

IFA Juridical Regulations 2019

According to § 19 of the IFA Statutes the Board of Directors enforces the following Juridical Regulations:

1. Object

This Juridical Regulations describe infringements of the rules in IFA regulations, determine the sanctions incurred, regulate the organisation and function of the bodies responsible for taking decisions and the procedures to be followed before these bodies.

2. Scope of application: substantive law

This Juridical Regulations apply to every match and competition organised by IFA. Beyond this scope, it also applies if a match official is harmed and, more generally, if the statutory objectives of IFA are breached, especially with regard to forgery and corruption. It also applies to any breach of IFA regulations that does not fall under the jurisdiction of any other body.

3. Scope of application: natural and legal persons

The following are subject to this code:

- a) IFA Member Federations;
- b) members of an IFA Member Federations, in particular the clubs;
- c) officials;
- d) players;
- e) match officials (e.g. Technical Delegates);
- f) anyone with an authorisation from IFA, in particular with regard to a match, competition or other event organised by IFA;
- g) spectators.

4. Culpability

Unless otherwise specified, infringements are punishable regardless of whether they have been committed deliberately or negligently.

5. Acts amounting to attempt

Acts amounting to attempt are also punishable.

In the case of acts amounting to attempt, the body may reduce the sanction envisaged for the actual infringement accordingly.



6. Involvement

Anyone who intentionally takes part in committing an infringement, either as instigator or accomplice, is also punishable.

The body will take account of the degree of guilt of the party involved and may reduce the sanction accordingly.

7. Sanctions common to natural and legal persons

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

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

8. Sanctions applicable to natural persons

The following sanctions are applicable only to natural persons:

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

9. Sanctions applicable to legal persons

The following sanctions are applicable only to legal persons:

- a) annulment of the result of a match;
- b) expulsion;
- c) forfeit;
- d) replay of a match;
- e) deduction of points.

10. Warning

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

11. Reprimand

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

12. Fine

A fine is issued in Euro (€). The fine shall not be less than € 100 and not more than € 1.000.

The body that imposes the fine decides the terms and time limits for payment.

13. Return of awards

The person required to return an award shall return the benefits received, in particular symbolic objects (medal, trophy etc.).

14. Match suspension

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

An official who is suspended is automatically banned from the dressing rooms.

The suspension is imposed in terms of matches, days or months. It may not exceed twelve months.

If a player/delegation member receives two yellow cards in two different games for his team within a tournament, he is automatically suspended for the next game. Single yellow cards are to be cancelled before the semi-finals.

If a player/delegation member receives a red card, that player/delegation member will be automatically suspended for the next game. In addition, further sanctions may be imposed by the IFA Jury.

15. Ban from dressing rooms and/or substitutes' bench

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

16. Stadium ban

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

17. Ban on taking part in any fistball-related activity

A person may be banned from taking part in any kind of fistball-related activity (administrative, sports or any other).

18. Annulment of the result of a match

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

19. Expulsion from a competition

Expulsion is the deprivation of the right of an association or a club to take part in the current and/or a future competition.

20. Forfeit

A team sanctioned with a forfeit is considered to have lost the match by the highest possible amount of sets -0 sets.

21. Replay of a match

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

22. Deduction of points

An association or club may have points deducted from those already attained in the current or a future championship.

23. Sanctions in general

The body pronouncing the sanction decides the scope and duration of it.

Sanctions may be limited to a geographical area or to one or more specific categories of match or competition.

Unless otherwise specified, the duration of a sanction is always defined.

The body shall take account of all relevant factors in the case and the degree of the offender's guilt when imposing the sanction.

The sanctions may be combined.

Section II Misbehaviour

24. Offensive behaviour and fair play

Anyone who insults someone in any way, especially by using offensive gestures or language, or who violates the principles of fair play or whose behaviour is unsporting in any other way may be subject to sanctions in accordance with art. 10 ff.

25. Discrimination

Anyone who offends the dignity of a person or group of persons through contemptuous, discriminatory or denigratory words or actions concerning race, colour, language, religion or origin shall be suspended for at least five matches. Furthermore, a stadium ban and a fine of at least € 500 shall be imposed. If the perpetrator is an official, the fine shall be at least € 700.

26. Threats

Anyone who intimidates a match official with serious threats will be sanctioned with a fine of at least € 300 and a match suspension.

27. Coercion

Anyone who uses violence or threats to pressure a match official into taking certain action or to hinder him in any other way from acting freely will be sanctioned with a fine of at least € 500 and a match suspension.

28. Forgery and falsification

Anyone who, in fistball-related activities, forges a document, falsifies an authentic document or uses a forged or falsified document to deceive in legal relations will be sanctioned with a fine.

If the perpetrator is a player, a suspension of at least five matches will be pronounced.

If the perpetrator is an official a ban on taking part in any fistball-related activity for a period of at least twelve months will be pronounced.

An association or club may be held liable for an infringement committed by one of its officials and/or players. In such a case, an expulsion from a competition may be pronounced in addition to a fine for the association or club concerned.

29. Corruption

Anyone who offers, promises or grants an unjustified advantage to a body of IFA, a match official, a player or an official on behalf of himself or a third party in an attempt to incite it or him to violate the regulations of IFA will be sanctioned:

- a) with a fine of at least € 500,
- b) with a ban on taking part in any fistball-related activity, and
- c) with a ban on entering any stadium.

Passive corruption (soliciting, being promised or accepting an unjustified advantage) will be sanctioned in the same manner.

In serious cases and in the case of repetition, the sanction may be pronounced for life.

In any case, the body will order the confiscation of the assets involved in committing the infringement. These assets will be used for fistball development program.

Section III Proceedings and juridical bodies

30. Proceedings in general

The language of proceedings is English.

As a general rule, there are no oral statements and the juridical bodies decide on the basis of the file. At the request of one of the parties, the body may arrange for oral statements to be heard, to which all the parties shall be summoned.

The members of the judicial bodies shall ensure that everything disclosed to them during the course of their duty remains confidential (facts of the case, contents of the deliberations and decisions taken). Only the contents of those decisions already notified to the addressees may be made public.

Except in the case of gross culpability, neither the members of the judicial bodies of IFA nor the secretariat may be made liable for any deeds or omissions relating to any disciplinary procedure.

31. Right to be heard

The parties shall be heard before any decision is passed.

They may, in particular:

- a) refer to the file;
- b) present their argument in fact and in law;
- c) request production of proof;

- d) be involved in the production of proof;
- e) obtain a reasoned decision.

32. Proof

Any type of proof may be produced.

Proof that violates human dignity or obviously does not serve to establish relevant facts shall be rejected.

The following are, in particular, admissible: reports from referees, match officials, declarations from the parties and witnesses, material evidence, expert opinions and audio or video recordings.

33. Evaluation of proof

The bodies will have absolute discretion regarding proof.

They may, in particular, take account of the parties' attitudes during proceedings, especially the manner in which they cooperate with the judicial bodies.

They decide on the basis of their personal convictions.

34. Match officials' reports

Facts contained in match officials' reports are presumed to be accurate.

Proof of the inaccuracy of the contents of these reports may be provided.

If there is any discrepancy in the reports from the various match officials and there are no means of resolving the different versions of the facts, the referee's report is considered authoritative regarding incidents that occurred on the field of play.

35. Representation and assistance

The parties may arrange to have legal representation.

If they are not required to appear personally, they may be represented.

The parties are free to choose their own representation and legal representation.

36. Composition and power of the Jury

For every IFA competition the Board of Directors appoints a Jury in due time.

Every IFA Jury has a President and a Vice President. The Vice President replaces the President when he is prevented from carrying out his functions.

The President of the Jury shall be the IFA Technical Delegate, the Vice President shall be the Competition Manager for the respective competition.

The President appoints three Judges to a Tribunal who should adjudicate the case. The President may be part of the Tribunal. Judges from countries whose Fistball Associations are involved directly or indirectly or are interested in the result of the case are not eligible for the Tribunal. An appointed Judge shall inform the President of the Jury of his own accord, when his independence can be questioned.

The Jury is entitled to decide on matters brought to it within the jurisdiction of a competition.

37. Proceedings of a Jury case

Appeals or requests to the Jury should be sent in written to the President of the Jury.

Appeals or requests to the Jury can be made by every

- a) IFA Member Federations;
- b) members of an IFA Member Federations, in particular the clubs;
- c) officials;
- d) players;
- e) the members of the IFA Board of Directors.

A request or appeal shall include a request for relief, a brief stating the facts and legal arguments and all exhibits and specifications as well as details of witnesses and experts.

One of the Judges in the Tribunal is its' Chairman. If the President of the Jury participates in the Tribunal, he is the Chairman. Otherwise the Chairman of the Tribunal is appointed by the President of the Jury.

The Chairman of the Tribunal is responsible for the guidance of the procedure.

The Chairman of the Tribunal forwards the documents to the respondent and informs the parties about the three nominated Judges.

The procedure before the Tribunal comprises written submissions and, if the Tribunal deems it appropriate, an oral hearing. As a general rule, there shall be one statement of claims or appeal and one response.

Any Association directly affected by a matter under consideration at a Jury meeting shall be entitled to be present with one person at that meeting but shall not be entitled to speak or vote in the decision making process. These Associations are no parties referring to point 7 (appeals).

The issues which have been referred to the Tribunal shall be concluded in a Decision.

The Decision shall be rendered by a majority, or in the absence of a majority, by the Chairman of the Tribunal alone. It shall be written, dated and signed. The signature of the Chairman shall suffice. The Decision shall state brief reasons.

The Decision shall be communicated to the parties and the IFA Secretary General immediately.

As a general rule, each party shall bear its own costs, including the costs of its counsels, witnesses, experts and interpreters. The Tribunal may determine that one Party shall bear the costs of the other party and the costs of the Tribunal.

For all decisions taken by the Jury there is the possibility to appeal.

38. Composition and power of the IFA Court

IFA establishes an IFA Court as a body with the right of decision inside the IFA organisation. The IFA Court is entitled to decide on matters brought to it in accordance with the IFA Statutes, Rules and Regulations.

The IFA Court has a President and a Vice President appointed by the IFA Board of Directors. The President of the IFA Court shall be a Lawyer.

The Vice President replaces the President when he is prevented from carrying out his functions.

The President appoints three Judges to a Tribunal who should adjudicate the case. The President may be part of the Tribunal. Judges from countries whose Fistball Associations are involved directly or indirectly or are interested in the result of the case are not eligible for the Tribunal. An appointed Judge shall inform the President of the Jury of his own accord, when his independence can be questioned.

39. Proceedings of an IFA Court case

Appeals or requests to the IFA Court should be sent to the IFA Secretary General.

Requests to the IFA Court can be made by every

- f) IFA Member Federation;
- g) members of an IFA Member Federation, in particular the clubs;
- h) officials;
- i) players;
- j) the members of the IFA Board of Directors.

Appeals to the IFA Court can only be made by a party of a Jury case within 15 days after the Decision.

A request or appeal shall include a request for relief, a brief stating the facts and legal arguments and all exhibits and specifications as well as details of witnesses and experts.

Anyone wishing to lodge an appeal shall transfer an appeal fee of € 100 to IFA's bank account before expiry of the time limit for submitting the reasons for appeal.

One of the Judges in the Tribunal is its' Chairman. If the President of the Jury participates in the Tribunal, he is the Chairman. Otherwise the Chairman of the Tribunal is appointed by the President of the Jury.

The Chairman of the Tribunal is responsible for the guidance of the procedure.

The Chairman of the Tribunal forwards the documents to the respondent and informs the parties about the three nominated Judges.

The procedure before the Tribunal comprises written submissions and, if the Tribunal deems it appropriate, an oral hearing. As a general rule, there shall be one statement of claims or appeal and one response.

The issues which have been referred to the Tribunal shall be concluded in a Decision.

The Decision shall be rendered by a majority, or in the absence of a majority, by the Chairman of the Tribunal alone. It shall be written, dated and signed. The signature of the Chairman shall suffice. The Decision shall state brief reasons.

The Decision shall be communicated to the parties and the IFA Secretary General immediately.

As a general rule, each party shall bear its own costs, including the costs of its counsels, witnesses, experts and interpreters. The Tribunal may determine that one Party shall bear the costs of the other party and the costs of the Tribunal.

If there is a possibility to appeal, it should be stated in the Decision.

In cases of an appeal against an IFA Jury Decision the Decision of the IFA Court shall be final.

Nevertheless IFA acknowledges in all legal duties especially in matters of Statues, misbehaviour and Anti-Doping issues as final institution solidly the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) in Lausanne (Suisse) and the „Code of Sports-related Arbitration“.

40. Composition and power of the IFA Court of Appeal

IFA establishes an IFA Court of Appeal as a body with the right of decision inside the IFA organisation. The IFA Court of Appeal is entitled to decide on all appeals against Decisions of the IFA Court.

The IFA Court of Appeal has a President and a Vice President appointed by the IFA Board of Directors. The President of the IFA Court shall be a lawyer.

The Vice President replaces the President in case he is prevented from carrying out his functions.

The President appoints three Judges to a Tribunal who should adjudicate the case. The President may be part of the Tribunal. Judges from countries whose Fistball Associations are involved directly or indirectly or are interested in the result of the case are not eligible for the Tribunal. An appointed Judge shall inform the President of the Jury of his own accord, when his independence can be questioned.

41. Proceedings of a IFA Court of Appeal case

Appeals to the IFA Court of Appeal should be sent to the IFA Secretary General.

Appeals to the IFA Court of Appeal can only be made by a party of an IFA Court case within 15 days after the Decision.

Anyone wishing to lodge an appeal shall transfer an appeal fee of € 100 to IFA's bank account before expiry of the time limit for submitting the reasons for appeal.

An appeal shall include a request for relief, a brief stating the facts and legal arguments and all exhibits and specifications as well as details of witnesses and experts.

One of the Judges in the Tribunal is its Chairman. If the President of the Jury participates in the Tribunal, he is the Chairman. Otherwise the Chairman of the Tribunal is appointed by the President of the Jury.

The Chairman of the Tribunal is responsible for the guidance of the procedure.

The Chairman of the Tribunal forwards the documents to the respondent and informs the parties about the three nominated Judges.

The procedure before the Tribunal comprises written submissions and, if the Tribunal deems it appropriate, an oral hearing. As a general rule, there shall be one statement of claims or appeal and one response.

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As a general rule, each party shall bear its own costs, including the costs of its counsels, witnesses, experts and interpreters. The Tribunal may determine that one Party shall bear the costs of the other party and the costs of the Tribunal.

The Decision of the IFA Court of Appeal shall be final.

Nevertheless IFA acknowledges in all legal duties especially in matters of Statues, misbehaviour and Anti-Doping issues as final institution solidly the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) in Lausanne (Suisse) and the „Code of Sports-related Arbitration“.

Approved by the IFA Board of Directors dated 2 February 2019.