

THE HONG KONG FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION
RULES OF THE
HONG KONG FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION LTD.
(2020-21 version)

Constitution and Administration of the Association

1. The Association shall consist of members thereof. All Clubs participating in the First, Second Third Division Leagues, except Competition Members, shall be Full Members of the Association.

Definition and Interpretation

2. (1) In the interpretation of these Rules, unless the context requires a different meaning, the “Association” means “The Hong Kong Football Association Limited”, the “Board” means the Board of Directors of the Association as constituted in accordance with the Articles of Association of the Association, “The Secretary” means the General Secretary of the Association, “official” means a director or committee member of a Club and “Secretary of a Club” includes an honorary secretary.
- (2) These Rules must be reading in conjunction with and are subject to and dependent upon the Articles of Association.

Club Membership, Entrance Fees and Subscriptions

3. (1) All Clubs, before being admitted to membership of the Association, shall satisfy the Board that they are properly constituted and playing football according to the laws of the Game as laid down by the International Football Association Board (“the International Board”).
- (2) The Rules of affiliated Associations and Clubs shall be in conformity with the Rules and practice of the Association.
- (3) Each Club shall forward to the Secretary on or before the first day of June in each year a return in accordance with Form ‘A’ to the schedule hereto annexed, and a list of the names its officials of the current season together with their individual specimen signatures. Any Club failing to comply with this Rule shall cease to be a Member of the Association. The name and address of the secretary in the said Form ‘A’ shall as between the Association and the Club, be deemed the registered address of such Club and any change made therein shall be notified to the Association in writing. Additionally, any change in the secretaryship shall be certified by the Chairman / President of the Club concerned and supported by minutes of relevant meeting.
- (4) Any Club which has ceased to be a Member of the Association may with the approval of the Board, be re-admitted as a Member of the Association. Such re-admitted Club shall pay to the Association the entrance fee as if it were a newly affiliated Club.

- (5) Membership shall be of six classes - Full Members, Associate Members, Honorary Members, Facility Members, Corporate Members and Competition Members; for the purpose of these Rules:
- (a) "Full Members" include Special and Ordinary Full Members;
 - (b) "Special Full Members" shall have the same rights and privileges and shall be subject to the same duties and liabilities as Ordinary Full Members save that a Special Full Member shall be entitled, on admission to membership of the Association, and on application for membership to the Hong Kong Football League;
 - (c) Clubs not participating in the First, Second and Third Division Leagues, and all Referees affiliated to the Association are deemed to be Associate Members;
 - (d) "Competition Members" shall have the same rights and obligations as Associate Members, except such members shall enter a professional team to play in First Division Competitions and fulfill all obligations of a First Division team as specified in the Rules of Hong Kong Football League;
 - (e) The Association, if the circumstances so warrant, may upon endorsement by the Board, on its own motion invite the respective District Council to recommend member clubs that are representing in the 18 districts for consideration by the Association. For avoidance of doubt, the membership status and rights for participation in the League of such clubs shall be decided solely by the Association pursuant to the Articles of Association and these Rules.

[Amendment was made to paragraph (e) as above by the resolution passed by the Board at the meeting on 1 April 2021, i.e. meeting no. 4 in the 2020-21 Season]

- (6) The Entrance Fee and/or other terms for the following playing season for Full Members (Special or Ordinary), Associate Members, Competition Members, Facility Members, Corporate Members and Referees shall be decided by the Board before the end of the current playing season.
- (7) The Annual Subscription Fees for Full Members, Associate Members, Competition Members, Facility Members, Corporate Members and Referees are, subject to revision by the Board from time to time, prescribed in the First Schedule.

No Annual Subscription is payable by Honorary Members.

Unless under any particular case the Board shall resolve otherwise, all Annual Subscription shall be paid on before the first day of June in each year, except the entrance fee and the first Annual Subscription in respect of a new member which shall be paid upon being admitted as a member. A member whose subscription is unpaid on the first day of June in any year shall cease to be a member of the Association.

- (8) An Association or Club or Referee shall not withdraw its Membership or Associate Membership from the Hong Kong Football Association without the consent of the Association.

Annual General Meeting

4. (1) Place, Date, Notice, and Agenda

The Annual General Meeting shall be held once at least in every calendar year not being more than 15 months after the holding of the last preceding General meeting. The Secretary shall give twenty one days' notice to all Member Clubs, of the place, the day and the hour of such Meeting. An agenda specifying the nature of the business to be transacted at the Meeting shall accompany the notice.

(2) Business-Proposals and Amendments

Notice of any business (other than the Election of Directors and consideration of the Report of the Board) to be submitted at the Annual General Meeting, shall be given to the Secretary, on or before the 1st day of June in each year; a copy of such notice, with names of the proposer and seconder, shall be sent to Affiliated Associations and Clubs on or before the 4th day of June in each year. Notice of any Amendment to the business to be so submitted shall be given to the Secretary on or before the 9th day of June in each year.

Powers of the Board

5. (1) The Board shall meet at least four times every fiscal year.

(2) At all meetings of the Board, the President of the Board shall preside. If at any meeting the President of the Board is not present after the time appointed for holding the same, the Chairman shall preside. If at any meeting the President and Chairman are not present after the time appointed for holding the same, the members present shall choose someone of their number to be Chairman of such meeting.

(3) Seven days' notice specifying the place, the day and the hour of meeting and the general nature of business shall be given to Directors. Any item of an important or urgent nature not included in the Agenda may only be discussed at the discretion of the Board. The President or Chairman of the Board may at any time convene an Extraordinary Meeting of the Board by giving three days written notice.

(4) Question arising at any meeting of the Board or of any of the Task Force, Committees or Commissions appointed by the Board shall be decided by a majority of votes. In case of an equality of votes, the Chairman of the Meeting shall have a second or casting vote.

(5) The Board may fill any vacancy that occurs in its body; appoints a secretary and such other assistants as they think fit; appoints such Task Force, Committees or Commissions as they may consider necessary; delegate all or any of its powers to any such Task Force, Committees or Commissions, or to any Affiliated Association as from time to time may be necessary.

(6) The Secretary upon the written request of three Directors shall convene a meeting of the Board by giving three days written notice.

Privilege of Board Members

6. Each Member of the Board shall be furnished with a pass (which shall not be transferable) and all Clubs belonging to this Association or an Affiliated Association shall admit under any circumstances the holder and one companion to their stands and grounds where football is being played upon production of such pass without requiring any other authority, except on occasions when the Board shall otherwise decide.

Association Funds

7. (1) Association Funds/Treasurers/Accounts
 - (a) The Board shall appoint Honorary Treasurer to assist the Board in monitoring the financial matters of the Association as well as working together with the General Secretary to formulate the annual budget of the Association.
 - (b) Accounting Officer should be employed to handle the funds and to keep the accounts of the Association in accordance with Articles 70-72 of the Association and the instructions from the Board.
- (2) Accounting Officer shall
 - (a) submit a working accounts and balance sheet within 15 days after the end of each month/period to which the accounts refer.
 - (b) prepare and complete each year before 1st August the balance sheet of the Association as at the 30th June and the Income and Expenditure Account for the financial year ending on the 30th day of June.
- (3) Benevolent Funds

The Board may each year appropriate such part of the money standing to the credit of the general account of the Association, as they may deem necessary, for the purposes of a Benevolent Fund, and may distribute the sums of money so appropriated among necessitous players and others or their families and dependents who have rendered service to the game. All applications for a grant under this Rule must be made in writing to the Board.

The Playing Season

8. (1) The playing season shall commence on a date within August and September to be determined by the Board in one year and shall end not later than the last day in June of the following year, unless the playing season is extended in accordance with Rules 8(6). The remainder of the year shall be known as the close season during which no match shall be organized by the Association or its members without the consent of the Board.
- (2) Practice matches between teams of the same Club or between teams from different Clubs at which gate receipts are taken may be played with the consent of the Board during the 21 days immediately preceding the playing season but the net receipts must be distributed within 21 days following a game as follows:-

- (a) 10 percent to the Association for the development of youth Football.
 - (b) The remainder to be
 - (i) retained by the Club where teams of the same Club are engaged or
 - (ii) divided equally between Clubs where two different Club teams are engaged.
- (3) In computing the net gate receipts and before distributing any of the proceeds derived from matches played, the following expenses shall first be deducted: referees and Assistant Referees fee, police fees, fees for ticket-sellers, checkers, supervisors and ushers, cost of printing tickets and advertising, floodlighting and refreshment charges, and such percentage for hire of ground as has been agreed upon and such other expenses as the Board may from time to time deem fit.
- (4) A return of the net gate receipt and sums paid, together with the necessary receipts, must be sent to the Association without delay and not later than the end of September.
- (5) Players who have not previously been connected with the Clubs concerned may play in such practice matches, provided that such players are not under contract with other local or overseas clubs, unless consent of such clubs are obtained.
- (6) Suspension of Matches and Extension of Season
- The Board shall have power to suspend any or all matches or to extend the period of playing as from time to time in their discretion shall be deemed necessary or desirable and agreements between Clubs, players and officials shall be subject to such decisions.

Sanctioning of Leagues, Competitions and Matches

9. (1) Sanction of Leagues and Competitions
- Associations, Leagues, or other combinations of Clubs, players or officials, shall not be formed by members of the Association without the consent of the Association.
- (2) Charity or Representative Matches
- No Member or other person under the jurisdiction of the Association shall compete in any charity, representative or other competition or arrange or conduct such competition without the prior permission of the Board. All charity or representative matches which are so permitted shall be played in accordance with the Rules, Regulations and Bye-Laws of this Association, unless specifically agreed otherwise by Board.
- (3) Substitutes
- In all matches in which substitutes for players are allowed under Law 3 of the Laws of the Game, the International Board decisions shall be strictly enforced.
- (4) Unaffiliated Football
- Members of this Association or an Affiliated Association shall not be associated with or play with or against any non-member club and no Member Club or Association shall allow its own ground(s) to be used by such non-member club, save and except previous

approval having been obtained from the Board.

(5) Unapproved Teams

Except with approval of this Association, no match at which gate money is taken shall be played if either of the competing teams is a scratch team, or includes an unregistered player. Except with such approval, no player taking part in a match between scratch teams shall receive any money or other consideration, in connection with such match otherwise than in reimbursement of moneys actually expended by him in payment of hotel and reasonable travelling expenses necessarily details of such expenditure.

(6) Proceeds of Matches or Competitions

Clubs and players shall not compete in any match or competition (including Small Side matches or competitions) the proceeds of which are not devoted to a recognized Football Club or Football Association or some other object approved by this Association. The playing of matches arranged by private individuals for speculative purposes shall not be permitted.

(7) Small Side Matches

Any Small Side Match and similar competition may be arranged provided that:-

- (a) The prior approval of the Association has been obtained;
- (b) The Rules of the match have been approved by the Association;
- (c) The match is organized by the Association or a Member Club;
- (d) The proceeds of the match are distributed to
 - (i) organizations whose objects are to develop association football by providing coaching facilities, improved grounds and amenities or to render similar services to the youth of the Hong Kong SAR; or
 - (ii) some other objects approved by this Association;
- (e) A statement of accounts of the event is supplied to the Association within twenty-one days.

(8) International Matches

The authority of organizing international matches and competitions between national teams and between leagues and/or Club team lies solely with FIFA upon approval of the Association. No match or competition shall take place without the prior permission of the FIFA Executive Committee. In addition, permission from the relevant Confederation may be required in accordance with the FIFA regulations.

(9) FIFA International Calendar

The Association is bound to comply with the international match calendar compiled by FIFA.

Tours out of Hong Kong

10. (1) Any Club or officials of any Member Club proposing to make a football tour or tours out of Hong Kong, including tours after the close of the playing season laid down in Rule 8, shall first obtain the sanction of the Board and submit a list of the players invited to take part in such tour or tours together with names of officials and number of matches to be played in each country.
- (2) In the event of any touring player or players so invited not being a registered player of such club, the previous consent in writing of the Club or Clubs, with which such player or players is/are registered, must be obtained. This provision shall not apply in the case of amateur players in respect of tours conducted during the close season, in which case the touring Club shall be responsible for the conduct of the guest players not registered with such touring Club.
- (3) The Board may as a condition of such sanction require the Club to give security of such amount as the Board may deem necessary to ensure the return of the players to Hong Kong.
- (4) No member, or anyone associated with a Member Club, official, player, trainer, coach or referee shall organize, arrange, conduct, take part in or associate himself in any way with any football match played outside Hong Kong either during the playing season or the close season unless such match is sanctioned by the Board.
- (5) For the purpose of this Rule a player who has been registered with the Association shall be deemed to come under the jurisdiction of the Association.
- (6) Any breach of this Rules committed by any person under the jurisdiction of the Association shall constitute misconduct and such person, if found guilty, shall be dealt with in accordance with the Rules of the Association.

(With resolution made by the Board at the meeting on 17 July 2017, i.e. meeting no. 1 in the 2017-18 Season, original Rules 11 to 21 were abandoned with immediate effect and to be replaced by a new set of regulations in the title of "HKFA Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players" from the date onward)

International and Representative Matches - Qualifications

22. (1) All Member Clubs shall place their players at the disposal of the Association, whenever required during the playing or close season, for any international or representative or charity match played for or in the name of the Association. Similar rule shall apply to players without contract with Member Clubs.
- (2) Any player selected by the Association for any match aforesaid shall attend and participate in such matches (including any warm-up or practice matches) and to attend any practices so organized by the Association. In case of failure, without reasonable excuse, either to attend in time or to participate in such matches and practices, the player and the Club to which the player is contracted shall be dealt with in accordance with the prevailing FIFA's "Regulations for the Status and Transfers of Players." Upon repeated absence, the Board may further impose sanction on the player and the Club to which the player is contracted as the Board deems fit.
- (3) Any Club or official thereof against whom a properly substantiated complaint has been lodged of having encouraged or instigated any player to commit a breach of this Rule may be required by the Disciplinary Committee to appear and to answer the complaint.
- (4) All conditions and criteria of release of players for national teams shall be referred to the relevant articles of the prevailing FIFA's "Regulations for the Status and Transfers of Players." A copy of such may be obtained from the Association.

Jurisdiction of the Association Over Officials, Players and Spectators

23. Observance of Rules, Regulations and Bye-Laws

- (1) All Members, Players and officials shall observe the Rules, Regulations and Bye-Laws of this Association.
- (2) Every Member is responsible to the Board for the actions of its players and officials in connection with the observance of the Rules and Regulations of the Association and shall take all reasonable precautions to prevent spectators at its matches threatening or assaulting officials or players during or at the conclusion of its matches.
- (3) No registered referee or player is allowed to write articles or have special regular columns in newspapers/magazines or special features interviews on T.V. or radio on football without the express consent being obtained, he shall warrant to the Board that in so doing he shall in no way contravene the Articles, Rules or Bye-Laws of the Association.
- (4) Misconduct-Betting and Bribery
 - (a) No official of an Association or Club, Referee, Assistant Referees, player or Member shall bet on any football match. Member Associations and Member Clubs shall actively enforce this Rule.

- (b) No Association or Club, or any player, official or member of any Association or Club shall offer or accept or attempt to offer, either directly or indirectly, any consideration whatever to another Club, player or players of any other Club, with a view to influence the result of a match.

(5) Breach of Rule 24, Removal from Ground

On the breach of Rule 24 any player, official or spectator may be forcibly removed from any ground, and may further be required to appear before the Disciplinary Committee to answer the alleged breach.

24. (1) No Association, League, Combination, Club, Director, Official or player (in this Rule called the "Member") shall commit or assist in the commission of any of the following acts:-
- (a) Violation of the Laws of the Game or the Rules, Regulation or Bye-Laws of this Association or any of them.
 - (b) Violation of any of the Rules, Regulation or Bye-Laws of any Association, League or Combination affiliated to the Association or sanctioned by its Board.
 - (c) Playing with or against any suspended Association, Club or player or being a Director or Official of any suspended association or club.
 - (d) Being a Bookmaker or Assistant to a Bookmaker or in any other way directly connected with the organizing of Betting Lotteries, Coupon Football Betting or the like without the written consent of the Association.
 - (e) Displaying in any Club Programme or Publication or on the ground or premises of any Club any advertisement in connection with Betting, Bookmaking, Coupon Football Betting, Football Pools, or other like matters without the written consent of the Association.
 - (f) Allowing a Director, Official or Player under suspension to act as Referee or in any other capacity relating to the playing or management of football PROVIDED that in the case of a player, he shall be allowed to take part in a training session organized either by the Association or his Club unless decided otherwise by the Board or the Disciplinary Committee.

(2) Other Conduct Likely to Bring Disrepute

In the event of any other act, statement, writing, conduct or matter not provided for above, which in the opinion of the Board is likely to bring the game into disrepute, the Board may request the offending Member to give a written undertaking not to repeat such act, statement, writing, conduct or matter nor to do or commit any similar act, statement, writing, conduct or matter, and in default of such undertaking being given within seven days from the sending of a written request to the offending Member or if such undertaking is given and there is any breach thereof then such default or breach shall be misconduct.

(3) Right to Personal Hearing

- (a) The Board shall by written notice to any Member against whom an allegation concerning the breach of any rule of the Association has been made and such notification shall state the name of the person making such allegation, a brief description of the facts alleged for the purpose of identifying the event only and the rule or article alleged to have been breached. Within 7 days from the posting of such notice the accused Member may send to the Association an answer thereto in writing and a written application for such allegation to be heard before a Commission or Committee.
- (b) In default of making such application within the period aforesaid, the Board or its Committee shall be entitled to decide on the allegation in the absence of such Member, having regard to any facts alleged in the answer if one is made.
- (c) Upon receipt of such application as aforesaid the Board shall appoint a Commission or Committee to deal with the matter and notify the accused Member of the date and place of the Hearing.
- (d) The accused Member and in the case of a Member Club its Directors and Officials shall attend such Hearing.
- (e) At such Hearing the allegation shall be read to the accused Member and in support of such allegation facts and arguments shall be adduced and made. The accused Member thereafter shall be entitled to adduce any facts or make any argument in rebuttal of the allegations. The Commission, or Committee the informant and the accused Member and in the case of a Member Club its Director and Officials shall be entitled to cross-examine any witness who gives evidence at the hearing. The Commission or Committee shall have the right to limit the time to be devoted to any argument.
- (f) The decision of the Commission or Committee shall subsequently be communicated by the Association in writing to the accused Member and any other Member concerned and if thought fit to the press and such decision shall be deemed to be a decision of the Association and be binding on all Member subject to a right of appeal under Rule 27.
- (g) An Association, Combination, Club, Official or player may be represented at a Hearing by one or more of its Members. In a Hearing or enquiry or disciplinary proceedings before the Board or the Appeals Board or any Committee or Commission of the Association no barrister or solicitor shall be allowed to appear on behalf of any Member Club or its officials or its players unless such barrister or solicitor either the President, Chairman or the Secretary of the Member Club concerned at the time of the incident.

(4) Punishment

If any Member or player is found guilty of misconduct by the Board or any Commission or Committee thereof, the Board or such Commission may

- (a) suspend such Member or player from Football or Football Management either permanently, sine die or for a stated period and/or
- (b) fine such Member or player and/or
- (c) publicly censure or reprimand such Member or player and/or

- (d) charge such Member or player with all expenses of and incidental to the Hearing and/or
- (e) order such Member to make such publication in its programme as the Board may deem fit and/or
- (f) deal with such Member or player in such other manner as the Board may think fit.

Any order made hereunder shall be enforceable as an agreement between the Association and the Member or player to whom such order is given by virtue of the Articles of the Association.

(5) Default

Any order made under Rule 24(4) above shall be complied with forthwith, in default thereof the Member or player to whom such order is given shall, without notice being served, be struck from its membership or registration or be prohibited from acting as Director or Official.

(6) Notification

Any letter, request or communication to be sent by the Association under this Rule shall be properly sent if addressed to the last known address of the accused Member or to the address of such Member's Club.

(7) Persons subject to Rule 24

Notwithstanding anything contained in these Rules to the contrary, every Director, Official, Member or Player of any Association or Club which is a Member or Associate Member of this Association or of any Association, League or Combination affiliated to or sanctioned by this Association shall be deemed to be a Member of this Association and be subject to and bound by its Rules, Regulations and Bye-Laws. In any case where this Rule conflicts with any other Rule of the Association, then this Rule shall prevail.

25. (1) Reporting of Misconduct

Members of the Board, Officials of Clubs, and Referees shall promptly report to the Association any incident which in their opinions likely to bring the game into disrepute or is an infringement of the rules.

(2) Conduct Towards Referee

Any misconduct towards a Referee away from the field of play will be dealt with as if the offence had been committed on the field. Assistant Referees who observe incidents on the field of play likely to bring the game into disrepute must, if such incidents have not come under the notice of the Referee, immediately report them to him and the Referee shall report such misconduct to the Association.

(3) No player shall leave the field during the progress of a game (except on account of injury) without the consent of the Referee.

(4) Without permission of the Referee, no person shall be allowed on the field of play during a match other than the assistant referees and players. The kicking off by persons other than the players competing in a match is prohibited except in Charity Matches.

26. Publication of Proceedings

The Association shall be entitled to publish in the public press or in any other manner it shall think fit, reports of its proceedings, acts and resolutions whether the same shall or shall not reflect on the character or conduct of any Member or player who shall be deemed to have consented to such.

27. Appeals

- (1) Appeals from the decisions of any Committee or Commission or Task Force may be lodged to the Appeal Committee.
- (2) Members of the Appeal Committee shall be appointed by the Board. Members of the Disciplinary Committee who have not involved in the initial hearing of the incidence in question are also eligible as members of the Appeal Committee.
- (3) Decisions pronounced by the Appeal Committee shall be irrevocable and binding on all parties concerned. This provision is subject to appeals lodged with the Arbitration Tribunal appointed by the Association.
- (4) Any Member taking legal proceedings to the Ordinary Courts before the appeal is heard by the Appeal Committee or Arbitration Tribunal appointed by the Association is deemed guilty of misconduct and will be dealt with by the Association.

28. Documentary Evidence

The Board shall have power to call upon any Member to produce any books, letters, or documents and other evidence pertaining to matters concerning the Association as the Board may desire and such Member shall forthwith produce the same.

29. Complaints and Claims by Clubs and Players

- (1) Any complaint or claim made by a Club or Player shall be in writing and copies shall be sent to the Secretary, accompanied by a deposit as prescribed in the First Schedule of the Rules of the Association (subject to revisions by the Board from time to time) which deposit may be forfeited if the complaint be not sustained.
- (2) In the event of a frivolous or vexatious complaint being made, the Board shall have power to compel the complaining Club or player to tender a suitable apology and/or to pay such expenses as may be deemed fit under the circumstances.

30. Non-Fulfilment of Match Fixtures

Any complaint relating to the non-fulfilment of a match fixture must be made within 72 hours from the date upon which the match was played or should have been played, unless special grounds are shown for delay.

Rules, Regulations and Laws of the Game

31. (1) Alteration to Rules

- (a) Any alteration, amendment or addition to these Rules can only be made by the decisions of the Board for any matters not already provided for in the Articles.

(2) Forms

The Board shall settle the Forms required by these Rules.

(3) Regulations

The Board shall have the power to make such Bye-Laws and regulations deemed necessary to provide for matters arising from or to implement these Rules in so far as any such Bye-Law or regulation is not in conflict with any of these Rules. Associations and Clubs in membership with the Association shall be deemed to have knowledge of and be bound by the said Bye-Laws or Regulations if the same shall have been published in the Minutes of the Board, the production of which shall constitute at all times undisputed proof of the validity of such Bye-Laws or Regulations.

Rules, Regulations, and Bye-Laws Concerning Competitions and Officials

32. The Board is authorized to make such Rules, Regulations and Bye-Laws with reference to Competitions and Officials of Games, as it may deem expedient.

Laws of the Game

33. The Laws of the Game as amended at the meeting of the International Board in each year shall come into force on and after the Annual General Meeting of the Association in such year.

Trophies

34. All trophies competed for under the management and control of the Association will be insured by and for the account of the Association.

Grounds

35. (1) All Clubs shall place their grounds at the disposal of the Association for any game organized by the Association.
- (2) When there is doubt as to the ground being playable, at the request of either competing club or the club owning the ground, the Secretary of the Association shall appoint an official, whose decision shall be final, to inspect the ground and give a decision as early as possible and in any case not later than two and half hours before the time set for the kick-off. ("Official" for this Rule means a registered referee normally the referee or the assistant referee in order of appointment to that particular match.)

Season Tickets

36. Season Tickets must be numbered consecutively and a list kept of the names and addresses of Season Ticket holders.

Club Records

37. (1) Each Club shall keep a Minute book, register of its members, and a cash book or record of receipts and payments, and such shall be ready for production whenever required by the Football Association.
- (2) All such records shall be retained by Clubs for at least two Seasons preceding the current season.

Foreign Matches Levy

38. Any member club or other party which has previously obtained permission from the Association to organize or stage any match or matches to be played in Hong Kong by a foreign team or teams against any local team or teams which include a scratch team shall, within 21 days after the match or matches having been played, pay to the Association a levy (subject to revisions by the Board from time to time) as prescribed in the Second Schedule of the Rules of the Association PROVIDED ALWAYS if the organizing member club or party suffers any financial loss therefrom the Board upon application received from the said member club or party may waive the levy in full or in part.

General

39. (1) Any point not covered by these Rules or by the Articles shall be dealt with by the Board as it deems fit.
 - (2) A League, Shield, Cup or any other fixture organized by the Association or any affiliated Association or Club of the Association may be played wholly or in part under floodlight subject to the installation having the approval of the Board.
 - (3) Each Club shall play its full strength in all matches unless some satisfactory reason exists.
 - (4) All Clubs shall ensure that their teams commence matches on time unless a satisfactory reason exists in the opinion of the referee for noncompliance with this rule.
40. Any member or player who commits a breach of the whole or any part of any of these Rules shall be deemed guilty of misconduct, whether or not the Rule specifically states that a breach thereof shall be deemed to be such.
 41. All FIFA and AFC regulations issued from time to time shall apply to the Association and its Members, except in cases where such regulations allow discretions by National Associations and such discretions are so exercised by the Association. If such FIFA or AFC regulations are inconsistent with the Association's Articles, Rules, by-laws, Board Resolutions, League Rules or rules of any competitions, such FIFA and AFC regulations shall prevail.

* End *