Version 01.07.2009

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP REGULATIONS

For all groups of Senior European Championships for National Teams

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EFAF	**European Federation of American Football**
TC	**Tournament Committee**
EC	**European Championship**

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP REGULATIONS

§1 Definition of the competition

The European Championship is held to determine the continental order of Senior National teams and to determine the groups of play in the future. Tournament will be restricted to Senior National teams of EFAF member Federations/Associations.

All players whether playing in their home country or in any other EFAF affiliated country shall be released by their club/team to play in games representing their National Federation/Association.

§2 General provisions and financial requirements

The National Federation/association shall enter its National team, according to the established procedures, and will also guarantee their participation and liabilities related to tournaments or to separate games.

The entry fees of the tournaments are decided by EFAF and have to be paid to EFAF within the specific date. If these conditions are not observed, EFAF may declare the entry invalid, which precludes any participation, or accept the late entry and eventually impose a fine. Appeals may be lodged against such decisions, according to EFAF appeals regulations and statutes.

The organizers of the games must take necessary insurance, and in particular third party liability. If a stadium is not owned, or otherwise controlled by the local National Federation/Association, the extent of the responsibility of each party involved must be clarified with the stadium owner and clearly defined. Claims of damage against EFAF must be officially excluded.

The National Federations/ Associations and their teams participating in the competition shall undertake to fully observe the regulations as well as the decisions taken by the responsible EFAF authorities.

Entry fee for the tournament is 1000 Euros. In addition there is a separate fee of 2,000 Euros for Group A tournament and 1,000 Euros in Group B.

Deadlines:

A)By 31.8.2009, the participating Federation/Association shall provide the following :

- signed contract/application form confirming their entry in the tournament
- pay an entry fee of 1000 Euros to EFAF
- name and contact data (addresses, e-mail, phone number of federation office and of Chef-De-Mission. This main contact person has to be an English speaking person.

B) Latest four months prior to the start of each tournament the participating Federation/Association shall provide the following:

- a bank guarantee or deposit of the amount of

In Group A	10.000 Euros
In Group B	7.500 Euros
In Group C	5.000 Euros

EFAF Bank Account: European Federation of American Football
Account number: 59188, Bank: Volksbank Maingau EG
Bank Address: Seligenstaedter Str. 52, D-63179 Obertshausen, Germany
Swift Code: GENO DE 51 OBH VIA GENO DE 55 SGZ
National-Bank-ID: 505 613 15
IBAN: DE 79 5056 1315 0000 0591 88

The bank guarantee or deposit will be held in a separate escrow account and refunded to the team upon confirmation that the team has satisfied all of the requirements in the regulations to include: participation in all required games, as well as, satisfying all financial requirements to include damages or costs incurred by third parties as a result of participation.

The bank guarantee has to be written in English. The guarantee shall be issued by a first rank bank well known internationally. It has to be an autonomous independent first demand guarantee under the rules of ICC # 458 and no surety agreement or joint guarantee. There has to be no expiry date of the guarantee. The guarantee has to be unlimited in time. The EFAF BoD might reject any guarantee, which is not in accordance to those rules. Upon receipt of a satisfactory report, the EFAF Treasurer shall refund the deposit or bank guarantee soonest 45 days after the end of tournament.

To refund a cash deposit the team has to submit an international payment information to EFAF on a written and original signed document which includes:

1) name of beneficiary (only the federation is accepted!!!)
2) address of beneficiary (street, zip-code, city)
3) name and address of the bank of beneficiary
4) International Bank Accounting Number (IBAN) and/ or BIC/ SWIFT.

If there is insufficient payment information EFAF will keep the money on a separate account until the federation sends sufficient payment information. EFAF will not pay any interests on cash deposits.

EFAF will send a bank guarantee back to the official address of the federation, which is written in the application form/ tournament entry form by registered mail. If this letter does not arrive because the federation has changed its address without informing EFAF by written and original signed letter or because the federation was not able to get the letter from the postal office at the federations place EFAF will keep the guarantee until a new address will be submitted to EFAF. EFAF will not cover any interest or expenses the federation has to pay to its own bank for any delay.

Upon receipt of satisfactory report, EFAF shall refund the deposit or bank guarantee latest 30 days after the team's final game in the tournament. Federations/Associations that have unfulfilled previous obligations to EFAF will not be permitted to enter the tournament.

C) three (3) months prior to the tournament start, the participating Federation/Association shall provide the following:

- pay the tournament fee or provide the accommodation reservation confirmation and travel dates and times.

D) 30 days prior to the start of each tournament, the participating Federation/Association shall provide the following:

- a 75 man preliminary roster completed with – players Name, Jersey number, Position, Height, Weight, Current Club team – must be submitted to EFAF.

E) 1 day before the start of final tournament, by 20.00:
a. a 45 man final tournament roster completed with – players Name, Jersey number, Position, Height, Weight, Current Club team – must be submitted to EFAF and to the LOC plus name list of all executives, doctors, sideline personnel. Players can not be exchanged from that list. Arrival means the time of the document in at the Official Headquarter of the EC.
b. national anthem on a CD

Failure to comply any deadlines will be result in the following:

1) Failure to meet deadline date, fine of 500 Euros for each offence.
2) Failure to submit required information 7 days after deadline rate: Possible expulsion from the tournament, plus a fine associated to refusal to play §3 in accordance to non-payment of entry fee, bank guarantee

Failure to comply with the deadline - two weeks before the final tournament -, will result in the following:

1) Failure to meet deadline date, fine of 1.000 Euros for each offence.

2) Failure to submit required information within 1 hour after deadline rate: Possible expulsion from the tournament, plus a fine associated to refusal to play §3 in accordance to non-payment of entry fee, bank guarantee

If EFAF Office or EFAF tournament committee are sending out requests to the designated communication liaison officer of a participant and no answer is received on that request within 48 hours EFAF may fine the federation for 500 EUR.

If for any reason there is the payment of VAT applicable the VAT is added to the amount written in this regulation.

§3 Refusal to play and similar cases

In other cases than described in §14, refusal to play automatically leads to disqualification and the team is fined as follows:

Refusal to play during:

- C Group 10.000,00 EUROS
- B-Group 15.000,00 EUROS
- A-Group 30.000,00 EUROS

The fine shall be paid within one month from the receipt of the EFAF's decision. If the fine is not settled, then EFAF will claim the outstanding debt and any additional legal cost by raising financial claims in a civil court.

Any actions directly or indirectly caused by the team or its National Federation/ Association, with the result that a game can not take place or be played to its full extent will be dealt with as a refusal to play.

§4 Financial Provisions

The National Federations/Associations are responsible for their own traveling arrangements to and from the game venue and for all other payments due in connection with their travel and eventual extra accommodation and food unless otherwise decided on these regulations.

Visiting teams must supply all travel and accommodation details two (2) months prior to the start of the tournament to organizing national federation/association. Failure to send details within 14 days of the game will result in a fine and possible expulsion from the tournament.

Organizer or host Federation/Association must supply all details of the tournament one (1) month prior to the start of the tournament at the technical meeting.

All other agreements mutually agreed between the host Federations/Associations and participating teams are to be fixed in written form and submitted to EFAF prior to the game.

Note: The following points are the minimum requirements in all tournaments. In case of a better offer of hosting forwarded to EFAF some additional benefits maybe provided for the participating teams.

The minimum requirements to host a European Championship are:

- bus transportations from the hotel to the game place
- organization of the stadium
- advertising and public relations
- residence and lodging for all referees and officials, no per diem.
- travel costs officials: LOC will pay travel costs for two neutral officials from Europe.
- trophies for Champion, Runner-up, Bronze-medal Game winner and MVP provided by LOC,
- VIP-Hospitality
- sanction fee for EFAF of 2.500 EUR for C-Group, 5000 EURO for B-Group and 10.000 EUR for A-Group
- TV-Coverage (optional)
- bank guarantee from the LOC of 5.000 EUR for C-Group, 10.000 EUR for B-Group and 20.000 EURO for A-Group
- residence and lodging of all teams (each team consisting of 45 players and 15 staff) for the time of their stay at the game site (only A-Group)

To be covered by the participants:

- residence and lodging of the own team (each team consisting of 45 players and 10 staff) for the time of their stay at the game site (B- and C-Group)
- travelling to the game city
- each participating federation has to transport and pay for three officials
- in A-group teams may have to pay an participation fee depending on applications

§5 Technical meetings

LOC will host a technical meeting no earlier than two (2) months before and no later than one (1) month prior to the tournament. Both Chef-De-Mission and Head Coach are required to participate at the technical meeting. Each participant is responsible for their own travel and lodging costs for the technical meeting.

Failure to participate at technical meeting will lead to a fine of 1.000 Euros per missing person.

During final tournament TC will host mandatory team meetings after each game day (not after final game day) and may do also for other times if necessary. These meetings are mandatory for all participants. TC will decide when both CDM and head coach are necessary

§6 Trophies and Medals

EFAF will provide 60 medals (45 players+15 staff) to the Champion, runner – up and bronze game winner in all levels of the tournament on LOC's cost. LOC will provide the trophies for the Champion, Runner- up, Bronze game winner and the MVP in all Groups except for group A where EFAF will provide a standing trophy.

§7 Game system

The competition system is decided by EFAF. The games shall be executed according to EFAF rules (NCAA game rules of the year previous to the year of the game/s played). Please observe the EFAF minimum game requirements and exceptions specified in these regulations.

The head game official can interrupt a game before the expiration of the statutory playing time or during possible extra-time because of weather conditions (lighting only) or for other reasons beyond his control. The decision is then taken by tournament committee on whether the game will end with the existing score or points or continued or replayed. Appeals versus the result of the abandoned match may be conducted according to the existing EFAF regulations.

§8 Eligibility of Players

Overall requirements:
Player is only eligible to play for the National Federation/Association of his own nationality. If a player has changed his nationality or holds two or more nationalities he is eligible to play for his new or chosen nationality. However, if a player has represented one National Federation/Association in any official EFAF or IFAF tournament, including both senior and junior tournament, the player is not eligible to play for any other National Federation/Association. Players nationality must be proven on game day. In case of a changed nationality, the player may apply for a exception to this rule. Exceptions will not be granted during a tournament, starting from the C group competition and ending with the A group competition.

To be eligible for a qualification game a player must be listed on the 75-men preliminary roster released 14 days prior to final tournament.

Game day requirements:
Each team shall on game day indicate, on the official EFAF team roster form, the names or the 45 players and their staff. The EFAF game supervisor will request presentation of a passport or government accepted identity card (including evidence of nationality) of each player. In case of no EFAF supervisor being present the head game official will carry the above identity check.

Identity documents must be a passport or a government accepted document which includes photograph, date of birth and nationality. In case of a player/ team is not able to present identity document the player will be ineligible to play.

Violation of players' eligibility regulations may lead to the teams and/or players disqualification and/or of a fine of no more than 5.000,00 Euros. In case of a team disqualification all the games the team has played in a tournament will be nullified.

§9 Tournament formats

The games of the European Championship shall be played on fixed dates, approved by EFAF.

The tournaments will be played in the following years:

- Group C 2011 and/ or 2012
- Group B 2013
- Group A 2014

The tournament venues and kick-off times of all games shall be confirmed in writing by the EFAF head quarters to the National Federations/Associations concerned 6 months prior of the date of the game/s.

The Federation/Association participating in tournaments shall arrange for their team to arrive at the country of the game the evening of tournament start.

Groupings and seeding are set according the results of previous European Championship tournaments.

If a National Federation/Association is not able to play in the tournament the lower ranked opponents get a chance to the next round.

Groups:

TBA

Games in each group will be played according to EFAF decisions either in one or more tournaments or in separate knock-out games depending of the interest of hosting a tournament by the countries participating in each Group.

§10 Organization – Responsibilities

The EFAF shall appoint a tournament committee to serve as organizer and coordinator and/or promoter of the tournaments.

The chairman of the EC TC is the Executive Tournament Director. In case of his absence the deputy chairman is named to be Executive Tournament Director.

The EFAF shall appoint and assign and be responsible for all matters concerning the officiating of the competition. (Further information in §12 and §15)

Game supervisors will be appointed by EFAF tournament committee. The supervisor will be the official representative of EFAF and have the responsibility to control player identifications and eligibility, the field/arena and the security measures (further information in §13). Infractions of the Competition regulations shall be reported to the game supervisor who will take necessary action at the game site and forward a game report to EFAF.

The National Federations/Associations are responsible for the behavior of their players, officials, members or of any other person fulfilling a position or function on behalf of the team.

The games may be played in any city in the country (excluding places away from the mainland/ main island) of the home Federation/Association with an international airport. If the game is played in any other city the venue is subject to approval by the EFAF tournament committee and the host is responsible for travel from closest international airport.

Game fields must be nominated on applications of tournaments. In case of a subsequent change of venue, the host team is responsible to pay the additional costs incurred to the visiting teams. All venue changes must be sanctioned by EFAF tournament committee and must be no later than 7 days prior to the game date.

The organizing National Federation/Association or other partner shall be responsible for order and security before, during and after the game. The National Federation/Association may be called to account for incidents and also may be penalized. The organizing National Federation/Association shall in all cases indemnify EFAF, so far as legally possible hold EFAF unharmed from legal responsibility in respect of all claims for damages caused by the organization of the game.

Game Result:

5) For each EFAF European Championship game the organizer must no later than 2 hours after the end of the game telephone and/or fax to EFAF the game result
6) The organizer must submit an email to EFAF tournament office with the game scoring summary and short press release with statistics by 10 a.m. the first following working day after the game.

Failure to observe or either of the above parts to the rule, even if the game has been cancelled, will incur a 500 Euros fine for each offence, and a further 1000 Euros fine for each period of seven days in which the information is not forthcoming.

§11 Laws of the game

The games shall be played in conformity with the EFAF rules in force each year (previous years NCAA game rules) with the following specified exceptions:

The game time is 48 minutes divided into 4x12 minute quarters.

Player ejections: Any player ejected from the game will not be eligible to play in their team's next game in this competition.

Uniforms and Colors of the Teams:

a) All players must wear all mandatory equipment.
b) Team players uniforms (socks, pants, jerseys, facemasks and helmets) shall be identical and in good condition;
c) Player socks need to be high socks and worn high throughout the game.
d) Teams shall have two complete set of players jerseys. Its home colour and white/light-coloured jerseys for away games
e) advertisement on the game uniform is permitted (further information §19)

§12 EFAF minimum game requirements

Game Balls:
Only approved game balls are to be used (for example NCAA or NFL). A minimum of 3 game balls, pump, pressure gauge and towels to be provided to the game officials at least 60 minutes before kick-off, in wet weather, please have as many game balls as possible. If there is a tournament ball produced, this may be used as game ball to all games. Otherwise teams are able to use their own balls for offense, if submitted to officials in due time.

Field Markings:
To be done as diagram enclosed. Full NCAA markings preferred end zones shall be 10yds deep. If the field must be shortened then adjust field from the center (midfield must be at least 45 yards from each end zone. Goalposts must be on the end line and padded.

Equipment and personal:
Down marker and chain set (10 yards only) to be of good condition. Game organizer has to supply 3 persons 16 years or older at least 20 minutes before the kick-off.

Ball persons:

Game organizer has to supply 2 persons 16 years or older at least 20 minutes before the kick-off.

Uniform colors:
Teams have to wear completely contrasting colored shirts. Uniform colours for all group games at tournament are decided on technical meeting.

Changing rooms:
Teams and game officials are to have separate changing rooms, game officials changing room to be adequate in size for at least 6 officials, team changing rooms to be adequate for 45 players. One (1) changing room must be available for anti-doping testing.

Game management to assist game officials at the game:
-Medical facilities to meet minimum requirements reported to the referee at least 30 minutes before kick-off:

a) A qualified medical doctor – assigned by the LOC - must be present at the game all times
b) An ambulance crew must not be the sole medical personnel present; if the ambulance should leave it should be replaced within the shortest time possible.
c) A first aid kit including a suitable (preferably inflatable) set of limb splints must be available.
d) Medical doctor to be named on the roster form

If the above-mentioned requirements are not reached, then the game will be suspended.

Statistics
Full statistics is required in all qualification and final tournament games including Scoring Summary, Participation report, Box Score, Game Summary, Team Statistics, Individual Statistics, Drive Chart, Defensive Statistics and play-by play as according to IFAF statistics guidelines.

Head coaches report form:
This is to be given to EFAF tournament committee latest at the identity check prior to the game.

Video:
Game video to be sent to EFAF chairman of officiating within 7 days of the game, this video is for assessment of the officials only.

Guidelines for Video/camera person:

- Camera to be running throughout the game, even on penalty administrations and injuries.

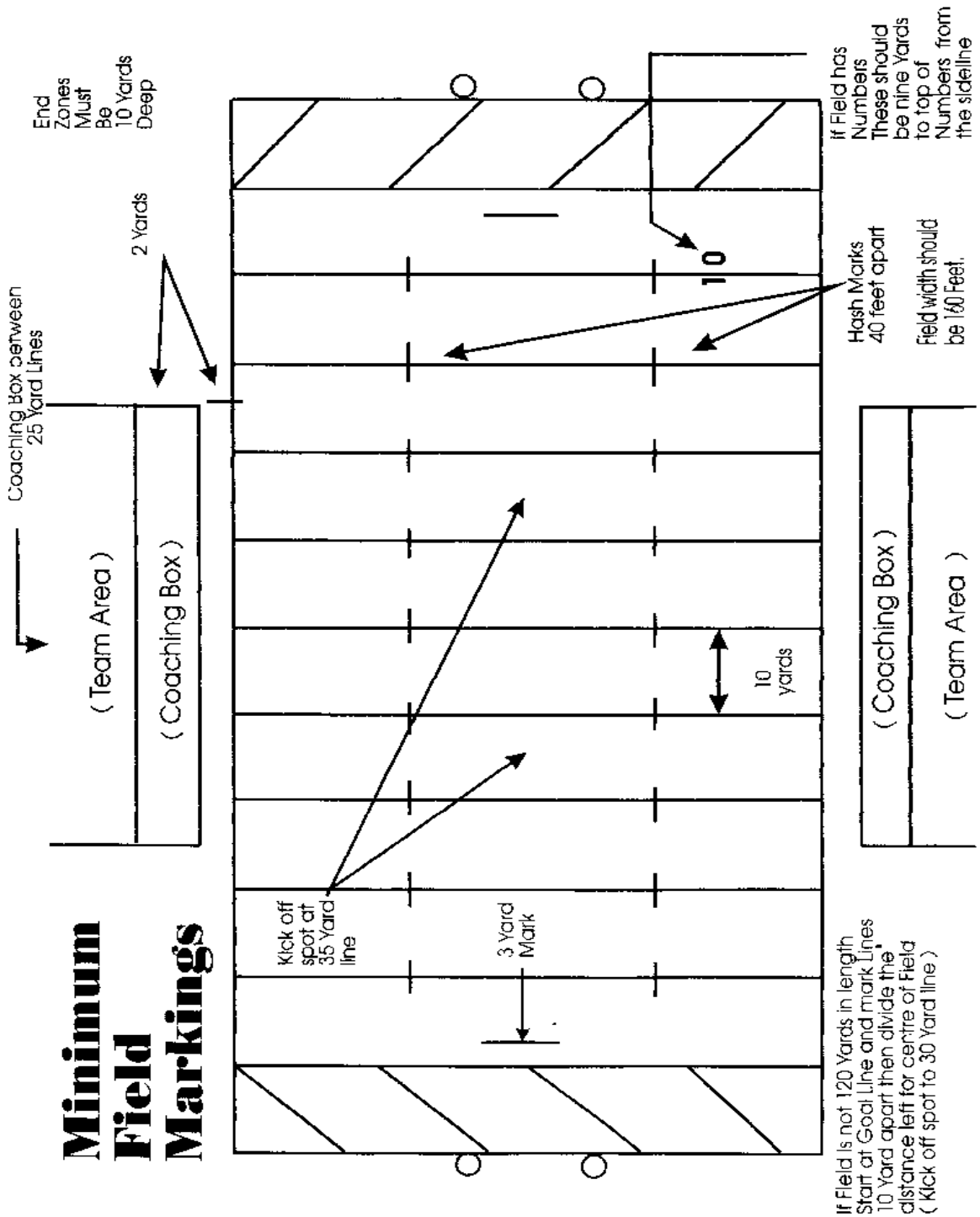
§13 Arena and field

EFAF may refuse to permit games to be played in arenas which do not measure up to international standards, by which it means that the ground must be in good condition as to both the playing surface and the facilities. The stadium must conform to the security prescriptions of the competent civil authorities. The National Federations/Associations taking part in the EFAF competition must

ensure that the stadium they use undergoes a periodic safety check. The games can be played in daytime or evening but then, only on grounds equipped with appropriate floodlights.

In order to guarantee the safety of the players and the game officials, the Game organizer shall provide for an access to the field ensuring safe entry and exit.

The official representatives of EFAF and at least four representatives of the visiting team and its National Federation/Association shall be seated in the best category seats. An adequate number of complimentary and paying seats, to be fixed by mutual agreement, shall be reserved for the visiting club.


Minimum Field Markings
End Zones Must Be 10 Yards Deep
2 Yards
Coaching Box between 25 Yard Lines
(Team Area)
(Coaching Box)
Kick off spot at 35 Yard line
3 Yard Mark
10 yards
10
If Field has Numbers These should be nine Yards to top of Numbers from the sideline
Hash Marks 40 feet apart
Field width should be 160 Feet.
(Coaching Box)
(Team Area)
If Field is not 120 Yards in length Start at Goal Line and mark Lines 10 Yard apart then divide the distance left for centre of Field (Kick off spot to 30 Yard line)

§14 Unfitness of grounds

If the National Federations/Associations/ home team concerned considers the ground unfit for play, they are responsible to have the ground inspected by an EFAF official, if the ground is deemed unfit the host team shall inform the visiting team and the referees prior to their departure, otherwise the home team shall be responsible for their traveling, accommodation and subsistence expenses. If any doubt arises as to the fitness of the ground after the visiting team's departure from home, the head-referee shall determine at the ground itself whether or not it is fit for play.

If the ground is subsequently deemed unfit, all attempts should be made to secure an alternative suitable venue or the game shall be played on the following day unless reasons beyond control impede such a game taking place. If the game cannot take place, the traveling, accommodation and subsistence expenses of the visiting team, as well as the costs of the organizer, shall be divided between the two teams in equal parts.

In the event that the game does not take place it shall be rescheduled in accordance with the qualification schedule or the result shall be decided by the flip of a coin. The same provisions apply if the game is abandoned for the same reasons.

The head game official can interrupt a game before the expiration of the statutory playing time or during overtime because of reasons of Force Majeure. The TC can abandon a game before the expiration of the statutory playing time or during overtime due to Force Majeure. His decision is final and the game will end with the existing score of points.

§15 Game officials

The EFAF chairman of Officiating shall designate a head referees from neutral countries. Additionally, three officials from each country shall be appointed. One shall be appointed as a substitute head-referee. Games will not be officiated by officials from playing countries, unless determined necessary by tournament committee.

Each participating national federation/association is to provide 3 officials to and from the tournament location and cover their cost of traveling and 3 meals per day.

If the head-referee, before or during the game, becomes unfit and is unable to continue to officiate, he shall be replaced by the substitute head referee.

Official uniforms have to be in good condition and shall only have the EFAF logo attached to them. All other logos/advertisement will be removed before the game/tournament.

The game officials report form shall be signed by the head coaches and the game management in charge of the teams. After the game the Head Referee shall complete the official game report form, sign it and forward it to EFAF director of officiating at the tournament.

The report shall include as much information as possible about all occurrences before, during and after the game, such as:

a) misconduct of the players, leading to reprimands or expulsion
b) Unsportsmanlike behavior of officials, members, supporters and of any person fulfilling a duty on behalf of a team or organizer
c) Any other noticed incidents

§16 Anti-doping regulations

EFAF (IFAF) anti-doping regulations are in effect during final tournaments.

§17 Disciplinary measures

EFAF disciplinary regulations are in effect during final tournaments.

§18 Protests and Appeals

EFAF protest and appeal regulations are in effect during final tournaments.

§19 Advertisement

Advertisement on the player uniforms shall be permitted on the following terms.

a) Only the name of the sponsor, or his trademark, shall be accepted as advertisement. The original color of the uniform shall be clearly visible and the advertisement shall not have an offensive design nor color.
b) EFAF shall have the right to place an advertisement/tournament logo on the left arm of the participating teams' uniform for tournament sponsor. EFAF will notify the teams not later than two months prior to the starts of qualification and final tournaments whether EFAF shall use this right.
c) Publicity affixed on Game officials is the property of EFAF.
d) The EFAF has an exclusive right to 10 meters of arena signs in each end zone and one free page in the official game program in all the games of the tournament. This right has to be notified to the organizer of the game or hosting team not later than the two months prior to the start of qualification and final tournaments whether EFAF shall use this right.
e) At all games in final tournaments the logo of EFAF and continental representative shall be visible to the spectators in the stadium

If in any country there are more restrictive advertisement regulations, or a complete prohibition of publicity, these shall supersede these regulations.

Violations of this regulation may lead to an imposition of a fine of no more than 5.000 euros. EFAF hereby waives and disclaims all responsibilities arising from disputes between organizer and third party.

§20 Television and publishing issues

a) EFAF is the exclusive holder of television, radio, Internet and other broadcast rights, irrespective, as well as any other use and distribution by whatever audio-visual and sound broadcasting media.

b) Provided that the principle laid down mentioned in §1 is observed and that the bodies mentioned above give their consent, EFAF agrees to the transmission of the games by television (closed circuit & cassettes included), internet, sound broadcast and cinema for the tournament games.

   All games, which shall be transmitted by television, closed circuit, Internet, broadcast by radio stations or shot by film producers, shall be covered by a written contract. EFAF is entitled to be informed of the contents of such contract

c) If the said broadcasting transmission or reproduction are intended for another country, the holder of the right as defined above may grant authorization only on condition that it has first obtained the consent of the National Federation/Association of the receiving country.

d) Since the original television broadcast and relays of the games of this tournament should not compete with other football games being played in the country of origin of the game and in the countries where the broadcast is relayed respectively, teams, national federations/associations and their affiliated organizations are obliged to include in all their contract for the assignment and use of TV rights the wording of §20 in these regulations. The National Federations/Associations concerned are responsible for the observation of these provisions.

e) EFAF recommends the participating National Federations/Associations to exchange videotapes from the tournament games.

f) Each home team shall record the qualification game and forward a copy to EFAF chairman of Officiating within two weeks of the game.

Violation of §20 leads to a fine up to 10.000 euros. Except for Section f) which leads to a fine of 500 euros.

§21 Media matters

The commitments and responsibility of national Federation/Associations towards the media are to provide information, news and access to players and coaches, while protecting the game and the players. If rules relating to the media are not observed, the matter may be submitted to the TC for a possible fine.

Each partipating CDM will act as press officer to coordinate media matters in cooperation with his team, EFAF press officer and other CDMs.

Access to practise
In practise sessions, they must be open to media representatives (TV, radio, written press, website journalists and photographers) for at least 15 minutes. LOC, together with the teams CDM or, if appointed, the EFAF Media Officer, is responsible for ensuring that the stadium is clear of media after 15 minutes and that all cameras are turned off.

Press conferences
Post-game press conference at game venue must start no later than 20 minutes after the final whistle. LOC is responsible for providing interpreter and any technical facilities necessary for press. Both teams are obliged to make their team head coach, as well as two (2) players available for this press conference. Press conference will start with the losing team head coach and players.

§22 Force majeure

EFAF has the right to make decisions in all matters concerned in the tournament if the circumstances are unforeseen and has not been provided in these regulations.

Such decisions shall not be subject to appeal.

§23 Sanctions

These tournament regulations were adopted by the EFAF Board of Directors on July 1, 2009.