be awarded three (3) points for every match they win, one (1) point for a draw and zero (0) points for a defeat. Teams will be ranked within the group according to the following criteria:
 - 12.3.1 Greatest number of points obtained in all group matches.
 - 12.3.2 Goal difference in all group matches.
 - 12.3.3 Greatest number of goals scored in all group matches.
 - 12.3.4 If two (2) or more teams are equal on the basis of the above three criteria, their ranking shall be determined as follows:
 - 12.3.4.1 Greater number of points obtained in matches between the tied teams.
 - 12.3.4.2 Greater goal difference in matches among the tied teams (if more than two teams finish equal on points).

- 12.3.4.3 Greater number of goals scored in matches among the tied teams (if more than two teams finish equal on points).
- 12.3.4.4 The lowest number of points based on the number of yellow and red cards in all matches is considered according to the following additions:
 - First yellow card: +1 point
 - Second yellow card / indirect red card: +3 points
 - Direct red card: +4 points
 - Yellow card and direct red card: +5 points
- 12.3.4.5 Drawing of the lots

12.4 Format

- 12.4.1 The winner of each Group will advance to the Semifinals (SF). The four (4) Group Stage winners will be ranked 1-4 based on the standings from the Group Stage. If the clubs are tied on points obtained during the Group Stage, then the following tie-breaker criteria will apply:
 - 12.4.1.1 Greater goal difference in all group matches
 - 12.4.1.2 Greater number of goals in favor in all group matches
 - 12.4.1.3 The lowest number of points based on the number of yellow and red cards in all matches according to the following additions:
 - o First yellow card: +1 point
 - o Second yellow card / indirect red card: +3 points
 - o Direct red card: +4 points
 - o Yellow card and direct red card: +5 points
 - 12.4.1.4 Drawing of the lots
- 12.4.2 The teams will be paired as follows:
 - SF1: Team 1 vs Team 4
 - SF2: Team 2 vs Team 3
- 12.4.3 The losers of each SF series will play the 3rd Place Match:
 - 3rd Place Match: Loser SF1 vs Loser SF2
- 12.4.4 The winners of each SF series will advance to the finals:
 - Final: Winner SF1 vs Winner SF2
- 12.4.5 Tie Breaker Procedures for Semifinals & 3rd place match:
 - 12.4.5.1 If the two teams are tied at the end of regular time, then kicks from the penalty spot procedure as per the IFAB Laws of the Game will determine the winner.

12.4.6 Tie Breaker Procedures for Final:

- 12.4.6.1 For the Final match of the 2023 Concacaf Caribbean Club Shield, if the match remains tied at the end of regulation time, two 15-minute periods of extra time will be played.
- 12.4.6.2 If extra time is required, there is a five-minute break between the end of normal time and the start of extra time. As a rule, the players remain on the field of play during this five-minute break, at the discretion of the referee.
- 12.4.6.3 A sixth substitute will be allowed in extra time.
- 12.4.6.4 If the match remains tied at the end of extra time, then the winner will be determined by kicks from the penalty spot as per the IFAB Laws of the Game.

13. VENUES, KICK-OFF TIMES AND TRAININGS SESSIONS

- 13.1 The Host is responsible for the inspection of the venue(s) that reside within its territories, and in which will be utilized for this competition. This inspection must be completed no later than 120 days prior to the start of The Competition utilizing Concacaf's inspection forms.
- 13.2 Unless stipulated otherwise in these Regulations, matches in The Competition must be played in a stadium which meets all the requirements and standards as stated in these Regulations. The Host must ensure that their stadium meets the aforementioned requirements and standards no later than 60 days prior to the first match.
- 13.3 Lighting
 - 13.3.1 The Field of Play must comply with the illumination requirements as per the Concacaf Stadium Guidelines 2022-2023.
 - 13.3.2 The field lights must be fully turned on 75 minutes prior to kick off or before sunset, whichever comes first.
 - 13.3.3 Clubs must ensure that field lighting installations are maintained and provide Concacaf with a valid lighting certificate issued within the previous 12 months. Concacaf may conduct an independent assessment of lighting levels in stadiums and will notify the clubs in good time of the results of such assessments and of any corrections to be made.
 - 13.3.4 An emergency power generation system must be available which, in the

event of a power failure, guarantees sufficient light for the safe egress of those in attendance.

13.3.5 Matches played at night may be played only at venues where the floodlighting installations meet the minimum lighting requirements laid down by Concacaf, i.e., that the whole pitch shall be evenly lit, with a recommended lighting level of at least 800 lux or as specified per tournament. An emergency power generator must also be available which, in the event of a power failure, guarantees at least two-thirds of the aforementioned intensity of light for the whole pitch. Concacaf is entitled to grant exceptions.

13.4 The practice field must be the same size and type (artificial or natural pitch) as the match field and will be subject to approval by Concacaf. The practice field will only be utilized if the teams are unable to conduct their practice(s) at the stadium due to severe weather or unless such training would, in the view of the Referee, Match Commissioner or other Concacaf officials, cause excessive damage to the playing surface.

13.5 If the clubs cannot train on the match field, the Host must advise the reasons why the field is not available, allow the visiting clubs to do a walk around the field to get used to the stadium and make a field of comparable quality and surface available at no cost to them.

13.6 Clocks in the stadium showing the amount of time played may run during the match, provided that they run up (from 0'-45' in the 1st half and 45'-90' in the second half) and that they are stopped at the end of normal playing time in each half.

14. DATES, ARRIVALS AT THE VENUES AND OFFICIAL TEAM HOTELS

14.1 The stadium must be made available solely to be used by Concacaf starting two (2) days prior to the start of The Competition to conduct walk-throughs, install signage, branding and to conduct any other activity reasonably requested. If a substitute stadium is used, Concacaf will request verification of compliance from the ownership ensuring its availability for the match dates.

15. STADIUM INFRASTRUCTURE AND EQUIPMENT

15.1 The Host will be responsible to ensure that their home stadiums and their facilities comply with the standards of safety and security required for international matches, including venue staffing levels as per the FIFA Stadium Regulations. The fields of play, facilities and accessory equipment will be in optimum condition and must comply with the provisions stipulated in the Laws of the Game and all other relevant regulations.

15.2 Concacaf will conduct stadium inspections:

15.2.1 If deemed necessary by Concacaf before or during The Competition;

- 15.2.2 No later than 45 days prior to a match in any round for a stadium that will act as a substitute for the home stadium, after initial inspections have already been conducted;
- 15.2.3 If a substitute stadium must be utilized after inspections of the primary stadium have already been completed, and at any time after the commencement of The Competition, the cost of the inspection will be charged to the club and/or the Association who requested this change;
- 15.2.4 If a secondary or a follow-up inspection is required, the cost of the additional inspection(s) will be charged to the Host.

15.3 Field Surface and Condition

- 15.3.1 The matches of The Competition may be played on natural or artificial surfaces.
- 15.3.2 If an artificial pitch is used, the club must provide to Concacaf a valid FIFA licensing certificate which meets the requirements of the FIFA Quality Programme for football turf. This certification may be either FIFA Quality or FIFA Quality Pro and must be valid for the entirety of The Competition. Concacaf may make any exceptions to this.
- 15.3.3 The Host will guarantee that the match and practice fields chosen for The Competition are of international standards and comply with the Laws of the Game. They will also be subject to the approval of Concacaf.
- 15.3.4 The Host must comply with Concacaf’s match-day field watering guidelines as described in the Concacaf Stadium Guidelines 2022-2023.
- 15.3.5 If the Host considers the field unfit for play, Concacaf will be informed immediately, as well as the visiting teams and the Match Officials before their departure. If the Host fails to do this, it will be obliged to cover all expenses incurred for travel, board and lodging of the parties involved.
- 15.3.6 If there is any doubt regarding the condition of the field once the visiting team and the Match Officials have already left for the host city, the Referee will decide whether the field is playable or not.
- 15.3.7 Each stadium must have sufficient space to allow the substitutes to warm up during the match.

15.4 Stadium Signage and Audio/Visual Branding

- 15.4.1 Each stadium must provide Concacaf with “exclusive areas” that are free of any commercial signage and/or advertising (whether temporary or permanent) whatsoever, including corporate, civic, or club marks. The

“exclusive areas” are further defined in The Competition Commercial Regulations. These “exclusive areas” should be provided to Concacaf on both MD-1 and MD.

- 15.4.2 There can be no restrictions, except in cases of national law, on what signage may be permitted to be displayed in the stadium by Concacaf.
- 15.4.3 No commercial messages, other than those approved by Concacaf, may be read over the public-address system prior to, during and after a match.
- 15.4.4 Concacaf does not allow any violent, offensive or discriminatory banners to be displayed inside the stadium. Any violation will result in a review by the Disciplinary Committee for possible fines or other sanctions.
- 15.4.5 If the stadium has a stadium video screen, message boards, LED boards, or any other similar digital medium, these will exclusively be reserved for Concacaf on MD-1 and MD. Usage of these assets by the club or any third party will need to be approved by Concacaf explicitly and in writing. The use of such digital mediums will be provided to Concacaf at no additional cost above and beyond the board operator expenses.
- 15.4.6 The Host will provide a public-address announcer and scoreboard operator to serve at Concacaf’s direction during each match.

15.5 Stadium Security

- 15.5.1 For each match, the Host will be responsible for developing a security plan which will provide for the safety of all participants including home club, visiting teams, Concacaf staff, officials and delegates from the time of arrival into the stadium until they depart. The plan will also provide for a safe environment for spectators attending the match including a separately secured access and segregated seating area for the visiting spectators, and individual security checks and any bags they wish to bring into the stadium.
- 15.5.2 This security plan must be provided to Concacaf no later than one week prior to the first match of The Competition.
- 15.5.3 The Host will also ensure the ability to manage any controlled zones including areas reserved for clubs, officials, guests, delegates, staff, media or other groups as defined by Concacaf.
- 15.5.4 Concacaf will require the home stadium to implement The Competition’s credentialing system which will focus on The Competition areas; tunnel, field and locker rooms, the broadcasting areas as well as the media areas. All other areas can be covered by the clubs credentialing system.

- 15.5.5 Concacaf reserves the right to require additional security be provided, at its own discretion, and participating clubs agree to provide such cooperation as may be required at its own cost.
- 15.5.6 The Host may be subject to disciplinary measures if appropriate security arrangements are not provided. Sanctions may include fines and/or suspensions.
- 15.5.7 No smoke nor any flammable items are permitted inside the stadium.
- 15.5.8 All stadiums utilized in The Competition will be smoke free.
- 15.5.9 All beverages served inside the stadium (excluding bottles of water or isotonic beverages to be used by the teams during the match) must be served in open containers (without tops). No glass containers will be allowed inside the stadiums.

16. TEAM EQUIPMENT

- 16.1 The Participating Clubs will comply with the FIFA Equipment Regulations in force. The display of political, religious, or personal messages or slogans in any language or form by players and officials on their playing or team kits, equipment (including kit bags, beverage containers, medical bags, captain armbands, etc.) or body is prohibited, and disciplinary actions could be taken including but not limited to match suspensions and/or fines, based on the severity of the event. The similar display of commercial messages and slogans in any language or form by players and officials is not allowed at any official activity organized by Concacaf (including in the stadiums for official matches and training sessions, as well as during official media conferences and mixed-zone activities). Any violations will be dealt with by the Disciplinary Committee.
- 16.2 Uniform Colors
 - 16.2.1 Each Participating Club will provide Concacaf with a minimum of two field player kits (shirt, shorts and socks) of different and contrasting colors (one predominately dark and one predominately light) for its official and reserve field kits (shirt, shorts and socks) for all matches. In addition, each Participating Club will have two goalkeeper kits which must be both distinctly different and contrasting from each other as well as different and contrasting from the official and reserve kits.
 - 16.2.2 The approval of these kits is at the discretion of Concacaf and final approval will be provided in writing to each club.
 - 16.2.3 If any of the Concacaf approved uniforms kits are changed in any way from the point of approval until the point at which the club no longer participates in The Competition, it must be reviewed and approved again

by Concacaf.

16.2.4 Concacaf will inform the clubs of the colors that they will wear one week prior to each match.

16.2.5 Each club must travel with:

16.2.5.1 Both sets of field player and goalkeeper uniforms;

16.2.5.2 A field player kit without a number in the event of damage to the primary uniform.

16.2.5.3 In addition to all the above (and as the only exception), each club travel with a set of goalkeeper shirts without names or numbers to be used only if an outfield player must take the position of goalkeeper during a match. This extra set of goalkeeper shirts must be provided in the same colors as the regular goalkeeper shirts.

16.2.6 If players choose to wear additional undergarments such as thermals and these garments extend beyond the borders of the sleeves or shorts, then the color of this material must be the same as the uniform, or the same color that extends the border of the uniform.

16.2.7 If the Referee determines that the colors utilized by the teams could lead to confusion, the Referee may decide, in consultation with other Concacaf officials onsite, to issue a change. In this case, the home team would be required to change if the visiting teams second kit does not resolve the issue.

16.3 Team Kit approval procedures

16.3.1 Each Participating Club will provide Concacaf with exact digital samples with numbers, of the following equipment:

16.3.1.1 Official and reserve player kits (one set each of shirts, shorts, socks);

16.3.1.2 Official and reserve goalkeeper's kit (shirts, shorts, socks);

16.4 Player Names

16.4.1 Players may be identified by their last name or nickname on their shirts, as long as the name is listed on the Player Roster and the player is officially recognized by that name publicly.

16.4.2 The size of the lettering must comply with the requirements in the FIFA Equipment Regulations.

16.5 Player Numbers

16.5.1 Only numbers between 1 through 99 will be displayed on the back of the jersey and on the front of the shorts in accordance with the FIFA Equipment Regulations and must correspond to the number listed on the start list.

16.5.2 Once a number is assigned to a specific player, it cannot be re-assigned to another player of the same team for the duration of The Competition.

16.6 Sponsor Advertising

16.6.1 Teams must wear the uniform worn in their domestic league competitions. This may include, but must not exceed, such sponsor advertising as is normally displayed on the uniform for such games.

16.6.2 The advertising of tobacco or distilled spirits, as well as slogans of a political, religious or racist nature or for other causes that offend common decency, is prohibited.

16.6.3 All advertising and commercial use, including without limitation sponsors displayed on uniforms or equipment, may be subject to additional local laws or regulations; all Teams shall comply with the requirements then-effective in the local jurisdiction.

The official Concacaf sleeve patches will be provided by Concacaf and affixed on the right-arm sleeve of each shirt.

16.7 Concacaf will provide official Captains armbands for each team to wear during the matches.

16.8 Warm-Up Bibs

16.8.1 Only Concacaf provided warm-up bibs may be used during official training sessions held at the stadium and for the warm-up of players during the match.

16.8.2 The bibs used by each team must be in contrasting colors to their uniform color and the opposing team's uniforms and bibs.

16.8.3 The colors of the bibs used for each match will be decided by Concacaf and communicated to the teams prior to their departure to the venue.

16.9 Throughout The Competition, all items such as kit bags, medical bags, drink containers, etc., must be free of any sponsor advertising and/or manufacturer identification unless approved by Concacaf in writing. This also applies:

- 16.9.1 To any official training sessions before the match;
 - 16.9.2 To any media activities (in particular for interviews and press conferences and appearances in the mixed zone) before and after the match;
 - 16.9.3 On the day of the match from arrival at the stadium until departure from the stadium.
- 16.10 Other Equipment
- 16.10.1 The use of any communication equipment and/or systems between and/or amongst players and/or technical staff is not permitted during the match unless where it relates directly with the welfare and safety of the players.
 - 16.10.2 Team officials which will reside on the bench during the match must either wear colors that contrast with the colors of the bibs and uniforms worn by their team to provide a clear distinction between player and staff.

17. FOOTBALLS

- 17.1 The footballs used in The Competition will be selected and exclusively supplied by Concacaf. The footballs will conform to the provisions of the Laws of the Game and the FIFA Equipment Regulations. They will bear one of the following two designations: the official "FIFA QUALITY PRO" logo or the official "FIFA QUALITY" logo and cannot be marked in any way by the club.
- 17.2 Prior to The Competition, each club will receive balls from Concacaf to be used for training and for the official match. Only these balls provided by Concacaf may be used.

18. TICKETING

- 18.1 Matches may only be played in an all-seated stadium.
- 18.2 If a stadium with both seating and standing areas are available, the standing space must remain vacant.
- 18.3 At least 5% of the total stadium capacity must be available exclusively for visiting supporters in a secured, segregated area of the stadium.
- 18.4 Field-side seating is not permitted, and all non-permanently fixed seating must be approved by Concacaf.
- 18.5 For each match, the Host will provide the visiting clubs with a suite for their visiting staff and officials or if the stadium does not have suites, then the Host must provide a minimum

of 30 Class A tickets in an area that affords protection to the visiting delegation.

19. TROPHIES, AWARDS, AND MEDALS

- 19.1 The Competition’s Champion will be referred to as the “2023 Concacaf Caribbean Club Shield Champion”.
- 19.2 The Champion will be presented by Concacaf with an exact replica of The Competition’s trophy for its permanent possession and will also receive thirty (30) gold medals.
- 19.3 The runner-up will receive thirty (30) silver medals.
- 19.4 The 3rd place finishers will receive thirty (30) bronze medals.
- 19.5 Referees for the final match will receive commemorative medals.
- 19.6 Additional medals may be produced upon request and at the cost of the requesting club.

20. REFEREEING

- 20.1 The Referees, Assistant Referees, and Fourth Officials (Match Officials) will be appointed for each match by Concacaf. The decisions of the Concacaf Referees Committee are final and not subject to appeal.
- 20.2 If one of the Assistant Referees is unable to carry out their duties, such Assistant Referee will be replaced by the Reserve Assistant Referee, if a Reserve Assistant Referee (RAR) is appointed to the match in question. If no RAR is appointed to this match, the 4th official becomes the Assistant Referee (AR) and the AR becomes the 4th. In the case of force majeure, Concacaf will, at its sole discretion, be allowed to replace any Match Official with an official from any country.
- 20.3 The match officials will be given the opportunity to use training facilities.
- 20.4 Concacaf’s decisions will be final and not subject to appeal.

DISCIPLINARY MATTERS

21. DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE

- 21.1 The Disciplinary Committee is responsible for enforcing the regulations of The Competition (including these Regulations). The Disciplinary Committee may suppletorily apply the FIFA Disciplinary Code until the entry into force of the Concacaf Disciplinary Code (when it will apply subsidiarily.) In particular, the Disciplinary Committee may pronounce the sanctions described in these Regulations, the Concacaf Statutes and all other Concacaf rules, regulations and codes as well as the FIFA Disciplinary Code (and, upon its entry into force, in the Concacaf Disciplinary Code).

- 21.2 In cases of infringement of these or any applicable Regulations or unsporting behavior on the part of the participating clubs, their players, officials and/or staff, or in any kind of incident, the Disciplinary Committee is empowered to:
- 21.2.1 Admonish, sanction, fine, apply a Group Stage point penalty, suspend and/or disqualify clubs, their players, staff and/or officials.
 - 21.2.2 Take action against any person(s), club(s) or Association(s) which incurs in such infringement of these or any applicable Regulations (which include the Laws of the Game and the rules of Fair Play).
 - 21.2.3 Prohibit violators from participating in a specific number of Concacaf organized competitions in which they might otherwise have participated.
- 21.3 The Disciplinary Committee may refer to the Concacaf Council, any matter relating to an infringement of these Regulations as it sees fit whether for further sanction or any other reason.
- 21.4 The Disciplinary Committee decisions may be based upon written record or by conducting a hearing.
- 21.5 When taking a decision, the Disciplinary Committee may refer to the reports made by the Match Delegates, Officials or any other Concacaf official or staff present. Additional reports include declarations from the parties and witnesses, material evidence, expert opinions, audio or video recordings. Such reports may be used as evidence but only in so far as the disciplinary aspects of the case being dealt with are concerned and will not affect a referee's decision regarding facts connected with play.
- 21.6 At its discretion, the Disciplinary Committee may convene a personal hearing and will decide any procedures to be followed. Decisions of such hearings will only be valid if at least three members of the Disciplinary Committee are present.
- 21.7 The following decisions of the Disciplinary Committee will not be subject to appeal:
- 21.7.1 Cautions and censures imposed on players, Match Officials, clubs (staff and officials), other persons, or Associations.
 - 21.7.2 Suspensions of up to two matches, or of up to two months, imposed on players, Match Officials, clubs (staff and officials) or other persons.
 - 21.7.3 Fines imposed on players, Match Officials, clubs (staff and officials), other persons (not exceeding USD 3,500) or Associations (not exceeding USD 10,000).
- 21.8 The appropriate Association under the provisions of its own regulations may sanction any offenses that are committed during the course of The Competition by club officials, technical staff or other personnel for Championships and Competitions. For this purpose,

the Disciplinary Committee will refer to the appropriate Association the referee's report of the match in question. The Association will, in turn, report back to the Disciplinary Committee on the resolution of the matter and any disciplinary action taken.

- 21.9 Except in cases of force majeure as recognized by Concacaf, if a club does not report for a match, or refuses to commence or continue to play, or leaves the stadium before the end of the match, the club will be considered to have lost the match with a score of 3-0 or more. In any case, the matter will also be referred to the Disciplinary Committee for appropriate actions.
- 21.10 Any other infringement of these Regulations, whether by players, officials, clubs or Associations that are punishable by economic sanctions will be reported to the Concacaf General Secretariat for consideration by Concacaf.
- 21.11 All imposed economic sanctions must be paid no later than 60 days after notification of the relevant decision. Unless otherwise specified, the total amount of all fines will accrue to Concacaf. Concacaf may debit accounts of debtors to settle any amounts due to the Confederation.

22. Concacaf APPEALS COMMITTEE

- 22.1 The Concacaf Appeals Committee will hear appeals eligible to be lodged against decisions taken by the Disciplinary Committee.
- 22.2 The Concacaf Appeals Committee will suppletory apply the FIFA Disciplinary Code until the entry into force of the Concacaf Disciplinary Code (when it will apply subsidiarily). In particular, the Concacaf Appeals Committee may conduct any appeal procedures in accordance with the FIFA Disciplinary Code.
- 22.3 The Concacaf Appeals Committee will reach its decisions on the basis of the documents and the other means of evidence contained in the Disciplinary Committee's file. The Concacaf Appeals Committee may additionally, at its sole discretion, also consider additional evidence, including television and video recordings, which it considers relevant.
- 22.4 Any party intending to appeal must inform the Concacaf Appeals Committee, via the Concacaf General Secretariat, of its intention to do so in writing within three days of notification of the relevant decision.
- 22.5 Anyone wishing to lodge an appeal must transfer an appeal fee of USD 3,000 to Concacaf's bank account and submit confirmation of such transfer before expiry of the time limit for submitting the appeal. Such confirmation must be e-mailed to the Concacaf General Secretariat at general.secretariat@concacaf.org and to disciplinary@concacaf.org.
- 22.6 If the aforementioned requirements have not been complied with, the appeal is not admissible.
- 22.7 Decisions pronounced by the Appeals Committee are final and binding.

23. PROTESTS

- 23.1 For the purpose of these Regulations, protests are objections of any kind related to events or matters that have a direct effect on matches, including but not limited to the state of and markings on the pitch, accessory match equipment, eligibility of players, stadium installations and footballs.
- 23.2 Anyone wishing to lodge a protest must transfer a protest fee of USD 500 to Concacaf's bank account and submit confirmation of such transfer before expiry of the time limit for submitting the protest. Such confirmation must be e-mailed to the Concacaf General Secretariat at general.secretariat@concacaf.org and to disciplinary@concacaf.org.
- 23.3 Unless otherwise stipulated in this article, protests must be submitted in writing to the Concacaf Match Commissioner within two hours of the match in question and followed up immediately with a full written report, including a copy of the original protest, to be sent in writing to the Concacaf General Secretariat at general.secretariat@concacaf.org and to disciplinary@concacaf.org within 24 hours of the end of the match, otherwise they will be disregarded.
- 23.4 Protests regarding the eligibility of players registered for matches must be submitted in writing to the Concacaf General Secretariat at general.secretariat@concacaf.org and to disciplinary@concacaf.org by no later than two hours after the match in question.
- 23.5 Protests regarding the state of the pitch, its surroundings, markings or accessory items (e.g. goals, flag posts or footballs) must be made in writing to the referee before the start of the match by the head of delegation of the team lodging the protest. If the pitch's playing surface becomes unplayable during a match, the captain of the protesting team must immediately lodge a protest with the referee in the presence of the captain of the opposing team. The protests must be confirmed in writing to the Concacaf Match Commissioner by the head of the team delegation no later than two hours after the match in question.
- 23.6 Protests against any incidents that occur during the course of a match must be made to the referee by the team captain immediately after the disputed incident and before play has resumed. The protest must be confirmed in writing to the Concacaf General Coordinator by the head of the team delegation no later than two (2) hours after the match in question.
- 23.7 No protests may be made against the Referee's decisions on points of fact connected with play, such decisions being final. If an unfounded or irresponsible protest is lodged, the Concacaf Disciplinary Committee may impose a sanction.
- 23.8 If any of the formal conditions of a protest as set out in these Regulations are not met, such protest will be disregarded by the competent body. Once the final match of The Competition has ended, any protest described in this article will be disregarded.

23.9 Concacaf will pass decisions on any protests lodged.

24. DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURE

- 24.1 Notwithstanding the above provisions, any player cautioned or sent off from the field of play by the Referee will be subject to the sanctions specified in these Regulations. Such punishments are automatic and are not subject to appeal. These punishments may be augmented by the Disciplinary Committee and any such augmentation is subject to the appeals process previously defined.
- 24.2 Any player sent off the field of play, whether directly (a straight red card) or as a result of two yellow cards in the same match, is at a minimum, suspended for the next match.
- 24.3 Any player who accumulates two single yellow cards in two different matches in The Competition is suspended for the following match.
- 24.4 All single yellow cards will be eliminated after the completion of the Group Stage.
- 24.5 Any substitute player, member of the technical staff or official that enters the field of play in an aggressive manner and/or without being summoned by the referee, may be sanctioned by the referee and referred to the Disciplinary Committee for additional fines and/or sanctions.
- 24.6 Unserved suspensions as a result of a red card will be carried over to the following edition of the Concacaf Caribbean Club Shield, or the closest official Concacaf club competition that the player with an unserved suspension participates in. In case that the player with an unserved suspension participates in the 2023 Concacaf Caribbean Cup, the pending suspension must be served then.
- 24.7 The violation of article 12 part 5 of the FIFA Disciplinary Code shall result in a fine amounting to USD 1,000 for the first five team members sanctioned, plus USD 200 for each additional person of the team that has been sanctioned. An additional USD 500 will be added to the respective fine for each case of repetition.
- 24.8 Clubs and other persons bound by these regulations will not bring disputes before ordinary courts of law. Instead of recourse to ordinary courts of law, provision will be made for arbitration. Such disputes will be taken to an arbitration tribunal recognized by Concacaf or to CAS.

25. DISCIPLINARY POLICY

25.1 Disciplinary action will be taken for non-compliance with the following matters. Further matters will be reviewed by the Disciplinary Committee depending on the severity of the violation.

25.1.1 Late Submission of Documentation, Uniform Kits and/or PCMA Medical

Forms – Teams which submit their administrative documentation and/or uniform kits after the deadlines outlined in the Regulations and/or Circulars will be fined as follow:

- 25.1.1.1 1st Offense USD 500
- 25.1.1.2 2nd Offense USD 1,000
- 25.1.1.3 3rd Offense USD 2,000.

- 25.1.2 Late arrival at the stadium - Due to the team’s negligence, including late departure from team hotel causing late submission of the Start List (delays the match preparation and the submission of the start list to the broadcasters & media):
 - 25.1.2.1 1st Offense USD 500
 - 25.1.2.2 2nd Offense USD 1,000
 - 25.1.2.3 3rd Offense USD 2,000.

- 25.1.3 Late departure from the locker rooms – Teams that delay the 1st half or the 2nd half Kick Off:
 - 25.1.3.1 1st offense
 - If 1 minute or less USD 500
 - If 2 minutes or more USD 1,000.
 - 25.1.3.2 2nd Offense
 - If 1 minute or less USD 1,000
 - If 2 minutes or more USD 2,000.
 - 25.1.3.3 3rd offense
 - If 1 minute or less USD 2,000
 - If 2 minutes or more USD 4,000.

- 25.1.4 Lack of Security – Including but not limited to the following:
 - 25.1.4.1 Fines ranging from USD 1,000 – USD 5,000 depending on the severity of the offense:
 - Inadequate inspections of bags and spectators at the entrances
 - Inadequate response to flares and other pyrotechnics in the

stadium

- Inadequate response to fans throwing objects onto the Field of Play or within the stands
- Inadequate security staff at the stadium.

25.1.5 Media Violations – Including but not limited to the following:

25.1.5.1 Fines ranging from USD 500 – USD 2,500 depending on the severity of the offense:

- Coach and/or players not attending mandatory media activities
- Photographer or film crew inside the locker rooms
- Non-compliance with minimum standards
- Negative comments about the match officials or Concacaf.

25.1.6 Minimum standard Violations:

25.1.6.1 Fines ranging from USD 500 – USD 2,000 depending on the severity of the offense:

- Non-compliance with match protocol
- Inappropriate behavior from players and team officials
- Unsporting and discriminatory conduct
- Non-compliance with Competition Regulations.

25.1.7 A fine cannot be appealed, if it is one of the following:

25.1.7.1 A Warning;

25.1.7.2 A Reprimand;

25.1.7.3 Suspensions of up to 2 matches, or of up to 2 months, imposed on players, match officials, clubs (staff and/or officials) or other persons;

25.1.7.4 Fines imposed on players, match officials, clubs (staff and/or officials), or other persons (not exceeding USD 3,500) or Associations (not exceeding USD 10,000);

25.1.7.5 Failure to respect decisions in accordance with the FIFA Disciplinary Code.

26. FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

26.1 A club may be refused participation in The Competition in case of the existence of outstanding debts towards Concacaf. At Concacaf's sole discretion, the club may be

allowed participation in The Competition if it fulfils its financial obligations within the deadlines stipulated by the Confederation.

- 26.2 Concacaf will provide each visiting club with a travel subsidy as a contribution to the travel costs.
- 26.3 All revenues from gate receipts accrue to the Host, subject to the provisions of these Regulations including any levy on gross gate receipts payable to Concacaf.
- 26.4 The Host agrees to submit to Concacaf for pre-approval, the pricing plan for match tickets within ten business days of the announcement of the schedule in addition to at least 15 business days prior to any upcoming match that is not already covered by the initial pricing plan.
- 26.5 Using forms provided by Concacaf, the Host agrees to submit the Financial Report, the Box Office Report and the Ticket Report within 15 business days of each stage.
- 26.6 Participating Clubs will also be required to provide to Concacaf, a detailed accounting of travel expenses on a form provided by Concacaf, within 15 business days of their first match to be utilized for auditing purposes.
- 26.7 Concacaf may deduct from any amounts owed to the club to settle any amounts past due to the Confederation.
- 26.8 All other revenues from the commercial exploitation of The Competition including but not limited to the sale of broadcast rights, sponsorship rights and merchandising rights, through whatever means, will be retained by Concacaf.
- 26.9 Any disputes arising from financial provisions shall be resolved amongst the delegations concerned but may be submitted to Concacaf for a final decision to be taken.
- 26.10 Any expenses and costs incurred by a delegation other than those mentioned in these Regulations shall be borne by the delegation concerned.

27. MEDICAL/DOPING

- 27.1 To protect players' health as well as to prevent players from experiencing sudden cardiac death during matches at The Competition, each Participating Club will ensure and confirm to Concacaf that its players underwent a pre-competition medical assessment (PCMA) prior to the start of The Competition. The PCMA will include a full medical assessment as well as an EKG to identify any cardiac abnormality. If the EKG is abnormal an Echocardiogram must be obtained and be normal before a player can be released to play. The medical assessment must be carried out between 270 days and 10 days prior to the start of each match during The Competition. Concacaf will provide a PCMA form to all PMAs.
- 27.2 The duly licensed medical representative of each club will be required to sign the PCMA

declaration form certifying the accuracy of the results and confirming that the players and officials have passed the pre-competition medical assessment. The medical assessment form will also include the signatures of the President and General Manager of the Participating Club and must be received by the Concacaf General Secretariat at the latest seven (7) business days prior to the start of The Competition.

- 27.3 Further to the above, each team must have a duly licensed medical professional (i.e., a doctor) as part of their 23-person official delegation. Such doctor should be fully integrated and familiar with all medical aspects of the delegation and must remain with the delegation throughout the entire official period of The Competition. The Match Officials (the Referees) will refer to such team doctor in all cases as required and necessary.
- 27.4 Concacaf will not be held liable for any injury sustained by any participating player. Equally, Concacaf will not be held liable for any incident (e.g. death) linked to any injury or health problems of any participating player.
- 27.5 Each club will be responsible, throughout The Competition, for providing health, travel and accident insurance coverage for all members of its delegation.
- 27.6 In regard to non-traumatic loss of consciousness or collapse during a game, the referee will assume sudden cardiac failure until proven otherwise. The hand signal is the right-hand fist against the chest. Such signal will indicate to the team doctor and the medical emergency team (stretcher team) to immediately institute comprehensive resuscitation that includes the use of a defibrillator (AED) and CPR. It is the responsibility of the organizing association to ensure that there is a properly functioning AED immediately at hand and that there is an ambulance with an access and egress plan. Additionally, the Host should ensure an emergency action plan is in place and communicated with each Club's medical staff in advance of each match.
- 27.7 During the match if there is a traumatic head injury and concussion to a player, and the player remains on the field of play, the referee will stop play. In these instances, the referee will signal (hand to the top of the head) to the team doctor to enter the field to assess and manage the player. Up to three minutes should be sufficient time to make this assessment. Once the player has left the field of play, he must be given a Sideline Concussion Assessment Test (SCAT) or similar test. It is the responsibility of the team doctor to determine the player's ability to return to play.
- 27.8 Further to the above, in regard to traumatic head injury and concussion, full return to play after a previous concussion must include no signs or symptoms of the previous head injury as well as an acceptable Sideline Concussion Assessment Test (SCAT) assessment, as well as a progressive/staged return to play protocol and return to baseline neuropsychological testing.
- 27.9 Doping is the use of certain substances or methods capable of artificially enhancing the physical and/or mental performance of a player, with a view to improving athletic and/or mental performance. If there is medical need as defined by the player's doctor, then a

Therapeutic Use Exemption (TUE) application must be filed 21 days prior to competition for chronic conditions and as soon as possible for acute situations. The TUE approval system includes a designated administrative and functional committee that will review applications and certify the exemption as the committee defines.

- 27.10 Doping is strictly prohibited. The FIFA Anti-Doping Regulations, the FIFA Disciplinary Code and all other relevant FIFA as well as Concacaf Regulations, circulars and directives will apply to all Concacaf competitions.
- 27.11 Every player may be subject to in-competition testing at the matches in which he competes and to out-of-competition testing at any time and place.
- 27.12 If, in accordance with the FIFA Doping Control Regulations, a player tests positive for the use of banned substances, he will be immediately declared ineligible from further participation in The Competition and will be subject to further sanctions from the Disciplinary Committee.
- 27.13 Failure to comply with these provisions will require a review by the Concacaf Disciplinary Committee for possible disciplinary action.

28. MARKETING AND MEDIA RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS

Upon entering The Competition, the Host agrees to the following relating to sponsorship and marketing:

- 28.1 All intellectual property and commercial rights (including sponsorship, television, radio, internet, and merchandise) associated with the Competition and its name and marks are the sole property of Concacaf.
- 28.2 Neither the clubs nor LOC's may license any media rights for the event, including television, radio, and internet.
- 28.3 Participating clubs and LOC's may use the names and marks of the event but only when preapproved by Concacaf.
- 28.4 Under no circumstances whatsoever may clubs or LOC's utilize the competition names & marks in conjunction with any corporate sponsor.
- 28.5 All ticket designs must be pre-approved by Concacaf and may bear no corporate or partner marks other than the official Concacaf Caribbean Club Shield sponsors as designated by Concacaf. The LOC's will work with Concacaf to assure their ticketing system is informed of this mandate and is able to comply and will inform Concacaf if there are any potential issues as soon as these are identified.

- 28.6 Neither clubs nor LOC's may produce or distribute any merchandise bearing the competition logo inside or outside of the stadiums without prior authorization from Concacaf.
- 28.7 Concacaf reserves the right to produce and distribute competition programs for each game. LOC's may not produce or distribute programs or any other informational or promotional materials to fans.
- 28.8 Participating clubs agree to provide Concacaf the right to use the official team marks on a royalty free basis and without restriction as follows:
- 28.8.1 For the purposes of promoting the event by Concacaf institutional and media rights holders including television, radio, internet, media.
- 28.8.2 For use by Concacaf's official sponsors, on a collective basis for the Competition, and round by round with the remaining teams.
- 28.8.3 For use individually by Concacaf paired with the opponent's logo for match day specific ticket sales and tune-in promotions.
- 28.8.4 On all official Concacaf licensed merchandise.
- 28.9 Participating clubs will provide Concacaf, when requested, a high-resolution electronic version of the team logo in the specific format as requested by Concacaf.
- 28.10 Participating clubs and LOC's agree to incorporate the "Sponsor Logo Bar" on all print game promotional advertising and in any TV broadcast game promotional spots.
- 28.11 Each LOC agrees to provide Concacaf, free of charge, the following tickets, suites and parking spaces:
- 28.11.1 3 suites for each game (or if the stadium infrastructure cannot provide the suites, then the LOC agrees to provide a reserved seating area to Concacaf for up to 60 guests;
- 28.11.2 A maximum 200 standard category tickets for each game;
- 28.11.3 A maximum of 50 best category of tickets for each game;
- 28.12 20 Parking Spaces.
- 28.13 Additionally, each LOC agrees to make available to Concacaf up to 500 tickets, of any category, at a discount of 20%, subject to availability, for each game.

- 28.14 Each LOC will provide Concacaf an allocation of space, of no less than 40,000 square feet, in close proximity to the stadium for the purposes of sponsor displays and activation, at no cost to Concacaf.
- 28.15 With the exception of permanent static stadium advertising signage not at field level or in camera view, no commercial signage is permitted, including stadium screens, public address system, or printed advertisements, or other promotional opportunity, at any game unless with the explicit prior written approval of Concacaf other than for such safety announcements as may be required by law and in emergency situations. LOC's are required to cover or remove any commercial signage and to use a high-quality material that looks presentable on camera.
- 28.16 Informational messages, including the promotion of upcoming games, may be permitted if such messages do not carry any commercial association and if such messages are expressly approved by Concacaf.
- 28.17 LOC's must ensure that no promotional materials (e.g. signs, thunder sticks, seat cushions etc.) are handed out to fans entering the stadium and that no promotional materials are allowed to enter the stadium without the approval of Concacaf.
- 28.18 Failure to comply with the commercial guidelines and regulations will compromise the commercial viability of Concacaf Club Champions. Therefore, any failure to comply will result in stiff penalties for any guilty party in accordance with these Regulations.
- 28.19 Media rights and obligations:
- 28.19.1 Concacaf will issue separate Media Regulations for The Competition specifying mandatory promotional and media activities that will take place prior and during The Competition. These will include, among others, interview requests, pre- and post-match press conferences and open training sessions.
- 28.19.2 Each club must comply with The Competition Media Regulations and must ensure that their members, officials, players, delegates and other affiliates also comply with these regulations.
- 28.19.3 For more details, please refer to the Media Regulations.

29. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

- 29.1 Concacaf is the exclusive owner of all intellectual property rights of The Competition, including any current or future rights of Concacaf's names, logos, brands, music, medals and trophies. Any use of the aforementioned rights requires the prior written approval of Concacaf.

- 29.2 All rights to the fixture list, as well as the matches in The Competition, are the sole and exclusive property of Concacaf unless expressly granted to another party pursuant to these Regulations. Concacaf will have the right to exploit the intellectual property rights as it deems appropriate in its sole discretion, and which shall survive the duration of The Competition.

FINAL PROVISIONS

30. LIABILITY

The Host of The Competition shall be exclusively responsible for the organization of the matches and shall discharge Concacaf from all responsibility and relinquish any claim against Concacaf and the members of its delegation for any damages resulting from any claims relating to such matches.

31. SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES

Concacaf shall, issue any instructions necessitated by special circumstances that may arise related to The Competition. These provisions and/or instructions shall form an integral part of these Regulations.

32. MATTERS NOT PROVIDED FOR AND FORCE MAJEURE

Matters not provided for in these Regulations and any cases of force majeure shall be decided by Concacaf. All decisions shall be final and binding and not subject to appeal.

33. LANGUAGES

In the case of any discrepancy in the interpretation of the English, Spanish, French or Dutch texts of these Regulations, the English text shall be authoritative. In case of discrepancy in the interpretation of these regulations, the Concacaf interpretation will prevail.

34. COPYRIGHT

The copyright of the match schedule drawn up in accordance with the provisions of these Regulations shall be the sole property of Concacaf.

35. NO WAIVER

Any waiver by Concacaf of any breach of these Regulations (including of any document referred to in these Regulations) shall not operate as, or be construed to be, a waiver of any other breach of such provision or of any breach of any other provision or a waiver of any right arising out of these Regulations or any other document. Any such waiver shall only be valid if given in writing. Failure by Concacaf to insist upon strict adherence to any provision of these Regulations, or any document referred to in these Regulations, on one or more occasions shall not be considered to be a waiver of or deprive Concacaf of the right to subsequently insist upon strict adherence to, that provision or any other provision of these Regulations, or any document referred to in these Regulations.

36. ENFORCEMENT

These Regulations were approved by the Concacaf Council on **February 24th, 2023**, and came into force immediately thereafter.