

2026 REGULATIONS



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ORGANIZERS

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

President: Victor Montagliani
General Secretary: Philippe Moggio
Address: 161 NW 6th Street, Suite #1100 Miami, Florida 33136 USA
Telephone: +1 305 704 3232
Website: www.concacaf.com





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GENERAL PROVISIONS

1. NAME OF COMPETITION

- 1.1.** The official name of the tournament is the Concacaf Central American Cup (hereinafter: the "Competition"). Concacaf (as defined herein), at its sole discretion, may change the official name of the Competition and include a title or presenting sponsor in the official name and/or the official marks. The Competition is played every year.
- 1.2.** The Competition is an official tournament of The Confederation of North, Central America and Caribbean Association Football (hereinafter: "Concacaf").
- 1.3.** The Competition consists of four (4) rounds (each, hereinafter: a "Round"):
 - 1.3.1.** Group Stage
 - 1.3.2.** Quarterfinals
 - 1.3.3.** Semifinals & Play-In
 - 1.3.4.** Finals
 - 1.3.5.** When referring to all four (4) stages: the Competition.
- 1.4.** Each of Concacaf's Central American Member Associations (hereinafter: the "Associations") may enter a certain number of club teams for the Competition in accordance with the qualification process, as defined by Concacaf and described herein, 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 this Competition. These rights include, but are not limited to, all 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 and trademark law. Any rights relating to the Competition that these Regulations (as defined herein) do not specifically grant to a Participating Club (as defined herein) or Association shall belong to Concacaf.
- 1.6.** This Competition will also serve as the qualifying tournament for the 2027 Concacaf Champions Cup.
- 1.7.** These Competition regulations (hereinafter: the "Regulations") govern the rights, duties, and responsibilities of all participating in the Competition. These Regulations, Technical



Guide (as defined herein), Concacaf Statutes, and all other Concacaf rules, regulations, circulars, directives, and decisions in force shall apply and are binding for all participating Associations, officials, players, and their respective club teams and for all persons involved in the preparation, organization, and hosting of the Competition.

2. SCHEDULE

- Official Draw and Workshop: May 26-27, 2026
- Group Stage Week 1: July 28-30, 2026
- Group Stage Week 2: August 4-6, 2026
- Group Stage Week 3: August 11-13, 2026
- Group Stage Week 4: August 18-20, 2026
- Group Stage Week 5: August 25-27, 2026
- Quarterfinals: September 8-10, 15-17, 2026
- Semifinals & Play-In: October 20-22, 27-29, 2026
- Finals: December 02 & 06 2026

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 forming the pairings.

3.1.3. Determining the match schedule and kick-off times for the Competition.

3.1.4. Setting the dates and approving the venues of the matches during the Competition.

3.1.5. Appointing Venue Coordinators, Match Coordinators, Match Commissioners, Security Officers, Referees, Referee Assessors, Disciplinary Committee Members, and any other delegates (collectively, hereinafter: the "Competition Officials") for the Competition.

3.1.6. Daily per-diem and international traveling expenses for the Competition Officials.

3.1.7. Approving the choice of the WADA-accredited laboratory that shall perform doping analyses.

3.1.8. Deciding which matches shall be subject to doping tests.



- 3.1.9.** Informing the Disciplinary Committee of any breach of any applicable regulations for appropriate action.
 - 3.1.10.** Replacing clubs that have withdrawn from the Competition and on the basis on which such a replacement occurs.
 - 3.1.11.** Settling cases of force majeure.
 - 3.1.12.** Selecting the official match ball and the stipulated technical material.
 - 3.1.13.** Organizing and coordinating the post-match award ceremony immediately following the 2nd leg match of the Final Round.
 - 3.1.14.** Dealing with any other aspect of the Competition that is not the responsibility of any other body under the terms of these Regulations.
- 3.2.** The decisions taken by Concacaf are final, 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 club that qualifies for the Competition and executes a TPA (as defined herein) (hereinafter: a "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: the "Team Delegation Members"), and of any person carrying out duties on its behalf in 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 in accordance with the amounts established in Appendix 3 of the Concacaf Disciplinary Code, except in unforeseen



circumstances and cases of force majeure, as determined by the Concacaf Disciplinary Committee in its sole discretion.

- 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 (hereinafter: "MCM"), at the predesignated time and location.
 - 4.1.7.** Allowing Concacaf to use its marks for the promotion of the Competition and allow the Competition sponsors to use its marks in a collective form only, for the sole purpose of promoting the Competition as per the Concacaf commercial regulations (hereinafter: the "Commercial Regulations"), as attached hereto.
 - 4.1.8.** Collaborating and supporting Concacaf with the promotions and activations of Competition sponsors as per the Commercial Regulations.
- 4.2** Each Participating Club that is a home club (each, hereinafter: a "Home Club" or similarly, a "Home Team") shall be responsible throughout the Competition for:
- 4.2.1.** Providing a stadium that meets the criteria established by Concacaf.
 - 4.2.2.** Ensuring that the stadium is made completely available on one (1) day immediately prior to the match (hereinafter: "MD-1") and two (2) days immediately prior to the match (hereinafter "MD-2") for the Final Round, for sole use by Concacaf delegation, 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 a training field that is similar in size and surface type for use on MD-1 if the stadium is unavailable due to weather issues.
 - 4.2.4.** Providing for the local transportation of the designated Competition Officials upon arrival and until departure for all official functions.
 - 4.2.5.** Providing single rooms in the local hotel (including breakfast and internet) for the designated Competition Officials.
 - 4.2.6.** Reserving and providing the necessary rooms and/or equipment for the Team Arrival Meeting (hereinafter: "TAM") and MCM.
 - 4.2.7.** Providing all local information as may be reasonably requested by their visiting opponent in accordance with the schedule determined by Concacaf.
 - 4.2.8.** Recommending hotels to the Away Team and advising which hotel is being used by the Competition Officials to avoid conflict.



- 4.2.9.** Providing all water and isotonic beverages as detailed by Concacaf in the Concacaf club competitions' technical guide (hereinafter: the "Technical Guide"), as attached hereto.
- 4.2.10.** Obtaining insurance for the training fields.
- 4.2.11.** Ensuring that the match pitch is available for the Team's official training session.
- 4.2.12.** Obtaining and maintaining all music licenses from performers' rights organizations and other relevant owners, in addition to all other necessary clearances, permits, and authorizations to all music, tracks and songs played in-stadium, at their sole expense.
- 4.2.13.** Providing security escorts for all the official movements for both Clubs and the Competition Officials.
- 4.2.14.** Providing a team liaison who will be responsible for and available to the Away Team throughout their stay and must:
 - 4.2.14.1** Speak the language of the team.
 - 4.2.14.2** Meet the team upon arrival at the airport and accompany them to all trainings and the match.
 - 4.2.14.3** Assist the team with special requests, such as arranging special menus.
 - 4.2.14.4** Arranging the transportation to and from the MCM for the Team Delegation Members.
 - 4.2.14.5** Make certain that the team locker room is cleaned and ready with the required provisions as per the Technical Guide.
 - 4.2.14.6** Confirm the seating arrangements for the Away Team VIPs as outlined.
 - 4.2.14.7** Any additional reasonable requests for the locker room on match day by the Away Club (as defined herein) and/or Concacaf.
- 4.2.15.** Providing the match tickets as detailed in the Commercial Regulations, by no later than MD -2.
- 4.2.16.** Guaranteeing law and order as well as safety in the stadium in collaboration with the relevant authorities as established in Concacaf's safety and security guidelines (hereinafter: the "Safety and Security Guidelines"), attached hereto.
- 4.2.17.** Providing a segregated safe section for the Away Club's supporters.
- 4.2.18.** Undertaking and arranging adequate liability insurance coverage with respect to the stadium in which the match is to be held and adding Concacaf and the Competition's marks as an "Additional Insured" party in the policy and providing Concacaf with a copy of such policy prior to the Home Club's first match in the Competition.



- 4.2.19.** Providing an office at the stadium with a dedicated wireless internet connection for the Competition Officials.
 - 4.2.20.** Providing a dedicated wireless internet connection for the Competition Officials at the fourth official bench.
 - 4.2.21.** Providing at least twelve (12) practice balls and at least twenty (20) bibs, ten (10) each of two (2) colors, to the Away Team to utilize for their official practice on MD-1 and for the pre-match warmup, if requested by the Away Team prior to traveling to venue.
 - 4.2.22.** Providing for a minimum of twelve (12) ball kids for each match who are fourteen (14) years of age or older.
 - 4.2.23.** If the case of hosting the Final of the Competition, assisting and cooperating with Concacaf to coordinate the arrangements for the post-match awards presentation on the pitch immediately following the second leg Final.
 - 4.2.24.** Covering all costs associated with this section 4.2.
- 4.3** Each Participating Club that is the away club (each, hereinafter: an "Away Club" or similarly, an "Away Team") shall be responsible throughout the Competition for:
- 4.3.1.** Arriving at the venue's host city no later than twenty-four (24) hours before the scheduled match to properly conduct the pre-match Competition activities and fulfill media obligations as required in the Concacaf media and marketing regulations (hereinafter: the "Media Regulations"), as attached hereto.
 - 4.3.1.1.** This requirement shall also apply to any Home Club which is hosting a home match at a neutral venue.
 - 4.3.2.** Providing for their own international and local travel, transport, and any costs incurred in obtaining visas.
 - 4.3.3.** Providing their own hotel accommodations and meal expenses.
 - 4.3.4.** Providing airport taxes, laundry costs, and customary tips.
 - 4.3.5.** Having a cell phone during away matches that has the capacity to make and receive phone calls while abroad.
 - 4.3.6.** Making any reasonable and timely requests for guidance, information, and/or assistance from the Home Club.
 - 4.3.7.** Advising the Home Club of any special travel or accommodation requests, no later than seven (7) days prior to the match.
 - 4.3.8.** Advising the Home Club of any special requests such as a training field, transportation needs, beverages for training, etc. no later than seven (7) days prior to the match.



- 4.3.9.** Advising the Home Club of the approximate number of supporters who will be attending and if they are aware of any problematic supporters who might attend or try to access the stadium.
 - 4.3.10.** Traveling with a minimum of eighteen (18 players) from the approved 23-Player Roster for any match.
 - 4.3.11.** Covering all costs associated with this section 4.3, unless otherwise agreed by the Home Club.
- 4.4** Participating Clubs and their Team Delegation Members 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 and the Technical Guide).
 - 4.4.3.** All decisions and directives of the Concacaf Council.
 - 4.4.4.** The FIFA Code of Ethics.
 - 4.4.5.** The FIFA Doping Control Regulations.
 - 4.4.6.** All Concacaf protocols during matches and their enforcement (e.g, Concacaf anti-discrimination protocol for 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 Media 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 first match of the Competition, statistics, players photographs, stadium information, aerial photographs, and any additional information as requested to assist in the promotion of the Competition.
 - 4.4.11.** Fielding only eligible players. Failure to do so shall lead to the sanctions stipulated in the Disciplinary Code (as defined herein).
- 4.5** Participating Clubs shall take all necessary actions for their Team Delegation Members 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 or Concacaf and must cooperate fully with Concacaf at all times in efforts to prevent, investigate, and sanction any such behavior.



- 4.7** Each Participating Club 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 and each Regional Cup shall be agreed upon between Concacaf and each Association(s) in question. Each club that meets the criteria described in this section 5 shall be a qualified club to the Competition (hereinafter: a "Qualified Club").

5.1.1 Belize's qualification criteria:

5.1.1.1 Seasonal Champion of the Premier League of Belize (PLB) which has accumulated the most amount of points in the Opening or Closing tournaments.

5.1.1.2 If one or more clubs are tied on total points in the regular season, then the domestic league tiebreaker criteria shall apply to qualify the club to the Competition.

5.1.2 Costa Rica's qualification criteria:

5.1.2.1 2025 Apertura Champion of the Liga Primera Division.

5.1.2.2 2026 Clausura Champion of the Liga Primera Division.

5.1.2.3 Non-Champion which has accumulated the most amount of points in the 2025 Apertura and 2026 Clausura tournaments.

5.1.2.4 Non-Champion which has accumulated the second most amount of points in the 2025 Apertura and 2026 Clausura tournaments

5.1.2.5 If the same club wins both the Apertura and Clausura tournaments: The two non-champion clubs which have accumulated the most amount of points in the Apertura and Clausura tournaments will qualify to the Competition.

5.1.2.6 If one or more clubs are tied on total points in the regular season, then the domestic league tiebreaker criteria shall apply to qualify the club to the Competition.

5.1.3 El Salvador's qualification criteria:

5.1.3.1 2025 Apertura Champion of Primera División de Fútbol de El Salvador.

5.1.3.2 2026 Clausura Champion of Primera División de Fútbol de El Salvador.

5.1.3.3 Non-Champion which has accumulated the most amount of points in the 2025 Apertura and 2026 Clausura tournaments.



- 5.1.3.4** If the same club wins both the Apertura and Clausura tournaments: The two non-champion clubs which have accumulated the most amount of points in the Apertura and Clausura tournaments will qualify to the Competition.
- 5.1.3.5** If one or more clubs are tied on total points in the regular season, then the domestic league tiebreaker criteria shall apply to qualify the club to the Competition.
- 5.1.4** Guatemala's qualification criteria:
- 5.1.4.1** 2025 Apertura Champion of Liga Nacional de Futbol de Guatemala.
- 5.1.4.2** 2025 Apertura Runner-up of Liga Nacional de Futbol de Guatemala.
- 5.1.4.3** 2026 Clausura Champion of Liga Nacional de Futbol de Guatemala.
- 5.1.4.4** 2026 Clausura Runner-up of Liga Nacional de Futbol de Guatemala.
- 5.1.4.5** If the Champion club and Runner-Up club are the same from the 2025 Apertura and 2026 Clausura tournaments; then the 2 non-Champion clubs which have accumulated the most amount of points in the both tournaments will qualify to the Competition.
- 5.1.4.6** If the same club wins both 2025 Apertura and 2026 Clausura tournament and there are different Runners-Up: The non-champion club which have accumulated the most amount of points in both tournaments will qualify to the Competition.
- 5.1.4.7** If different clubs win the 2025 Apertura and 2026 Clausura tournaments and same club is the Runner-Up: The non-champion club which have accumulated the most amount of points in both tournaments will qualify to the Competition.
- 5.1.4.8** If one or more clubs are tied on total points in the regular season, then the domestic league tiebreaker criteria shall apply to qualify the club to the Competition.
- 5.1.5** Honduras' qualification criteria:
- 5.1.5.1.** 2025 Apertura Champion of Liga de Honduras.
- 5.1.5.2.** 2026 Clausura Champion of Liga de Honduras.
- 5.1.5.3.** Non-Champion which has accumulated the most amount of points in the 2025 Apertura and 2026 Clausura tournaments.
- 5.1.5.4.** If the same club wins both the Apertura and Clausura tournaments: The two non-champion clubs which have accumulated the most amount of points in the Apertura and Clausura tournaments will qualify to the Competition.



5.1.5.5. If one or more clubs are tied on total points in the regular season, then the domestic league tiebreaker criteria shall apply to qualify the club to the Competition.

5.1.6 Nicaragua's qualification criteria:

5.1.6.1 2025 Apertura Champion of Liga Primera de Nicaragua.

5.1.6.2 2026 Clausura Champion of Liga Primera de Nicaragua.

5.1.6.3 In the event that the same club wins both tournaments (Apertura 2025 and Clausura 2026):

5.1.6.3.1 If the runner-up of the 2025 Apertura Tournament is the same as the runner-up of the 2026 Clausura Tournament, that club will be designated as the second representative.

5.1.6.3.2 If the runner-ups of the Apertura Tournament and the Clausura Tournament are different, the second representative will be the club that, between the two runner-ups, has obtained the highest number of accumulated points in the overall season standings.

5.1.6.4 If one or more clubs are tied on total points in the regular season, then the domestic league tiebreaker criteria shall apply to qualify the club to the Competition.

5.1.7 Panama's qualification criteria:

5.1.7.1 2025 Clausura Champion of Liga Panameña de Fútbol.

5.1.7.2 2026 Clausura Champion of Liga Panameña de Fútbol.

5.1.7.3 Non-Champion which has accumulated the most amount of points in the 2025 Clausura and 2026 Clausura tournaments.

5.1.7.4 If the same club wins both Clausuras tournaments: The two non-champion clubs which have accumulated the most amount of points in both Clausuras tournaments will qualify to the Competition.

5.1.7.5 If one or more clubs are tied on total points in the regular season, then the domestic league tiebreaker criteria shall apply to qualify the club to the Competition.

5.2 In the event of any disagreement in establishing or applying the entry criteria, Concacaf shall determine and apply the entry criteria at its sole discretion.



- 5.3** As a matter of principle, each club shall earn the right to be entered into the Competition by its respective Association through:
- 5.3.1** Fair play and sporting merit.
 - 5.3.2** Compliance with its Association's regional club licensing requirements.
 - 5.3.3** Financial good standing with its Association and Concacaf.
 - 5.3.4** In the event of a disagreement establishing the entry criteria, Concacaf shall determine and apply the entry criteria at its sole discretion.
- 5.4** Qualified Clubs must submit:
- 5.4.1** The signed team participation agreement (hereinafter: "TPA") by the date specified by Concacaf, at which point they shall be officially registered for the Competition.
 - 5.4.2** All other documents required by the dates specified, as per Concacaf.
- 5.5** Upon entering the Competition each Participating Club agrees:
- 5.5.1** To play in the Competition until its elimination.
 - 5.5.2** To ensure that its league schedule does not conflict with the Competition's dates and times, as determined and approved by Concacaf.
 - 5.5.3** To field its strongest team throughout the Competition.
 - 5.5.4** To ensure that its home venue meets the criteria established in sections 13 and 15 of these Regulations.
 - 5.5.5** To play all scheduled matches on dates and times, as determined by Concacaf, and set forth in accordance with these Regulations.
 - 5.5.6** To provide Concacaf with any requirements defined in these Regulations.
 - 5.5.7** To take all necessary actions for its Team Delegation Members 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, all anti-discrimination stipulations, and all marketing and media requirements.
 - 5.5.8** To refrain from any illegal, immoral, or unethical behavior that damages, or could damage, the integrity and reputation of football and/or Concacaf and must cooperate fully with Concacaf always, in its efforts to prevent, investigate, and sanction such behavior.



5.5.9 That the Participating Club itself as well as its Team Delegation Members recognize the jurisdiction of the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS), as defined by the Concacaf Statutes and FIFA Statutes.

5.6 The Competition's Champion:

5.6.1 Does not gain automatic entry to the next edition of the Competition.

5.6.2 Will qualify to the 2027 Concacaf Champions Cup Round of 16.

5.6.3 The runner-up, losing semifinalists and the Play-In Winners will qualify to the 2027 Concacaf Champions Cup Round One.

6. LAWS OF THE GAME

6.1 All matches shall be played in accordance with International Football Association Board's (hereinafter: "IFAB") the Laws of the Game (hereinafter: the "Laws of the Game") in force at the time of the Competition. 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 a Qualified Club(s) into the Competition, or such Qualified Club(s) are unable to meet the criteria established in these Regulations (considered “non-entry”), then Concacaf shall decide, at its sole discretion, the course of action in relation to the vacant spot(s) in the Competition. The same shall also apply to cases in which an Association and/or a Qualified Club are not in good standing with Concacaf or a Qualified 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(s) from a different Association(s).
 - 7.1.3** Leaving a space vacant and granting a “bye” to its opponent(s).
- 7.2** Once having entered the Competition, Participating Clubs shall meet all obligations, including but not limited to, participating in all matches of the Competition. Failure to participate in any match may be considered by Concacaf, at its sole discretion, as a withdrawal from the Competition. A withdrawal may have a serious impact on the integrity of the Competition, and as such, the penalties as specified below shall apply, except in cases of force majeure or unforeseen circumstances deemed acceptable by Concacaf in its sole discretion.
- 7.3** The following fines shall apply if a Qualified Club withdraws from the Competition:
- 7.3.1** After signing the TPA and up to seven (7) days prior to the draw: A fine of fifteen thousand U.S. dollars (USD 15,000).
 - 7.3.2** From seven (7) days prior to the draw and up to the first match of the Competition: A fine of thirty thousand U.S. dollars (USD 30,000).
 - 7.3.3** From the first match of the Competition and up to the first match of the Quarterfinal: A fine of sixty thousand U.S. dollars (USD 60,000).
 - 7.3.4** Any time after the first match of the Quarterfinal: A fine of one hundred thousand U.S. dollars (USD 100,000).
- 7.4** Failure to play or complete any one particular match does not release a team from its obligation to play in other matches as scheduled in the Competition. All cases shall 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, in its sole discretion, a Qualified Club that withdraws during any Round of the Competition:
- 7.5.1** May be ordered to reimburse the opposing club(s) and/or Concacaf any expenses that such opposing club(s) and/or Concacaf 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** Shall be disqualified from taking part in the next two editions of the Competition.
 - 7.5.4** Shall be referred to the Disciplinary Committee for additional sanctions.
- 7.6** The Association of any penalized club shall be responsible for ensuring that specified sanctions are fully enforced.
- 7.7** Failure of the Competition's champion to participate in the 2027 Concacaf Champions Cup will result in a fine of will result in a fine of USD 100.000 payable to Concacaf.
- 7.8** No appeal may be made 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 (including but not limited to, the pitch is not fit for play, weather conditions, floodlight failure, etc.), the following procedures must be followed:
- 7.9.1** The match shall first be delayed for a minimum of thirty (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 thirty (30) minutes shall be allowed if in their opinion this extra period of delay shall allow the match to commence.
 - 7.9.3** If the match cannot commence at the end of this second thirty (30)-minute period, the Referee shall declare the match to have been cancelled.
 - 7.9.4** In the case of a cancelled match, Concacaf shall 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 shall be considered abandoned. Play shall recommence the immediately following day at the point where it was stopped and played to completion, thus



avoiding considerable extra expenses for the Away Club. If it is still impossible to complete the match the immediately following day for the same reasons, Concacaf shall determine how and when the match shall be completed. The expenses thus incurred by the Away Club shall be divided equally between the two Participating Clubs.

7.10 The following principles shall apply to the recommencement of the match:

- 7.10.1** The match shall recommence with the same players on the pitch and substitutes available as when the match was 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 only make 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 immediately following day), and location shall be decided by Concacaf in consultation with the Participating Clubs.
- 7.10.7** Any matters requiring further attention shall be decided by Concacaf in its sole discretion.

8. REPLACEMENTS

- 8.1** If any Qualified Club withdraws or is excluded from the Competition, the Concacaf Council shall decide whether to replace such Qualified Club with another club.

9. ELIGIBILITY OF PLAYERS

- 9.1** A player who is elected to represent his club in the Competition shall comply with all Concacaf statutory requirements for eligibility of players.
- 9.2** Protests regarding the eligibility of players shall be decided by the Disciplinary Committee in accordance with the Disciplinary Code.
- 9.3** The Participating Club shall be responsible for fielding only eligible players. Failure to do so shall lead to the consequences stipulated in the 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 Round 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 shall 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 more points may be awarded, depending on the result of the match. This incident shall be submitted to the Disciplinary Committee for further review.

10. PLAYERS' LISTS

10.1 Competition Roster:

- 10.1.1** Each Participating Club shall provide its thirty-five (35)-player roster to Concacaf no later than fourteen (14) days prior to the first match of the Competition (hereinafter: the "Competition Roster"). This Competition Roster is binding and shall contain the names of no less than eighteen (18) players and no more than thirty-five (35) players.
- 10.1.2** If the Competition Roster does not include the maximum thirty-five (35) players, then additional players may be added provided the maximum of thirty-five (35) players is not exceeded.
- 10.1.3** Each Participating Club shall provide their twenty-three (23)-player final match roster (with a minimum of eighteen (18) players), selected from their approved Competition Roster, to Concacaf no later than forty-four (44) hours prior to each match kick-off (hereinafter: the "23-Player Roster").
- 10.1.4** A player registered on a Participating Club's Roster cannot be deleted, regardless of the reason.
- 10.1.5** Each Participating Club shall include at least three (3) goalkeepers on their Competition Roster, of which a minimum of two (2) goalkeepers shall be listed on the 23-Player Roster.
- 10.1.6** If both goalkeepers on the 23-Player Roster suffer long-term injuries or illness, then the Participating Club may replace the goalkeeper in question with a goalkeeper at any time during the Competition from the Competition Roster. An injury or illness is considered long-term if it incapacitates the goalie for longer than thirty-five (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 Competition Roster, shall be permitted as a replacement.



- 10.1.7** All Rosters and Team Delegation Members must be approved by the Participating Club's Association prior to being sent to Concacaf.
- 10.2** Once a player has had active time on the pitch for a Participating Club in the Competition, that player may not be registered for any other Participating Club during the same edition of the Competition.
- 10.3** All players shall be registered with the Participating Club and the appropriate Association and eligible to play in any league match for the current playing season per the FIFA transfer deadlines in each Association.
- 10.4** All players shall have a legal and valid government issued identification containing a photograph and giving full details on the player's date of birth (day, month, and year).

11. START LISTS AND SUBSTITUTES ON THE BENCH

- 11.1** Up to twenty-three (23) players may be entered on the Start List (11 starters and 12 substitutes) (hereinafter: the "Start List"). Up to a maximum of five (5) substitutes may take the place of the selected players at any time during the match. The Start List shall be signed by the head coach of the Participating Club upon arrival to the stadium on match day and no later than ninety (90) minutes prior to such match.
- 11.2** Upon arrival at the stadium and no later than ninety (90) minutes prior to any match, a representative from each team must submit its Start List to the Venue Coordinator or other authorized Concacaf official and should also have the documentation listed in section 10.4 for verification if needed. Any player without the relevant documentation may be deemed ineligible to play. Each team shall receive a copy of the opposing team's Start List seventy-five (75) minutes prior to kick-off.
- 11.3** After the Start Lists have been completed, signed by the head coach, and returned to the Venue Coordinator, and if the match has not yet kicked off, the following instructions shall apply:
- 11.3.1** If any of the starting eleven (11) players listed on the Start List are not able to start the match for any reason, they may be replaced by any of the twelve (12) substitutes on the Start List. The replaced player(s) may no longer participate in the match, and as such, the quota of substitute players shall be reduced accordingly. During the match, five (5) players may still be substituted.
- 11.3.2** If any of the twelve (12) substitutes listed on the Start List are not able to be fielded for any reason, such substitute may not be replaced on the bench by an additional player, and as such, that the quota of substitutes shall be reduced accordingly. During the match, five (5) players may still be substituted.



- 11.4** If a starting player sustains a serious injury or is so ill that he can no longer be expected to play, he may be replaced prior to pre-match protocol, without penalty, by an eligible substitute from the Start List, but shall be listed as injured on the Start List and shall be ineligible to play the match.
- 11.5** Although no longer eligible to play as a substitute, the injured or ill player who was removed from the Start List may be seated on the substitutes' bench, and if so, would then also be eligible for doping control selection.
- 11.6** A maximum of twenty-one (21) people (twelve (12) substitute players and nine (9) club delegates) are permitted on the substitutes' bench. The club delegates shall have their names and functions indicated on the official form provided by Concacaf prior to the match. Note: suspended Team Delegation Members are not permitted to sit on the substitutes' bench.
- 11.7** Up to nine (9) club delegates of each Participating Club shall be allowed on the substitute bench for each match. Of the nine (9) club delegates, the following positions are mandatory: Head Coach, Assistant Coach and two (2) members of the Medical Staff, which can be: Doctor, Medical Assistant and/or Physiotherapist, Physician or Athletic Trainer/Therapist. If the Head Coach is serving a suspension, the Participating Club shall designate an Assistant Coach registered in the Competition as the acting Head Coach on the substitute bench.
- 11.8** If one of the club delegates is sent off prior to the start of the match, the Participating Club shall not be allowed to add another club delegate to the substitute bench.

12. FORMAT AND STRUCTURE OF THE COMPETITION

- 12.1** Matches in the Competition, with the exception of the second Final, shall be evening matches and played on either Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday, as decided by Concacaf.
- 12.2** The second Leg Final shall be played on the weekend (Saturday or Sunday) as decided by Concacaf.
- 12.3** Participating Clubs agree to play at their home stadiums, which must be approved by Concacaf, and must ensure that their league schedule does not conflict with the dates and times, as decided by Concacaf.
- 12.4** As previously mentioned, The Competition will consist of four (4) rounds:
- 12.4.1** Group Stage



12.4.2 Quarterfinals**12.4.3** Semifinals & Play-In**12.4.4** Finals

12.5 The Group Stage round shall consist of four (4) groups of five (5) teams. Each Team will play two (2) home and two (2) away matches per team with three (3) points awarded for a win, one (1) point awarded for a tie, and zero (0) points awarded for a defeat. The winner and runner-up from each group will advance to the Quarterfinals.

12.6 The Quarterfinals rounds will consist of a home and away series with the winners of the Quarterfinals advancing to the Semifinals and the losing quarterfinalists advancing to the Play-In round.

12.7 The Play-In round will consist of a home and away series with the winners qualifying to the 2027 Concacaf Champions Cup Round One.

12.8 The Semifinals round will consist of a home and away series with the winners advancing to the Finals Round.

12.9 The Finals round will consist of home and away series with the winners being crowned champions.

12.10 Format

12.10.1 Teams shall be awarded three (3) points for every match they win and one (1) point for every match they tie. No points shall be awarded for matches lost.

12.10.2 However, three (3) points shall not be granted to a team that wins during extra time or the penalty shootout, but rather points shall be based on the results obtained in regular time of both first (1st) and second (2nd) leg matches.

12.10.3 The winners and runners-up of each group will advance to the Quarterfinals (QF).

12.10.3.1 The four (4) group stage winners will be ranked 1-4 based on point standings from the Group Stage.

12.10.3.2 The four (4) group stage runners-up will be ranked 5-8 based on point standings from the Group Stage.

12.10.3.3 The higher ranked club in each pairing will host the 2nd leg match in the Quarterfinals.



12.10.3.4 The Teams will be paired as follows:

- 12.10.3.4.1** QF1: Team 1 vs Team 8
- 12.10.3.4.2** QF2: Team 4 vs Team 5
- 12.10.3.4.3** QF3: Team 2 vs Team 7
- 12.10.3.4.4** QF4: Team 3 vs Team 6

12.10.4 The losing clubs from each QF series will advance to the Play-In round.

- Play-In 1: Loser QF1 vs Loser QF2
- Play-In 2: Loser QF3 vs Loser QF4

12.10.5 The winning clubs from each QF series will advance to the Semifinals.

- SF1: Winner QF1 vs Winner QF2
- SF2: Winner QF3 vs. Winner QF4

12.10.6 The winners of each SF series will advance to the Finals.

- Finals: Winner SF1 vs Winner SF2

12.11 Tie-Breaking Procedures for the Group Stage:

12.11.1 At the conclusion of each group in the Group Stage, clubs shall be ranked according to the following criteria:

- 12.11.1.1** Greatest number of points obtained in all group matches.
- 12.11.1.2** Goal difference in all group matches.
- 12.11.1.3** Greatest number of goals scored in all group matches.
- 12.11.1.4** If two (2) or more teams are equal on the basis of the above criteria, their rankings shall be determined as follows:
 - 12.11.1.4.1** Greater number of points obtained in matches between the tied teams.
 - 12.11.1.4.2** Greater goal difference in matches between the tied teams (if more than two (2) teams finish equal on points).
 - 12.11.1.4.3** Greater number of goals scored in matches among the tied teams (if more than two (2) teams finish equal on points).



- 12.11.1.4.4** The lowest number of points based on the number of yellow and red cards in all group matches is considered according to the following additions

Card	Points
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

- 12.11.1.4.5** Highest-Concacaf Club Ranking position immediately after the round is completed.

- 12.11.1.4.6** Drawing of lots by Concacaf.

12.11.2 Quarterfinals, Semifinals, Play-In and Finals:

- 12.11.2.1** If the aggregate goals between the two teams are equal at the end of regulation time of the 2nd leg match, the tie-breaker criteria will be determined as follows:

- 12.11.2.1.1** Greater number of away goals scored in regulation time in the two matches.

- 12.11.2.1.2** If still tied, there will be two (2) periods of fifteen (15) minutes of extra time with a five-minute break between the end of regular time and start of extra time. As a rule, the players will remain on the field of play during this five-minute break, at the discretion of the referee.

- 12.11.2.1.3** Away goals will not serve as a tie-breaking criteria during the extra time periods.

- 12.11.2.1.4** If the result is still tied after the 2nd period of extra-time, then kicks from the penalty spot procedure will take place as per the IFAB Laws of the Game

- 12.11.2.1.5** A sixth substitution will be allowed in extra time.

12.12 Determining the 2nd leg hosts per round:

- 12.12.1** Quarterfinals: The group winners will host the 2nd leg match in the Quarterfinals.



12.12.2 Semifinals and Play-in: The highest ranked clubs, based on total points accumulated in the Group stage and the Quarterfinals will host the 2nd leg matches of the Semifinals and Play-in matches respectively.

12.12.3 Finals: The highest ranked club based on total points accumulated in The Competition, will host the 2nd leg Final. The below criteria will be used in deciding the ranking of the clubs, having in mind all Group Stage, Quarterfinals and Semifinals matches.

12.12.4 Teams will be awarded three (3) points for every match they win and one (1) point for every match they tie. No points will be awarded for matches lost. Additionally, it should be noted that three (3) points will not be granted to the team that wins during extra time or the penalty shootout but rather will be based on the results obtained in regular time of both 1st and 2nd leg matches. To determine the ranking of the clubs the following tie-breaker criteria will apply:

12.12.4.1. Most points awarded.

12.12.4.2. Best goal difference.

12.12.4.3. Most goal scored.

12.12.4.4. Most away goals scored.

12.12.4.5. Most wins

12.12.4.6. Most away wins

12.12.4.7. The lowest number of points accumulated is based on the number of yellow and red cards per match according to the following parameters:

Card	Points
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

12.12.4.8. Highest-Concacaf Club Ranking position immediately after the round is completed

12.12.4.9. Drawing of lots by Concacaf.



13. VENUES, KICK-OFF TIMES AND TRAININGS SESSIONS

- 13.1** Each Club shall be responsible for the inspection of the venue(s) that resides within its territories, and which will be utilized for this Competition. This inspection must be completed no later than ninety (90) days prior to the first match 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 and the latest version of the Concacaf stadium guidelines (hereinafter: the "Stadium Guidelines"), as attached hereto. Each Participating Club shall ensure and attest to Concacaf that its stadium meets the aforementioned requirements and standards no later than sixty (60) days prior to the first match of the Competition.
- 13.3** Lighting:
- 13.3.1** The field of play shall comply with the illumination requirements as per the Technical Guide and the latest Stadium Guidelines.
- 13.3.2** The floodlights must be fully turned on at least seventy-five (75) minutes prior to kick-off or at sunset, whichever comes first.
- 13.3.3** Participating Clubs must ensure that floodlighting installations are properly maintained and provide Concacaf with a valid lighting certificate issued within the previous six (6) months. Concacaf may conduct an independent assessment of lighting levels in any stadium and shall notify the Participating Clubs with reasonable advanced notice of the results of such assessments and of any required updates.
- 13.3.4** Matches played at night shall only be played at stadiums in which the floodlighting installations meet Concacaf's minimum lighting requirements, i.e. that the whole pitch shall be evenly lit, with a required lighting level of at least 1,000 lux (or as otherwise specified for this Competition). An emergency power generator shall also be available which, in the event of a power failure, which guarantees at least two-thirds of the before mentioned intensity of light for the whole pitch and has sufficient light for the safe egress of those in attendance. Concacaf reserves the right to grant exceptions on a case-by-case basis.
- 13.4** The training field must be the same size and type (artificial or natural pitch) as the match field and shall be subject to approval by Concacaf. The training field shall only be utilized if the teams are unable to conduct their official practice at the stadium due to severe weather or unless such training would, in the view of the Referee, Match Commissioner, or other Concacaf delegates, cause excessive damage to the playing surface.



- 13.5** If the Away Club cannot train on the match field, the Home Club shall advise the reasons why the field is not available, allow the Away Club to do a walk-through around the field to familiarize themselves with the stadium, and make available a field of comparable quality and surface at no additional 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 first (1st) half and 45'-90' in the second (2nd) half) and they are stopped at the end of normal playing time after each half.
- 13.7** Each Home Club shall open stadium doors to spectators a minimum of two (2) hours prior to scheduled kick-off time.
- 13.8** Official Training:
- 13.8.1** Weather permitting and considering the condition and/or preservation of the pitch, both teams shall be allowed to train for no longer than one (1) hour for their official practice at the stadium on MD-1.
- 13.8.2** The Away Team shall be given preference on the time they schedule to train on MD-1. If floodlighting is required for training, then it must be provided by the Home Club at no additional charge to the Away Team.
- 13.8.3** If the match is to be played on an artificial pitch, then the Away Team shall be permitted to train for no longer than two (2) hours.
- 13.8.4** Participating Clubs shall inform Concacaf of their official training time no later than seven (7) days prior the match.
- 13.8.5** The Match Officials shall also be allowed a one (1)-hour training session on MD-1 at the stadium.
- 13.8.6** If either club chooses not to train at the stadium or to conduct a training on MD-1, such club shall inform the Venue Coordinator and Concacaf headquarters in order to coordinate their media obligations at least forty-eight (48) hours prior.
- 13.8.7** For the Finals, Participating Clubs shall hold an official training session in the match stadium and these sessions shall be open to the media for fifteen (15) minutes.
- 13.8.8** All official trainings must end at least twenty-two (22) hours prior to the scheduled kick-off time.



14. STADIUM AVAILABILITY

- 14.1** The Home Club shall make the stadium exclusively available to Concacaf starting MD-2 to conduct walk-throughs, install signage, branding, and to conduct any other activity reasonably requested. If an alternative stadium is used, Concacaf shall request the Home Club provide verification of compliance from the ownership of such alternative stadium ensuring its availability.
- 14.2** Stadiums shall be made available MD-1 to the Away Team and Match Officials for the purposes of training.

15. STADIUM INFRASTRUCTURE AND EQUIPMENT

- 15.1** Each Participating Club shall be responsible to ensure that their home stadium and its facilities comply with the standards of safety and security required for international matches, including venue staffing levels as per the Stadium Guidelines. The Fields of Play, facilities, and accessory equipment shall be in optimum conditions and shall comply with the provisions stipulated in the Laws of the Game and all other applicable regulations.
- 15.2** Concacaf shall conduct stadium inspections:
- 15.2.1** If deemed necessary by Concacaf before or during the Competition.
- 15.2.2** No later than forty-five (45) days prior to the first match of any Round in the Competition for a stadium that will act as an alternative stadium for the participant's home stadium, after initial inspections have already been conducted.
- 15.2.3** If an alternative stadium must be utilized after inspections of the home stadium has already been completed, at any time after the first match of the Competition, and the cost of the inspection shall be charged to the Home Club and/or the Association who requested this stadium change.
- 15.2.4** If a secondary or a follow-up inspection is required, the cost of the additional inspection(s) shall be charged to the Home Club.
- 15.3** Home Stadium:
- 15.3.1** The home stadium selected by the Participating Club should be the stadium used by the Home Club for its home matches.



- 15.3.2** The stadium shall be made available for the exclusive use of football and no other events shall take place at such stadium for at least five (5) days prior to the match.
- 15.3.3** In the event that the Home Club's stadium does not meet the minimum criteria established in these Regulations and other applicable regulations, the Home Club shall be required to make all reasonable efforts, to meet such standards, at its sole cost and expense.
- 15.3.4** If, after exhausting all reasonable efforts, the Home Club's home stadium does not meet the minimum criteria, then the Participating Club shall be permitted to select an alternative stadium, which is subject to approval by Concacaf, provided such alternative stadium is located within the same country.
- 15.3.5** Any Home Club permitted or required, under the terms of these Regulations, to play a home match in an alternative stadium, shall do so at its sole cost and expense.
- 15.3.6** If no alternative stadium is available, then the Home Club shall forfeit their entry into the Competition and Concacaf shall decide on a replacement club, at its sole discretion.
- 15.3.7** Once a Home Club confirms their home stadium through the TPA, that stadium is considered to be their sole home stadium for all applicable matches in Competition. Should the stadium be alternated for any match, and the Away Club and/or Concacaf incur financial costs related to such alternative stadium, the Home Club shall be responsible for those costs for the Away Club and/or Concacaf.
- 15.4** Field Surface and Condition:
- 15.4.1** The matches of the Competition may be played on natural or artificial surfaces.
- 15.4.2** If an artificial pitch is used, the Home Club shall provide to Concacaf with a valid FIFA licensing certificate which meets the requirements of the FIFA Quality Program for football turf no later than thirty (30) days prior to the first match of the Competition. This certification may be either FIFA Quality or FIFA Quality Pro and must be valid for the entirety of the Competition.
- 15.4.3** Each Participating Club shall guarantee that the match and training field(s) chosen for the Competition are of international standards, comply with the Laws of the Game and shall be subject to Concacaf approval.
- 15.4.4** Home Clubs shall comply with Concacaf's match day pitch watering guidelines as described in the Technical Guide and/or the Stadium Guidelines.
- 15.4.5** If the Home Club considers the pitch unfit for play, Concacaf shall be informed immediately, as well as the Away Club and the Competition Officials prior to their departure to the host city. If the Home Club fails to give proper notice, it



shall be responsible for all expenses incurred for travel, board, and lodging of the affected parties.

- 15.4.6** If the Home Club considers the pitch unfit for play, and prior to the match kick-off time the Home Club is not able to rectify the pitch in accordance with the Laws of the Game, the Home Club shall forfeit the match. The victory, a score of 3-0, and the resulting three (3) points shall be awarded to the Away Club. The matter shall also be referred to the Disciplinary Committee for appropriate action.
- 15.4.7** If there is any doubt regarding the condition of the pitch once the Away Club and/or the Competition Officials have already departed for the host city, the Referee shall decide whether the pitch is playable or not.
- 15.4.8** Each stadium must have sufficient space to allow the substitutes to warm up during the match, in accordance with the Technical Guide and the Stadium Guidelines.

15.5 Stadium Signage and Audio/Visual Branding:

- 15.5.1** Each stadium shall 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 Commercial Regulations. These "exclusive areas" should be provided to Concacaf on both MD-1 and match day.
- 15.5.2** 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. This is further explained in the Commercial Regulations.
- 15.5.3** No commercial messages, other than those approved by Concacaf, may be read over the public-address system pre-, during, and post- match. This is further explained in the Commercial Regulations.
- 15.5.4** Concacaf does not allow any violent, offensive, or discriminatory banners to be displayed inside or surrounding the stadium. Any violation shall result in a review by the Disciplinary Committee for potential fines or other sanctions.
- 15.5.5** If the stadium has a stadium video screen, message boards, LED boards, or any other similar digital medium, these shall be exclusively reserved for Concacaf on MD-1 and match day. Using these assets by the Participating Club or any third party shall need Concacaf's approval in writing. Except for the board operator expenses, the use of such digital mediums shall be provided to Concacaf at no additional cost. This is further explained in the Commercial Regulations.
- 15.5.6** Each Home Club shall provide a public-address announcer and scoreboard operator to serve in Concacaf's direction during each match. This is further explained in the Commercial Regulations.



15.6 Stadium Security:

- 15.6.1** For each match, the Home Club shall be responsible for developing a security plan which shall provide for the safety of all participants including Home Club, Away Club, Concacaf staff, Competition Officials, and Team Delegation Members from the arrival into the stadium up to and including departure. The plan shall 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 for any bags they brought into the stadium.
- 15.6.2** This security plan shall be provided to Concacaf no later than ten (10) days prior to the match.
- 15.6.3** Home Clubs will also ensure the ability to manage any controlled zones including areas reserved for each Participating Club, Competition Officials, Team Delegation Members, guests, staff, media, and any other groups, as directed by Concacaf.
- 15.6.4** Concacaf shall require the home stadium to implement the Competition's credentialing system which shall focus on the Competition areas; tunnel, pitch, locker rooms, the broadcasting areas, and the media areas. All other areas may be covered by the Home Club's credentialing system.
- 15.6.5** Concacaf reserves the right to require additional security to be provided, at its own discretion, and Participating Club agree to provide such cooperation as may be required at its sole cost.
- 15.6.6** The Home Club and its Association may be subject to disciplinary measures if appropriate security arrangements are not provided. Sanctions may include fines and/or suspensions.
- 15.6.7** No smoke or any flammable items are permitted inside the stadium.
- 15.6.8** All host stadiums in the Competition shall be smoke free.
- 15.6.9** All beverages served inside the stadium (excluding bottles of water or isotonic beverages to be used by the teams during the match) shall be served in open containers (without tops). No glass nor aluminum containers shall be allowed inside the stadium.

16. TEAM EQUIPMENT

- 16.1** The Participating Clubs shall comply with the current FIFA Equipment Regulations. The display of political, religious, personal messages, or slogans in any language or form by Team Delegation Members on their playing or team international uniforms, 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 suspension and/or fines, based on the severity of the violation. The similar display of commercial messages and slogans in any language or form by Team Delegation Members 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 shall be referred to the Disciplinary Committee.

16.2 Players Uniform:

16.2.1 Each Participating Club shall provide Concacaf with a minimum of two (2) field player international uniforms (shirt, shorts, and socks) of different and contrasting colors from each other and from its official and reserve international uniform (one (1) predominately dark and one (1) predominately light) for all matches, within the timeframe in the Competition's Equipment Updates and International Kits Circular. In addition, each Participating Club shall have three (3) goalkeeper international uniforms which must be both distinctly different and contrasting colors from each other, as well as different and contrasting colors from the official and reserve international uniforms.

16.2.2 Each Participating Club shall have an international uniform, which should have the right arm sleeve free from sponsors and partners, to be used exclusively for the Competition. All infractions shall be referred to the Disciplinary Committee.

16.2.3 Each international uniform is subject to Concacaf's final written approval.

16.2.4 If any of the Concacaf approved uniforms kits are changed in any way after approval through the Participating Club's participation in the Competition, it shall again be subject to Concacaf's final written approval.

16.2.5 Concacaf shall inform the Participating Clubs of the international uniforms that they shall wear no later than seven (7) days prior to each match.

16.2.6 Each Participating Club shall travel with:

16.2.6.1 Both kits of field player and goalie international uniforms.

16.2.6.2 A field player international uniform, for each set, without a number in the event of damage to the primary uniform.

16.2.6.3 In addition to all the above, each Participating Club shall travel with a set of goalkeeper international uniforms 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 international uniforms shall be provided in the same colors as the regular goalkeeper shirts.

16.2.7 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 shall be the same as the uniform, or the same color that extends the border of the uniform.

- 16.2.8** If the referee determines that the colors utilized by the teams could lead to confusion, the referee may decide, in consultation with other Concacaf delegates onsite, to issue a change. In this case, the Home Team shall be required to change if the Away Team's second kit does not resolve the issue.

16.3 Team kit approval procedures:

- 16.3.1** Each Participating Club shall provide Concacaf with exact samples, with numbers, of the following equipment, no later than the Competition's team workshop:

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

16.3.1.2 Official and reserve goalkeeper kit (shirts, shorts, and 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 23-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 shall be displayed on the back of the shirt and on the front of the shorts in accordance with the FIFA Equipment Regulations. The numbers on the shirt shall 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 International team uniforms may include any sponsor advertising as is regularly displayed on the uniform for domestic league matches.

16.6.2 Notwithstanding the foregoing, the advertising of tobacco, distilled spirits, weapons, or adult oriented material and 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 in effect in the local jurisdiction.

- 16.7** The official Competition sleeve patches shall be provided by Concacaf and affixed on the right arm sleeve of each shirt. A different Concacaf campaign logo may be affixed on the left arm sleeve. If the champion from the immediately preceding edition of the Competition qualifies for this edition, they will be required to wear the Champions patch centered on the front of their shirt.
- 16.8** Concacaf shall provide official captains armbands for each team to wear during each match of the Competition.
- 16.9** Warm-Up Bibs:
- 16.9.1** Only Concacaf provided warm-up bibs shall be used during official training sessions held at the stadium and for the warm-up of players during the match.
 - 16.9.2** The bibs used by each team shall be in contrasting colors to their uniform color and the opposing team's uniforms and bibs.
 - 16.9.3** The colors of the bibs used for each match shall be decided by Concacaf and communicated to the teams prior to their departure to the venue.
- 16.10** Throughout the Competition, all items such as kit bags, medical bags, drink containers, etc., shall be free of any sponsor advertising and/or manufacturer identification, unless approved by Concacaf in writing. This shall also apply to:
- 16.10.1** Any official training session(s) prior to the match.
 - 16.10.2** Any media activities (in particular for interviews, press conferences, and appearances in the mixed zone) prior to and post-match.
 - 16.10.3** The day of the match from arrival at the stadium until departure from the stadium.
- 16.11** Other Equipment:
- 16.11.1** 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 it relates directly to the welfare and safety of the players.
 - 16.11.2** Team Delegation Members that shall reside on the bench during the match shall either wear colors that contrast with the colors of the bibs and uniforms worn by the players to provide a clear distinction between player and staff.



17. FOOTBALLS

- 17.1** The footballs used in the Competition shall be selected and exclusively supplied by Concacaf. The footballs shall conform to the provisions of the Laws of the Game and the FIFA Equipment Regulations. They shall 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 any Participating Club.
- 17.2** Prior to the Competition, each Participating Club shall receive balls from Concacaf to be used for training and for each match of the Competition. Only these balls provided by Concacaf may be used during training and each match of the Competition.
- 17.3** Concacaf shall supply sixty (60) Competition official match balls (OMB). None of the sixty (60) OMB can be marked in any way and these OMB be used only for training and each match of the Competition. Eighteen (18) OMB shall be separated to be used exclusively in the matches of the Competition and should not be used before such match. This is further explained in the Technical Guide.

18. TICKETING

- 18.1** If a stadium with both seating and standing areas are available, the standing space shall remain vacant.
- 18.2** At least five percent (5%) of the total stadium capacity shall be available exclusively for supporters of the Away Club in a secure, segregated area of the stadium.
- 18.3** Pitch-side seating is not permitted, and all non-permanently fixed seating is subject to Concacaf's prior written approval.
- 18.4** The Away Club shall be provided one (1) suite for their visiting delegation and shall be provided a minimum of thirty (30) "class A" tickets in an area that affords protection to the visiting delegation.
- 18.5** The Home Club shall provide the Venue Coordinator with a minimum of twenty (20) "class A" tickets to be used as contingency.

19. TROPHIES, AWARDS, AND MEDALS

- 19.1** The Competition's champion shall be entitled to be referred to as the "Concacaf Central American Champion."



- 19.2** The champion shall be presented by Concacaf with an exact replica of the Competition's trophy for its permanent possession and shall also receive fifty (50) gold medals.
- 19.3** The runner-up shall receive fifty (50) silver medals.
- 19.4** Referees for the Final match shall receive commemorative medals.
- 19.5** Additional medals may be produced upon request, and at the cost of the requesting Participating Club.
- 19.6** Separate trophies shall be given to individual award winners:
- 19.6.1** Fair Play Trophy:
- The team with the best Fair Play performance (hereinafter: "Fair Play Award"). The Fair Play Award shall be awarded to the team, which has shown the best sporting spirit and fair play during the Competition, as determined by Concacaf.
- 19.6.2** Golden Boot:
- The "Golden Boot" shall be awarded to the player who scored the most goals throughout the Competition. If two (2) or more players score the same number of goals, the number of assists (as determined by Concacaf) shall be the deciding factor. If two (2) or more players are still equal after taking into account the number of assists, the total minutes played during the Competition shall be considered, with the player playing fewer minutes ranked first.
- 19.6.3** Golden Ball:
- The "Golden Ball" shall be awarded to the best player throughout the Competition, as determined by Concacaf.
- 19.6.4** Golden Glove:
- The "Golden Glove" shall be awarded to the best goalkeeper throughout the Competition, as determined by Concacaf.
- 19.6.5** Young Player Award:
- The "Young Player Award" shall be awarded to a player under the age of twenty-one (21) with the biggest impact at the Competition, as determined by Concacaf.



20. REFEREEING

- 20.1** The Referees, Assistant Referees (hereinafter: "AR"), Fourth Officials, VAR, and AVAR (hereinafter, collectively: the "Match Officials") for the Competition shall be appointed for each match by the Concacaf Referee Committee. They shall be selected from the Concacaf international refereeing list in force and shall be neutral. The decisions by Concacaf are final and not subject to appeal.
- 20.1.1** All reasonable efforts to appoint neutral Match Officials shall be made; provided, however, that in the case of VAR and AVAR appointments, neutrality may not be possible until a sufficient number of VAR and AVAR officials are properly trained.
- 20.2** If the Referee is prevented from or unable to carry out his/her duties, such Referee shall be replaced by the Fourth Official. If one of the ARs is prevented from or unable to carry out his/her duties, such AR shall be replaced by the Fourth Official or by the reserve assistant referee (when appointed) (hereinafter: "RAR"), or by the VAR or AVAR (when appointed on site). If no RAR was previously appointed to the match, the Fourth Official becomes AR and the AR becomes the Fourth Official. Concacaf shall be responsible for making the final decision if a VAR or AVAR must assume the position of the AR or Fourth Official. Concacaf may at its sole discretion, replace any Match Official with an official from any country.
- 20.3** The use of VAR will be implemented from quarterfinals of the competition.
- 20.4** The Match Officials shall be given the opportunity to use the training facilities.
- 20.5** Concacaf's decisions shall be final and not subject to appeal.





DISCIPLINARY MATTERS

21. CONCACAF DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE

- 21.1** The Concacaf Disciplinary Committee (hereinafter: the “Disciplinary Committee”), shall apply these Regulations and the Concacaf disciplinary code (hereinafter: the “Disciplinary Code”). In addition, it may apply the Concacaf Statutes, as appropriate.
- 21.2** In cases of infringement of these Regulations or any other applicable Regulations, or in the event of unsportsmanlike conduct, not regulated in these Regulations or in the Disciplinary Code, by the Participating Clubs and/or their Team Delegation Members, or any type of incident, the Disciplinary Committee is authorized to apply the following sanctions and/or decisions:
- 21.2.1** Caution, warning, fine, deduction of points, suspension and/or disqualification of Participating Clubs and/or their Team Delegation Members.
- 21.2.2** Take action against any person(s), Participating Club(s), and/or Association(s) that incurs any infringement of these Regulations or any other applicable regulations (including but not limited to, 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 have otherwise participated.
- 21.3** The Disciplinary Committee may refer (at its discretion) any matter relating to an infringement of these Regulations or any other applicable regulations to the Concacaf Council for further sanctions or any other reason.
- 21.4** The Disciplinary Committee decisions may be based upon written record or videos. Additionally, hearings may be held to investigate a case.
- 21.5** When taking a decision, the Disciplinary Committee may refer to the reports made by the Competition Officials, or any other Concacaf delegate. Reference may also be made to additional reports, including but not limited to, declarations from the parties and witnesses, material evidence, expert opinions, audio and/or video recordings. Such reports may be used as evidence but only within the scope of the disciplinary aspects in question and shall not affect a Referee’s decision regarding facts connected with play.
- 21.6** The Disciplinary Committee may convene a personal hearing and shall decide the applicable procedures for such hearing.
- 21.7** The following decisions of the Disciplinary Committee shall not be subject to appeal:



- 21.7.1** Warnings, reprimands, cautions and censures imposed on players, Competition Officials, Participating Clubs (including Team Delegation Members), other persons, or Associations.
- 21.7.2** Suspensions of up to two (2) matches, or of up to two (2) months, imposed on players, Competition Officials, Participating Clubs (including Team Delegation Members), or other persons.
- 21.7.3** Fines imposed on players, Competition Officials or other persons, not exceeding three thousand five hundred U.S. dollars (USD 3,500); or Participating Clubs or Associations, not exceeding ten thousand U.S. dollars (USD 10,000).
- 21.7.4** Decisions made in compliance with Article 36 of the Disciplinary Code.
- 21.8** Disciplinary Committee sessions may be held with one (1) member. Decisions shall be made by such sole member or they shall be adopted by a simple majority of the members present. In the event of a tie, the president of the Disciplinary Committee shall have the tie-breaking vote.
- 21.9** Except in cases of force majeure as determined by Concacaf, if a Participating Club does not report for a match, or refuses to commence or continue to play, or leaves the stadium prior to the end of the match, the Participating Club shall be considered to have lost the match with a score of 3-0. Additionally, such matter shall be referred to the Disciplinary Committee for appropriate actions.
- 21.10** Any other infringement of these Regulations or any other applicable regulations, whether by Team Delegation Members, Participating Clubs, or Associations, that are punishable by economic sanctions shall be reported to the Concacaf General Secretariat for appropriate actions.
- 21.11** All imposed economic sanctions shall be paid no later than sixty (60) days after notification of the applicable decision. Unless otherwise specified, the total amount of all fines shall accrue to Concacaf. Concacaf may debit accounts of debtors to settle any amounts that remain outstanding.

22. CONCACAF APPEALS COMMITTEE

- 22.1** The Concacaf Appeals Committee (hereinafter: the Appeals Committee) shall hear the appeals that meet the requirements included in this section 22, of the decisions of the Disciplinary Committee.
- 22.2** The Appeals Committee shall apply these Regulations and the Disciplinary Code.
- 22.3** The Appeals Committee shall reach its decisions on the basis of the documents and the other means of evidence contained in the Disciplinary Committee's file. The



Appeals Committee may, at its sole discretion, also consider additional evidence, including television and video recordings, which it considers relevant.

- 22.4** The appellant must notify the Appeals Committee in writing of its intention to appeal the decision no later than three (3) days of the Disciplinary Committee's notification of the grounds for the decision. Said notification shall be made via email to the Concacaf General Secretariat at general.secretariat@concacaf.org, with a copy to disciplinary@concacaf.org.
- 22.5** Once the period for notice of the intention to appeal has lapsed, the appellant shall have five (5) days to present the formal appeal letter via email to the Concacaf General Secretariat at general.secretariat@concacaf.org, with a copy to disciplinary@concacaf.org. It should contain the appellant's requests, a statement of the facts, evidence, a list of the proposed witnesses (with a brief summary of the foreseeable testimony), and the appellant's conclusions. The appellant shall not be authorized to present further documentation or evidence once the deadline for submitting the formal appeal letter has lapsed.
- 22.6** Appellants are subject to an appeals fee of one thousand U.S. dollars (USD 1,000) due to Concacaf, at the latest, at the time the formal appeal letter is delivered. The appellant shall send confirmation of payment by email to the Concacaf General Secretariat at general.secretariat@concacaf.org, with a copy to disciplinary@concacaf.org.
- 22.7** Failure to comply with any of the aforementioned requirements shall result in denial of the appeal.
- 22.8** Appeals Committee sessions may be held with one (1) member. Decisions shall be made by such sole member or they shall be adopted by a simple majority of the members present. In the event of a tie, the president of the Appeals Committee shall have the tie-breaking vote.

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 the matches of the Competition, 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 is subject to a protest fee of five hundred U.S. dollars (USD 500) due to Concacaf at the time the protest is submitted. The individual lodging the protest shall send confirmation of payment by email to the Concacaf General Secretariat at general.secretariat@concacaf.org, with a copy to



disciplinary@concacaf.org. This fee shall be refunded if the protest is accepted in its entirety.

- 23.3** Unless otherwise stipulated in this section, protests shall be submitted in writing to the Match Commissioner in-person or by email to the Concacaf General Secretariat at general.secretariat@concacaf.org, with a copy to disciplinary@concacaf.org within two (2) hours after the end of the match in question. In addition, a full written report, including a copy of the original protest submitted to the Match Commissioner shall be sent by email to the Concacaf General Secretariat at general.secretariat@concacaf.org, with a copy to disciplinary@concacaf.org by no later than twenty-four (24) hours of the end of the match in question; provided however, any protests regarding the eligibility of players registered in the Competition shall be submitted by email to the Concacaf General Secretariat at general.secretariat@concacaf.org, with a copy to disciplinary@concacaf.org, by no later than two (2) hours after the end of the match in question.
- 23.4** Protests regarding the state of the pitch, its surroundings, markings, or accessory items (e.g. goals, flag posts or footballs) shall be made in writing to the Referee prior to the start of the match by the head of delegation of the protesting team. If the pitch's playing surface becomes unplayable during a match, the captain of the protesting team shall immediately lodge a protest with the Referee in the presence of the captain of the non-protesting team. The protest shall be confirmed in writing to the Match Commissioner by the head of the team delegation no later than two (2) hours after the match in question.
- 23.5** Protests regarding any incidents that occur during the match shall be made to the Referee by the team captain immediately following the protested incident and before play has resumed. The protest shall be confirmed in writing to, the Venue Coordinator in-person or by email to the Concacaf General Secretariat at general.secretariat@concacaf.org, with a copy to disciplinary@concacaf.org, by the head of the team delegation by no later than two (2) hours after the match in question.
- 23.6** Protests regarding requests to review and rectify a clear and obvious case of error related to a disciplinary decision on the field of play by Match Officials for a direct red card shall be submitted in writing to the Match Commissioner or the Concacaf representative at headquarters no later than two (2) hours after the end of the match in question. A full written report, including a copy of the original protest submitted to the Match Commissioner and any evidence (e.g. video, photography, written statements, etc.) supporting the protest shall be submitted by email to the Concacaf General Secretariat, to general.secretariat@concacaf.org with a copy to disciplinary@concacaf.org, no later than forty-eight (48) hours after the end of the match in question. Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, these such protests are subject to a protest fee of ten thousand U.S. dollars (USD 10,000) due to Concacaf at the time the protest is submitted. The individual lodging the protest shall send confirmation of payment by email to the Concacaf General Secretariat at



general.secretariat@concacaf.org, with a copy to disciplinary@concacaf.org. This fee shall be refunded if the protest is accepted in its entirety.

- 23.7** Failure to comply with any of the before mentioned requirements shall result in denial of the protest by the competent body. Once the Final of the Competition has ended (subject to the deadlines described in this section 23), any protest described in this article shall be denied.

24. DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURE

- 24.1** Notwithstanding the above provisions, any player cautioned or sent off from the field of play by the Referee shall be subject to the sanctions specified in sections 24.2, 24.3 and 24.4. Such sanctions shall be automatically applied and are not subject to appeal. However, if any such sanctions are increased by the Disciplinary Committee, they may be appealed in accordance with the appeal process in section 22.
- 24.2** Any player sent off the field of play, whether directly (a straight red card) or as a result of two (2) yellow cards in the same match, shall be, at a minimum, suspended for the next match in the Competition.
- 24.3** Any player who accumulates two (2) single yellow cards in two (2) different matches in the Competition shall be suspended for the next match in the Competition.
- 24.4** All single yellow cards shall reset and not carry into the following Stage(s) after the completion of Groups Stage and then again after the completion of the Semifinals.
- 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 expelled by the Referee and reported in the Referee's report. The Disciplinary Committee may impose a fine and / or additional suspensions.
- 24.6** Unserved suspension as a result of a red card shall be carried over to the following edition of the Concacaf Central American Cup in which the player or club delegate is eligible to participate.
- 24.7** In accordance with Article 27 of the Disciplinary Code, if a Participating Club conducts itself improperly (for example, if individual disciplinary sanctions are imposed by the Referee on five (5) or more Team Delegation Members during a match), disciplinary measures may also be taken against the Participating Club concerned. Hence, the improper behavior of a Participating Club shall result in a fine amounting to one thousand U.S. dollars (USD 1,000) for the first five (5) Team Delegation Members sanctioned, plus two hundred U.S. dollars (USD 200) for each additional Team Delegation Members that has been sanctioned. An additional five hundred U.S. dollars



(USD 500) shall be added to the fine for each case of repetition during the Competition.

- 24.8** Participating Club and other persons bound by these Regulations shall not bring any disputes before ordinary courts of law. Once the instances within the different Concacaf bodies have been exhausted, any disputes may be appealed to the Court of Arbitration for Sport in Switzerland (TAS) no later than twenty-one (21) days after being notified of Concacaf's final non-appealable decision. The foregoing is in accordance with Article 53 of the Concacaf Statutes.

25. FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

- 25.1** A Qualified Club may be denied participation in the Competition in case of outstanding debts owed to Concacaf. At Concacaf's sole discretion, the Qualified Club may be allowed participation in the Competition if it fulfils its financial obligations within the deadlines stipulated by Concacaf.
- 25.2** Concacaf shall provide each Participating Club in the Competition with participation money. These funds shall be paid directly to the Participating Club no later than thirty (30) days prior to the first match of the Competition, and as soon as possible as the Participating Club qualifies to each subsequent Round.
- 25.3** All revenues from gate receipts accrue to the Home Club, subject to the provisions of these Regulations, including any levy on gross gate receipts payable to Concacaf.
- 25.4** Each Home Club agrees to submit to Concacaf for pre-approval, the pricing plan for match tickets no later than ten (10) business days after the announcement of the schedule, and no later than fifteen (15) business days prior to any upcoming match that is not already covered by the initial pricing plan.
- 25.5** Each Home Club agrees to submit to Concacaf for pre-approval, any plan to issue tickets over the established amount listed in the Commercial Regulations.
- 25.6** Using forms provided by Concacaf, each Home Club agrees to submit the financial report, the box office report, and the ticket report (including without limitation, a detailed accounting of ticket sales) no later than fifteen (15) business days after each match. Upon request, a Home Club shall make their records available to Concacaf for inspection. Any Home Club that submits its forms after the deadlines outlined herein shall be fined according to the Disciplinary Code.
- 25.7** Using forms provided by Concacaf, each Home Club shall also be required to submit detailed accounting of travel expenses, no later than (15) business days after each match for auditing purposes.



- 25.8** Each Home Club agrees to pay five percent (5%) of the gross ticket revenues (or a minimum of five hundred U.S. dollars (USD 500)) to Concacaf for each match no later than thirty (30) days after each match. Additionally, each Participating Club agrees to reimburse Concacaf for any liabilities paid by it on behalf of such Participating Club, including but not limited to, the daily meal allowance.
- 25.9** Concacaf may deduct from any amount payable to a Participating Club to settle any amounts past due to Concacaf.
- 25.10** 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, shall be retained by Concacaf as described in the Commercial Regulations.
- 25.11** Any disputes arising from financial provisions shall be resolved amongst the Participating Club concerned but may be submitted to Concacaf for final decision.
- 25.12** Any expenses and costs incurred by a Participating Club other than those mentioned in these Regulations shall be borne by the Participating Club concerned.

26. MEDICAL/DOPING

- 26.1** To protect players' health as well as to prevent players from experiencing sudden cardiac death during matches at the Competition, each Participating Club shall ensure and confirm to Concacaf that its players underwent a pre-competition medical assessment (hereinafter: "PCMA") prior to the first match of the Competition. The PCMA shall include a full medical assessment, as well as an EKG to identify any cardiac abnormality. If the EKG is abnormal, an Echocardiogram shall be obtained and be normal before a player can be released to play in the Competition. The PCMA shall be performed between two hundred and seventy (270) days and ten (10) days prior to the first match of the Competition. Concacaf shall provide a PCMA form to each Participating Club.
- 26.2** The duly licensed medical representative of each Participating Club shall be required to sign the PCMA form certifying the accuracy of the results and confirming that the players have passed. The PCMA form shall also include the signatures of the President and General Manager of the Participating Club and shall be received by the Concacaf General Secretariat no later than seven (7) days prior to the first match of the Competition.
- 26.3** Further to the above, each team must have a duly licensed medical professional (i.e., a doctor) as a Team Delegation Member. Such doctor should be fully integrated and familiar with all medical aspects of the team and must remain with the team



- throughout the entire Competition. The Match Officials shall refer to such team doctor in all cases, as required and necessary.
- 26.4** Concacaf shall not be held liable for any injury sustained by any player. Concacaf shall not be held liable for any incident (e.g., death) linked to any injury or health conditions of any player.
- 26.5** Each Participating Club shall be responsible, throughout the Competition, for providing health, travel, and accident insurance coverage for all Team Delegation Members.
- 26.6** With respect to non-traumatic loss of consciousness or collapse during a match, the Referee will assume sudden cardiac failure until proven otherwise. The hand signal is the right-hand fist against the chest. Such signal shall 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 host 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 Home Club should ensure an emergency action plan is in place and communicated with each Participating Club medical staff in advance of each match.
- 26.7** 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 shall stop play. In these instances, the Referee shall signal (hand to the top of the head) to the team doctor to enter the pitch to assess and manage the player. Up to three (3) minutes should be sufficient time to make this assessment. Once the player has left the field of play, he shall be given a Sideline Concussion Assessment Test (hereinafter: "SCAT") or similar test. It is the responsibility of the team doctor to determine the player's ability to return to play.
- 26.8** Further to the above, with respect 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 SCAT assessment as well as a progressive /stage return to play protocol and return to baseline neuropsychological testing.
- 26.9** Concacaf shall be using the IFAB additional permanent concussion substitution protocol effective July 1st, 2024, in the Competition.
- 26.10** Doping is the use of certain substances or methods capable of artificially enhancing the physical and/or mental performance of a player, to improve athletic and/or mental performance. If there is medical need as defined by the player's doctor, then a Therapeutic Use Exemption (hereinafter, "TUE") application shall be filed no later than (21) days prior to the first match of the Competition for chronic conditions, and as soon as possible for acute situations. The TUE approval system includes a designated administrative and functional committee that shall review applications and certify the exemption as the committee defines.



- 26.11** Doping is strictly prohibited. The FIFA Anti-Doping Regulations, the Disciplinary Code and all other relevant FIFA, as well as Concacaf regulations, circulars, and directives shall apply to the Competition.
- 26.12** 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.
- 26.13** If, in accordance with the FIFA Doping Control Regulations, a player tests positive for the use of banned substances, he shall be immediately declared ineligible from further participation in the Competition and shall be subject to further sanctions from the Disciplinary Committee.
- 26.14** Failure to comply with these provisions shall require a review by the Disciplinary Committee for possible disciplinary action.

27. MARKETING RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS

Upon entering the Competition, Participating Club agree to the following relating to sponsorship and marketing.

- 27.1** Each Participating Club agrees to develop and submit to Concacaf a detailed marketing, communications, and advertising plan no later than sixty (60) days prior to their first match of the Competition.
- 27.2** That plan shall include specific ways in which the Participating Club plans to promote its participation in the Competition using:
- 27.2.1** Participating Club webpage (at a minimum shall include the Competition logo and the link to Concacaf's Competition webpage) from the date of the Official Draw through and until the end of the Participating Club's participation in the Competition.
 - 27.2.2** Social media (existing platforms and Participating Club strategy).
 - 27.2.3** Marketing.
 - 27.2.4** Advertising.
 - 27.2.5** Ticket promotion.
 - 27.2.6** Public relations.
 - 27.2.7** And any other relevant market insights.
- 27.3** Participating clubs agree 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.

- 27.4** All intellectual property and commercial rights (including television, radio, internet, and merchandise) associated with the Competition and its name and marks are the sole and exclusive property of Concacaf. This is further explained in the Commercial Regulations.
- 27.5** Participating Clubs shall not license any media rights for the Competition, including television, radio, and internet. This is further explained in the Commercial Regulations.
- 27.6** Participating Clubs may use the names and marks of the “Concacaf Central American Cup” only for the purpose of promoting their home and away matches and without any commercial branding other than the Competition partner brands. All materials shall be preapproved by Concacaf in writing.
- 27.7** Under no circumstances whatsoever shall Participating Clubs utilize the Competition names and marks in conjunction with any corporate sponsor, except for the Competition’s corporate sponsorship bar that shall be provided to all Participating Club and shall be included in all Competition match promotion.
- 27.8** All ticket designs must be pre-approved by Concacaf and shall bear no corporate, sponsor, or partner marks other than those of official Competition sponsors as designated by Concacaf. The Participating Clubs shall work with Concacaf to make sure their ticketing systems comply with this requirement and must inform Concacaf if there are any potential issues as soon as these are identified.
- 27.9** Participating Clubs shall not produce or distribute any merchandise bearing the Competition logo inside or outside of its stadium without the written permission from Concacaf.
- 27.10** Concacaf reserves the right to control all “Concacaf Central American Cup” specific merchandise sales at each match of the Competition. The Home Club (or its designated licensee) shall have the sole right to sell Competition related merchandise and the right to receive up to twenty percent (20%) of merchandise revenue. Merchandise revenue refers to the gross revenue derived from the sale of programs, novelties, and souvenirs relating to the Competition or the personalities appearing therein sold at stadium facilities during the Competition, less only:
- 27.10.1** Applicable sales and other taxes.
- 27.10.2** Duly documented credit card fees.
- 27.10.3** If requested by licensee, costs of bootleg security; provided however, that bootleg security shall be at a mutually agreed upon rate.



- 27.11** Concacaf, as the licensor, shall have the right to receive at least eighty percent (80%) of the Competition specific merchandise revenue.
- 27.12** Concacaf shall have the right to produce and distribute programs for each match in the Competition, however Participating Club may produce and distribute programs or other informational or printed promotional materials to fans as long as these have been approved in writing by Concacaf and provided that they do not include any commercial branding other than the brands from the Competition's commercial partners.
- 27.13** Each Participating Club shall provide Concacaf the right to use the official club marks on a royalty-free basis and without restriction, as further described in the Commercial Regulations.
- 27.14** Each Participating Club shall provide Concacaf the right to use collective and individual player images as follows:
- 27.14.1** Collective player images (within the scope of an action shot and with a minimum of six players of the same Participating Club in the same photo) to promote the Competition by Concacaf and/or any of the Competition's official sponsors.
- 27.14.2** Individual player images for promotion of matches exclusively by Concacaf and the Participating Clubs. Such promotional materials, aimed at ticket sales and tune-ins, bearing that they do not include any commercial branding, other than the brands from the Competition's commercial partners in a collective sponsor brick format.
- 27.15** Each Participating Club shall provide Concacaf, without unreasonable delay, a high-resolution electronic version of the club logo in such format as is requested by Concacaf.
- 27.16** Each Participating Club shall incorporate the sponsor logo bar on all print match promotional advertising and in any TV broadcast match promotional spots specifically related to the Competition.
- 27.17** Each Participating Club shall provide Concacaf, free of charge, the ticket and suite allotment, as further described in the Commercial Regulations.
- 27.18** Each Participating Club shall provide Concacaf an allocation of space for the Competition's commercial partner's activations, as further described in the Commercial Regulations.
- 27.19** Each Participating Club shall inform Concacaf of any changes/updates to their official logo and submit an updated version in the required format, no later than thirty (30) days prior to the first match of the Competition.



- 27.20** Each Participating Club shall collaborate and support Concacaf with the promotions and activations of the Competition's sponsors, as further described in the Commercial Regulations.
- 27.21** Any Participating Club's failure to comply with the Commercial Regulations shall compromise the commercial viability of the Competition, as such, any failure to comply shall result in penalties against any violating club in accordance with these Regulations.
- 27.22** Media rights and obligations:
- 27.22.1** Concacaf shall issue separate Media Regulations for the Competition specifying mandatory promotional and media activities that shall occur prior to and during the Competition, including but not limited to, interview requests, pre- and post-match press conferences, and open training sessions.
 - 27.22.2** Each Participating Club shall comply with the Media Regulations and shall ensure that their Team Delegation Members and other affiliates also comply with these regulations.
 - 27.22.3** For more details, please refer to the Media Regulations.

28. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

- 28.1** Concacaf is the exclusive owner of all intellectual property rights of the Competition, including any current or future rights to Concacaf's names, logos, brands, music, medals, and trophies. Any use of the aforementioned rights requires the prior written approval of Concacaf and shall comply with any conditions imposed by the Commercial Regulations.
- 28.2** All rights to the Official Draw, match schedule, as well as the matches in the Competition, and any and all elements of the Competition, are the sole and exclusive property of Concacaf unless expressly granted to another party pursuant to these Regulations. Concacaf shall have the right to exploit the intellectual property rights as it deems appropriate in its sole discretion, which shall survive the Competition.





FINAL PROVISIONS

29. LIABILITY

Any Home Club in 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.

30. 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.

31. 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 in its sole discretion. All decisions shall be final and binding, and not subject to appeal.

32. 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.

33. COPYRIGHT

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

34. 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.

35. ENFORCEMENT

These Regulations were approved by the Concacaf Council on April 20, 2026 and came into full force and effect immediately thereafter.



