

St. Kitts-Nevis Football Association

Founded 1932

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Statutes St. Kitts/Nevis Football Association (SKNFA)

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Definitions

terms given below denote the following:

SKNFA: St. Kitts/Nevis Football Association

FIFA: Fédération Internationale de Football Association.

CONCACAF : The Confederation of North, Central America and Caribbean Association Football

CFU : The Caribbean Football Union

LIFA : Leeward Island Football Association

SKNOC: St. Kitts/Nevis Olympic Committee

Association: a football Association recognised by and a Member of FIFA.

League: an organisation subordinate to SKNFA

Regional Association: an organisation subordinate to SKNFA.

Club: Member of SKNFA.

Officials: all board members, committee members, coaches, referees and attendants as well as other people responsible for technical, medical and administrative matters at FIFA, a Confederation, Association, League or Club.

Player: a football player registered with SKNFA.

Congress: the supreme body of SKNFA.

Executive Committee: the executive body of SKNFA.

Member: a legal or natural person that has been admitted into membership of SKNFA by the Congress.

Association Football: the game controlled by FIFA and organised in accordance with the Laws of the Game.

IFAB: the International Football Association Board.

Ordinary Courts: state courts which hear public and private legal disputes.

Arbitration Tribunal: private court of justice acting instead of an Ordinary Court.

CAS (TAS): Court of Arbitration for Sport (Tribunal Arbitral du Sport) in Lausanne (Switzerland).

NB: References to natural persons include both genders. The singular case applies to the plural and vice-versa.

I. GENERAL PROVISION

Article 1 Name, headquarters, legal form

- ¹ SKNFA is a private organisation of an associative nature in compliance with the laws of St. Kitts/Nevis and registered as per the Saint Kitts/Nevis Football Association (incorporation) act 1999 10 of 1999 – 3rd June 1999 and the Registration of Companies act of St. Kitts and Nevis in P.O. Box 465, Basseterre, St. Kitts, West Indies. It is formed for an unlimited period.
- ² The headquarters are in Basseterre, St. Kitts.
- ³ SKNFA is a Member of FIFA and of CONCACAF and CFU and LIFA and SKNOC.
- ⁴ The flag of SKNFA is white and embossed with the SKNFA Primary Emblem.
- ⁵ The primary emblem of SKNFA features the colours of the National Flag and the Brown Pelican, the National Bird.
- ⁶ The logo of SKNFA is the primary emblem of SKNFA. .
- ⁸ The flag, emblem, logo and abbreviation are legally registered under the Copyrights Acts of St. Kitts/Nevis.
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Article 2 Objectives

The objectives of SKNFA are:

- a) to improve the game of football constantly and promote, regulate and control it throughout the territory of the Federation of St. Kitts/Nevis in the light of fair play and its unifying, educational, cultural and humanitarian values, particularly through youth and development programmes;
- b) to organise competitions in Association Football in all its forms at a national level, by defining precisely, as required, the areas of authority conceded to the various Leagues of which it is composed;
- c) to draw up regulations and provisions and ensure their enforcement;
- d) to protect the interests of its Members;
- e) to respect and prevent any infringement of the statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of FIFA, of CONCACAF, of CFU and SKNFA as well as the Laws of the Game and to ensure that these are also respected by its Members;
- f) to prevent all methods or practices which might jeopardise the integrity of matches or competitions or give rise to abuse of Association Football;
- g) to control and supervise all friendly football matches of all forms played throughout the territory of the Federation of St. Kitts/Nevis;

- h) to manage international sporting relations connected with Association Football in all its forms;
- i) to host competitions at international and other levels;

Article **3** **Neutrality and non-discrimination**

- ¹ SKNFA is neutral in matters of politics and religion.
- ² Discrimination of any kind against a country, private person or group of people on account of ethnic origin, gender, language, religion, politics or any other reason is strictly prohibited and punishable by suspension or expulsion.

Article **4** **Promoting friendly relations**

- ¹ SKNFA shall promote friendly relations between its Members, Clubs, Officials and Players and in society for humanitarian objectives.
- ² Every person and organisation involved in the game of football is obliged to observe the Statutes, regulations and the principles of fair play as well as the principles of loyalty, integrity and sportsmanship.
- ³ SKNFA shall provide the necessary institutional means to resolve any internal dispute that may arise between Members, Clubs, Officials and Players of SKNFA.

Article **5** **Players**

- ¹ The status of Players and the provisions for their transfer shall be regulated by the Executive Committee of SKNFA in accordance with the current FIFA Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players.
- ² Players shall be registered in accordance with the regulations of SKNFA.

Article **6** **Laws of the Game**

SKNFA and each of its Members play Association Football in compliance with the Laws of the Game issued by IFAB. Only IFAB may lay down and alter the Laws of the Game.

Article **7** **Conduct of bodies and Officials**

The bodies and Officials of SKNFA must observe the Statutes, regulations, directives, decisions and the Code of Ethics of FIFA, of CONCACAF, CFU and SKNFA in their activities.

Article **8** **Official languages**

¹ The official language of SKNFA shall be English. Official documents and texts shall be written in this language.

² The official language at the Congress shall be English.

II. MEMBERSHIP

Article **9** **Admission, suspension and expulsion**

¹ The Congress shall decide whether to admit, suspend or expel a Member.

² Admission may be granted if the applicant fulfils the requirements of SKNFA.

³ Membership is terminated by resignation or expulsion. Loss of membership does not relieve the Member from its financial obligations towards SKNFA or other Members of SKNFA, but leads to cancellation of all rights in relation to SKNFA.

Article **10** **Admission**

¹ The Members of SKNFA are:

- a) Clubs;
- b) Leagues;
- c) The Referees Association;

Regional Associations, the Player Association, the Coaches Association and the Sport Medicine Association as well as any other Association representing an aspect of the football in the Federation of St. Kitts/Nevis can become Members if they fulfil the requirements set out in these Statutes.

² Any legal or natural person wishing to become a Member of SKNFA shall apply in writing to the general secretariat of SKNFA.

- ³ The application must be accompanied by the following mandatory items:
- a) a copy of its legally valid statutes and regulations;
 - b) a declaration that it will always comply with the Statutes, regulations and decisions of SKNFA, CONCACAF, CFU and FIFA and ensure that these are also respected by its own Members, Clubs, Officials and Players;
 - c) a declaration that it will comply with the Laws of the Game in force;
 - d) a declaration that it recognises the Arbitration Court of SKNFA and the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) in Lausanne, as specified in these Statutes;
 - e) a declaration that it is located and registered in the territory of the Federation of St. Kitts/Nevis;
 - f) a declaration that it will play all official home matches in the territory of the Federation of St. Kitts/Nevis;
 - g) a declaration to the effect that the legal composition of the applicant guarantees that it can make decisions independently of any external entity;
 - h) a list of Officials, specifying those who are authorised signatories with the right to enter into legally binding agreements with third parties;
 - i) a declaration that it undertakes to organise or participate in friendly matches only with the prior consent of SKNFA;
 - j) a copy of the minutes of its last congress or constitutional meeting;
 - k) a declaration that the applicant, once it became a member, will pay a membership fee as may be determined by the Congress.
 - l) a declaration that the applicant will pay a fee for the admission procedure determined by the Executive Committee.
- ⁴ This article shall not affect the status of existing Members.

Article **11 Request and procedure for application**

- ¹ The procedure for admission shall be regulated by special regulations approved by the Executive Committee of SKNFA.
- ² The Executive Committee shall request the Congress either to admit or not to admit an applicant. The applicant may state the reasons for its application to the Congress.
- ³ The new Member shall acquire membership rights and duties as soon as it has been admitted. Its delegates are eligible to vote and be elected with immediate effect.
- ⁴ The Executive Committee can however accept an applicant as a provisional member until the next Congress may decide upon its membership. Provisional members shall have the same rights and obligations as the Members, but they have no voting rights at the Congress.

Article **12 Members' rights**

- ¹ The Members of SKNFA have the following rights:
- a) to take part in the Congress of SKNFA, to know its agenda in advance, to be called to the Congress within the prescribed time and to exercise their voting rights;
 - b) to draw up proposals for inclusion in the agenda of the Congress;
 - c) to nominate candidates for all bodies of SKNFA to be elected;
 - d) to be informed of the affairs of SKNFA through the official bodies of SKNFA;
 - e) to take part in competitions and/or other sports activities organised by SKNFA [if applicable];
 - f) to exercise all other rights arising from the Statutes and regulations of SKNFA.
- ² The exercise of these rights is subject to other provisions in these Statutes and the applicable regulations.

Article **13 Members' obligations**

- ¹ The Members of SKNFA have the following obligations:
- a) to comply fully with the Statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of FIFA, CONCACAF, CFU and SKNFA at all times and to ensure that these are also respected by its members;
 - b) to ensure the election of its decision-making bodies;
 - c) to take part in competitions and other sports activities organised by SKNFA [if applicable];
 - d) to pay their membership subscriptions as determined by the Congress;
 - e) to respect the Laws of the Game as laid down by IFAB and to ensure that these are also respected by its members through a statutory provision;
 - f) to adopt a statutory clause specifying that any dispute requiring arbitration involving itself or one of its members and relating to the Statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of FIFA, CONCACAF, CFU and SKNFA or the League(s) shall come solely under the jurisdiction of the appropriate Arbitration Tribunal of FIFA, CONCACAF and SKNFA and that any recourse to Ordinary Courts is prohibited;
 - g) to communicate to SKNFA any amendment of its statutes and regulations as well as the list of its Officials or persons who are authorised signatories with the right to enter into legally binding agreements with third parties;
 - h) not to maintain any relations of a sporting nature with entities that are not recognised or with Members that have been suspended or expelled;
 - i) to observe the principles of loyalty, integrity and good sporting behaviour as an expression of fair play through a statutory provision;

- j) to observe the mandatory items specified under article 10 paragraph 3 for the duration of their affiliation;
- k) to administer a register of members which shall regularly be updated;
- l) to comply fully with all other duties arising from the Statutes and other regulations of FIFA, CONCACAF, CFU and SKNFA.

² Violation of the above-mentioned obligations by any Member may lead to sanctions provided for in these Statutes.

Article **14 Suspension**

¹ The Congress is responsible for suspending a Member. The Executive Committee may, however, suspend a Member that violates its obligations as a Member with immediate effect. The suspension shall last until the next Congress, unless the Executive Committee has lifted it in the meantime.

² A suspension shall be confirmed at the next Congress by two-thirds of the votes taken. If it is not confirmed, the suspension is automatically lifted.

³ A suspended Member shall lose its membership rights. Other Members may not entertain sporting contact with a suspended Member. The Disciplinary Committee may impose further sanctions.

⁴ Members that do not participate in any sports activities of SKNFA and especially the Clubs and Leagues that do not participate in any competitions for 2 consecutive years shall be suspended from voting at the Congress and their representatives shall not be elected or appointed until they have fulfilled their obligations in this respect.

Article **15 Expulsion**

¹ The Congress may expel a Member if:

- a) it fails to fulfil its financial obligations towards SKNFA;
- b) it very seriously and/or repeatedly violates the Statutes, regulations, directives or decisions of FIFA, CONCACAF, CFU and SKNFA;

² The presence of an absolute majority (50% + 1) of Members entitled to vote at the Congress is necessary for an expulsion to be valid, and the motion for expulsion must be adopted by a three-quarter majority of the valid votes cast.

Article **16 Resignation**

¹ A Member may resign from SKNFA with effect from the end of the season. Notice of resignation must reach the general secretariat no later than three months prior.

² The resignation is not valid until the Member wishing to resign has fulfilled its financial obligations towards SKNFA and the other Members of SKNFA.

Article **17 Status of Clubs and Leagues and any other Members**

¹ Clubs, Leagues any other Members affiliated to SKNFA shall be subordinate to and recognised by SKNFA. These Statutes define the scope of authority and the rights and duties of the Clubs, Leagues and other Members of SKNFA. Their statutes and regulations must be approved by the Executive Committee of SKNFA.

² The affiliated Clubs, Leagues and other Members of SKNFA shall take all decisions on any matters regarding their membership independently of any external body. This obligation applies regardless of their corporate structure.

³ In any case, no natural or legal person (including holding companies and subsidiaries) shall exercise control over more than one Club whenever the integrity of any match or competition could be jeopardised.

III. HONORARY PRESIDENT

Article **18 Honorary president and honorary member**

¹ The Congress may bestow the title of honorary president or honorary member upon any persons for meritorious service to football.

² The Executive Committee shall make these nominations.

³ The honorary president or honorary member may take part in the Congress. They may join the debates but are not entitled to vote.

IV. ORGANISATION

Article 19 Bodies (of the Association)

- ¹ The Congress is the supreme and legislative body.
- ² The Executive Committee is the executive body.
- ³ Standing and ad-hoc committees shall advise and assist the Executive Committee in fulfilling its duties. Their duties, composition and function are defined in these Statutes and/or special regulations drawn up by the Executive Committee.
- ⁴ The general secretariat is the administrative body.
- ⁵ The judicial bodies are the Disciplinary Committee and the Appeal Committee.
- ⁶ The bodies of SKNFA shall be either elected or appointed by SKNFA itself without any external influence and in accordance with the procedures described in these Statutes.

A. CONGRESS

Article 20 Definition and composition of the Congress

- ¹ The Congress is the meeting at which all of the Members of SKNFA regularly convene. It represents the supreme and legislative authority of SKNFA. Only a Congress that is regularly convened has the authority to make decisions.
- ² A Congress may be an Ordinary or Extraordinary Congress.
- ³ The President shall conduct the Congress business in compliance with the standing orders of the Congress.
- ⁴ The Congress and/or the Executive Committee may appoint observers who take part in the Congress without the right to debate or to vote.
- ⁵ The honorary presidents or honorary members may take part in the Congress. They may join the debates but are not entitled to vote.

Article 21 Delegates and votes

- ¹ The Congress is composed of 2 delegates of each Member of SKNFA. Each Provisional Member can send 2 delegates to the Congress.

² Delegates must belong to the Member that they represent and be appointed or elected by the appropriate body of that Member. They must also be able to produce evidence of this upon request. The Members of SKNFA are obliged to notify the general secretariat in advance of the names of the delegates and to indicate which one is entitled to vote. In the event that the delegate designated to vote is not present at the Congress, the other delegate shall notify the President of his absence and be entitled to vote instead of the absent delegate.

³ Each delegation of the Members has one vote in the Congress. Only the delegates present are entitled to vote. Voting by proxy or by letter is not permitted.

⁴ The Executive Committee and the General Secretary shall take part in the Congress without voting rights. During their terms of office, members of the Executive Committee may not be appointed as delegates for their association.

Article **22 Areas of authority**

The Congress has the following authority:

- a) adopting or amending the Statutes, regulations governing the application of the Statutes and the standing orders of the Congress;
- b) appointing 3 delegates of different Members to check the minutes and approving the minutes of the last meeting;
- c) electing the President and the two vice-presidents and members of the Executive Committee;
- d) appointing the scrutineers;
- e) approving the financial statements;
- f) approving the budget;
- g) approving the President's activity report;
- h) appointing the independent auditors upon the proposal of the Executive Committee;
- i) fixing the membership subscriptions;
- j) deciding, upon the nomination of the Executive Committee, whether to bestow the title of honorary president or honorary member;
- k) admitting, suspending or expelling a Member;
- l) revoking the mandate of one or a number of members of a body of SKNFA;
- m) dissolving SKNFA;
- n) passing decisions at the request of a Member in accordance with these Statutes;
- o) electing the members of the Electoral Committee.

Article **23 Quorum of the Congress**

- ¹ The quorum means the number of Members of SKNFA entitled to vote are required to be present at the Congress. The required quorum to pass decisions by the Congress is the absolute majority (50% +1) of the Members entitled to vote.
- ² If a required quorum is not achieved, a second Congress shall take place within 7 days after the first, with the same agenda.
- ³ A quorum is not required for the second meeting unless any item on the agenda proposes the amendment of the Statutes of SKNFA, the election of the President and election of the vice-presidents and members of the Executive Committee, the dismissal of one or a number of members of a body of SKNFA, the expulsion of a Member of SKNFA or the dissolution of SKNFA.
- ⁴ In case that for the second meeting the required quorum is not achieved a third meeting shall take place within 7 days after the second, with the same agenda. The third meeting does not require any quorum.

Article **24 Decisions of the Congress**

- ¹ Unless otherwise stipulated in the Statutes, a simple majority of the Members entitled to vote is sufficient for a vote to be valid. The number of valid votes counted shall decide the majority. Spoiled or blank voting slips or any other forms of abstentions are disregarded in calculating the majority.
- ² A decision that requires a vote shall be reached by a show of hands or by means of an electronic count. If a show of hands does not result in a clear majority in favour of a motion, the vote shall be taken by calling the roll in alphabetical order.

Article **25 Elections**

- ¹ Elections shall be conducted by secret ballot.
- ² For a person to be elected, an absolute majority (50% + 1) of the votes recorded and valid is necessary in the first ballot. In the second and any other requisite ballot, a simple majority of the votes recorded is sufficient.
- ³ If there are more than two candidates for one available position, the candidate that obtains the lowest number of votes is eliminated as from the second ballot until only two candidates are left.

Article **26 Electoral Committee and Electoral Code**

- ¹ The Congress shall elect the members of the electoral committee to supervise the elections and ensure the application of the democratic principles such as separation of powers and transparency. Any external political interference in an election is a violation of the principles of democracy.
- ² The Executive Committee of SKNFA shall draw up an electoral code to regulate the election proceedings in accordance with the FIFA Electoral Code.
- ³ The election of the members of the Electoral Committee shall not take place at the same Congress of the elections of the members of the Executive Committee. The members of the Electoral Committee will be elected for four years.

Article **27 Ordinary Congress**

- ¹ The Ordinary Congress shall be held every year by the 30 April but no later than the 30 June.
- ² The Executive Committee shall fix the place and date. The Members shall be notified in writing at least two months prior to the date of the Congress.
- ³ The formal convocation shall be made in writing at least 21 days before the date of the Congress. This convocation shall contain the agenda, the President's activity report, the financial statements and the auditors' report and any other relevant documents.

Article **28 Ordinary Congress agenda**

- ¹ The General Secretary shall draw up the agenda based on proposals from the Executive Committee and the Members. Any proposal that a Member wishes to submit to the Congress shall be sent to the general secretariat in writing, with a brief explanation, at least one month before the date of the Congress.
- ² The Congress agenda shall include the following mandatory items:
 - a) an address by the President and welcoming;
 - b) roll call
 - c) a declaration that the Congress has been convened and composed in compliance with the Statutes of SKNFA;
 - d) approval of the agenda;
 - e) appointment of 3 delegates of different members to check the minutes;
 - f) appointment of scrutineers;
 - g) suspension or expulsion of Members (if applicable);

- h) approval of the minutes of the preceding Congress;
- i) President's activity report (containing the activities since the last Congress);
- j) presentation of the consolidated and revised balance sheet and the profit and loss statement;
- k) approval of the financial statements;
- l) approval of the budget;
- m) admission for membership (if applicable);
- n) votes on proposals for amendments to the Statutes, the regulations governing the application of the Statutes and the standing orders of the Congress (if applicable);
- o) discussion of proposals submitted by the Members and the Executive Committee;
- p) appointment of independent auditors (if applicable) upon the proposal of the Executive Committee;
- q) dismissal of a person or a body (if applicable);
- r) election of the President, vice-presidents and members of the Executive Committee (if applicable);
- s) election of the members of the Electoral Committee [if applicable].

³ The agenda of an Ordinary Congress may be altered, provided two-thirds of the Members present at the Congress and eligible to vote agree to such a motion. Such an alteration must be decided before the approval of the agenda.

⁴ The Congress shall not make a decision on any point not included in the agenda.

Article 29 Extraordinary Congress

¹ The Executive Committee may convene an Extraordinary Congress at any time.

² The Executive Committee shall convene an Extraordinary Congress if one-third of the Members of SKNFA make such a request in writing. The request shall specify the items for the agenda. An Extraordinary Congress shall be held within three months of receipt of the request. If an Extraordinary Congress is not convened, the Members who requested it may convene the Congress themselves and elect a person from among them to preside over the meeting. As a last resort, the Members may request assistance from FIFA.

³ The Members shall be notified of the place, date and agenda at least one month before the date of an Extraordinary Congress.

⁴ When an Extraordinary Congress is convened on the initiative of the Executive Committee, it must draw up the agenda. When an Extraordinary Congress is convened upon the request of Members, the agenda must contain the points raised by those Members.

⁵ The agenda of an Extraordinary Congress may not be altered.

Article **30 Amendments to the Statutes, regulations governing the application of the Statutes and the standing orders of the Congress**

¹ The Congress is responsible for amending the Statutes, the regulations governing the application of the Statutes and the standing orders of the Congress.

² Any proposals for an amendment to the Statutes must be submitted in writing with a brief explanation to the general secretariat by a Member or by the Executive Committee. A proposal submitted by a Member is valid, provided it has been supported in writing by at least one other Member.

³ For a vote on an amendment to the Statutes to be valid, an absolute majority (50% +1) of the Members eligible to vote must be present.

⁴ A proposal for an amendment to the Statutes shall be adopted only if three-quarters of the Members present and eligible to vote agree to it.

⁵ Any proposal to amend the regulations governing the application of the Statutes and the standing orders of the Congress must be submitted in writing with a brief explanation to the general secretariat by a Member or by the Executive Committee.

⁶ A proposal for an amendment to the regulations governing the application of the Statutes and the standing orders of the Congress shall be adopted only if a simple majority of the Members present and eligible to vote agree to it.

Article **31 Minutes**

The General Secretary shall be responsible for recording the minutes at the Congress. The minutes shall be checked by those Members designated and finally approved at the next Congress.

Article **32 Effective dates of decisions**

Decisions passed by the Congress shall come into effect for the Members at the close of the Congress, unless the Congress fixes another date for a decision to take effect.

B. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Article 33 Composition

¹ The Executive Committee consists of 10 members:

- 1 President;
- 2 vice-presidents;
- 7 members.

² The President, the vice-presidents and the members of the Executive Committee shall be elected by the Congress. Every candidate in the election of Executive Committee members must be proposed by at least two Members.

³ The mandate of the President, vice-presidents and members of the Executive Committee is for four years. They may be re-elected.

⁴ The members of the Executive Committee shall be no younger than 18 years. They shall have already been active in football, must not have been previously found guilty of a criminal offence and have residency within the territory of the Federation of St. Kitts and Nevis.

⁵ The nomination of candidates must be sent to the general secretariat of SKNFA. The official list of candidates must be passed to the Members of SKNFA along with the agenda for the Congress at which the Executive Committee will be elected.

⁶ A member of the Executive Committee may not at the same time be a member of a judicial body of SKNFA.

⁷ If a position should become vacant, the Executive Committee shall fill that position until the next Ordinary Congress, when a replacement will be elected for the remaining term of mandate.

Article 34 Meetings

¹ The Executive Committee shall meet at least once a month.

² The President shall convene the Executive Committee meetings. If 6 members of the Executive Committee request a meeting, the President shall convene it within 21 days.

³ The President shall compile the agenda. Each member of the Executive Committee is entitled to propose items for inclusion in the agenda. The members of the Executive Committee must submit the points they wish to be included in the agenda for the meeting to the general secretariat at least 14 days before the meeting. The agenda must be sent out to the members of the Executive Committee at least 7 days before the meeting.

⁴ The General Secretary shall take part in the meetings of the Executive Committee in a consultative and an advisory role.

⁵ The meetings of the Executive Committee shall not be held in public. The Executive Committee may, however, invite third parties to attend. Those third parties shall not have voting rights, and may only express an opinion with the permission of the Executive Committee.

Article **35 Powers of the Executive Committee**

The Executive Committee:

- a) shall pass decisions on all cases that do not come within the sphere of responsibility of the Congress or are not reserved for other bodies by law or under these Statutes;
- b) shall prepare and convene the Ordinary and Extraordinary Congress of SKNFA;
- c) shall appoint the chairmen, deputy chairmen and members of the standing committees;
- d) shall appoint the chairmen, deputy chairmen and members of the judicial bodies;
- e) may decide to set up ad-hoc committees if necessary at any time;
- f) shall compile the regulations for the organisation of standing committees and ad-hoc committees;
- g) shall appoint or dismiss the General Secretary on the proposal of the President. The General Secretary shall attend the meetings of all the committees ex officio;
- h) shall propose the independent auditors to the Congress;
- i) shall decide the regulations regarding the competitions of SKNFA;
- j) shall appoint the coaches for the representative teams and other technical staff;
- k) shall approve regulations stipulating how SKNFA shall be organised internally;
- l) shall ensure that the Statutes are applied and adopt the executive arrangements required for their application;
- m) may dismiss a person or body or suspend a Member of SKNFA provisionally until the next Congress;
- n) may delegate tasks arising out of its area of authority to other bodies of SKNFA or third parties.

Article **36 Decisions**

¹ The Executive Committee shall not engage in valid debate unless 6 of its members are present.

² The Executive Committee shall reach decisions by a simple majority of the members present. In the event of a tied vote, the President shall have the casting vote. Voting by proxy or by letter is not permitted.

- ³ Any member of the Executive Committee must withdraw from the debate and from taking a decision if there is any risk or possibility of a conflict of interests.
- ⁴ The decisions taken shall be recorded in the minutes.
- ⁵ The decisions taken by the Executive Committee shall come into effect immediately, unless the Executive Committee decides otherwise.

Article **37 Dismissal of a person or body**

- ¹ The Congress may dismiss a person or body. The Executive Committee may place the dismissal of a person or body on the agenda for the Congress. The Executive Committee may also dismiss a person or body provisionally. Any Executive Committee member may submit a proposal to place such a motion for dismissal on the agenda of the Executive Committee or Congress.
- ² The motion for dismissal must be justified. It will be sent to the Members of SKNFA along with the agenda.
- ³ The person or body in question has the right to speak in his or its own defence.
- ⁴ If the motion for dismissal is upheld, the Congress or Executive Committee shall reach a decision by means of secret ballot. For the motion to be passed, a majority of two-thirds of the valid votes is required.
- ⁵ The person or body dismissed (provisionally) must be relieved of his or its functions with immediate effect.

C. PRESIDENT

Article **38 President**

- ¹ The President represents SKNFA legally.
- ² He is primarily responsible for:
 - a) implementing the decisions passed by the Congress and the Executive Committee through the general secretariat;
 - b) ensuring the effective functioning of the bodies of SKNFA in order that they achieve the objectives described in these Statutes;
 - c) supervising the work of the general secretariat;
 - d) relations between SKNFA and its Members, FIFA, CONCACAF, CFU, LIFA, political bodies and other organisations.
- ³ Only the President may propose the appointment or dismissal of the General Secretary.

⁴ The President shall preside over the Congress, the Executive Committee and Emergency Committee meetings and those committees of which he has been appointed chairman.

⁵ The President shall have an ordinary vote on the Executive Committee and, whenever votes are equal, shall have a casting vote.

⁶ If the President is absent or unavailable, the first vice-president shall deputise. If the first vice-president is absent or unavailable, the second vice-president shall deputise. If the President nor the two vice-presidents are available, the longest serving member of the Executive Committee will deputise.

⁷ Any additional powers of the President shall be contained in the internal organisation regulations of SKNFA.

Article **39 Candidates for the office of the President**

¹ The President shall be elected by the Congress for a period of four years. His mandate shall begin after the end of the Congress which has elected him. A President may be re-elected.

² For the election of the President, the absolute majority (50% + 1) of the votes recorded and valid are necessary in the first ballot. In the second and any other requisite ballot, a simple majority of the votes recorded is sufficient. If there are more than two candidates, the candidate that obtains the lowest number of votes is eliminated as from the second ballot until only two candidates are left.

³ Only Members of SKNFA may propose candidates for the office of President. Members shall notify the general secretariat in writing of the name of a candidate for the presidency of SKNFA at least one month before the date of the Congress.

⁴ The general secretariat shall notify the Members of the names of the proposed candidates at least 21 days before the date of the Congress.

⁵ If the President is permanently or temporarily prevented from performing his official function, the first vice-president shall represent him until the next Congress. If the first vice-president is not available, the second vice-president shall represent him until the next Congress. This Congress shall elect a new President, if necessary.

Article **40 Representation and signature**

The President represents SKNFA legally and is entitled to sign for SKNFA. The Executive Committee may set up internal organisation regulations regarding the joint signature of officers, in particular, in case of the President's absence and concerning all important business of SKNFA.

D. EMERGENCY COMMITTEE

Article 41 Emergency Committee

- ¹ The Emergency Committee shall deal with all matters requiring immediate settlement between two meetings of the Executive Committee. The Committee shall consist of the President of SKNFA, the two vice-presidents and 2 members chosen from the Executive Committee of the SKNFA for a period of 2 years.
- ² The President shall convene the Emergency Committee meetings. If a meeting cannot be convened within an appropriate period of time, decisions may be passed through circular letter. Such decisions shall have immediate legal effect. The President shall notify the Executive Committee immediately of the decisions passed by the Emergency Committee.
- ³ All decisions taken by the Emergency Committee shall be ratified by the Executive Committee at its next meeting.
- ⁴ If the President is unable to attend a meeting, the first vice-president available shall deputise.

E. STANDING COMMITTEES

Article 42 Standing Committees

- ¹ The standing committees of SKNFA are:
 - a) Players Status Committee;
 - b) Sports Medicine Committee;
 - c) Competitions and Tournaments Committee;
 - d) Technical and Development Committee;
 - e) Youth Committee;
 - f) Women Football Committee;
 - g) Referees Committee;
 - h) Finance Committee;
 - i) Internal Audit Committee;
 - j) Legal Committee;
 - k) Media Committee;
 - l) Marketing and Television Committee
 - m) Ad-hoc committees.
- ² The chairmen of the standing committees shall be members of the Executive Committee with the exception of those for the Internal Audit Committee, who may not belong to the Executive Committee. The members of each standing committee shall be appointed by the

Executive Committee on the proposal of the President of SKNFA. The chairmen, deputy chairmen and the members of the standing committees shall be designated for a term of office of 4 years.

³ Each chairman shall represent his committee and conduct business in compliance with the relevant organisation regulations drawn up by the Executive Committee.

⁴ Each chairman shall fix the dates of meetings in collaboration with the General Secretary, ensure that all tasks are carried out and report back to the Executive Committee.

⁵ Each committee may propose amendments to its regulations to the Executive Committee.

Article **43** **Players' Status Committee**

¹ The Players' Status Committee shall set up and monitor compliance with transfer regulations in accordance with the FIFA Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players and determine the status of Players for various competitions of SKNFA. The Executive Committee may draw up special regulations governing the Players' Status Committee's powers of jurisdiction. The Players' Status Committee shall consist of a chairman, a deputy chairman and three members.

² Players' status disputes involving SKNFA, its Members, Players, Officials and match and players' agents shall be settled by an Arbitration Tribunal in accordance with these Statutes.

Article **44** **Sports Medicine Committee**

The Sports Medicine Committee shall deal with all medical aspects of football. It shall consist of a chairman, a deputy chairman and 3 members.

Article **45** **Competition and Tournaments Committee**

shall organise the competitions of SKNFA in compliance with the provisions of these Statutes and the regulations applicable to SKNFA competitions. It shall consist of a chairman, a deputy chairman and 3 members.

Article **45** **Technical and Development Committee**

The Technical and Development Committee shall primarily analyse the basic aspects of football training and technical development. It shall consist of a chairman, a deputy chairman and 3 members.

Article **46 Youth Football Committee**

The Committee for Youth Football shall organise youth football competitions and deal with all matters relating to youth football. It shall consist of a chairman, a deputy chairman and three members.

Article **47 Women's Football Committee**

The Committee for Women's Football shall organise women's football competitions and deal with all matters relating to women's football. It shall consist of a chairman, a deputy chairman and 3 members.

Article **48 Referees' Committee**

The Referees' Committee shall implement the Laws of the Game. It shall appoint the referees for matches in competitions organised by SKNFA, organise refereeing matters within SKNFA in collaboration with the administration of SKNFA and monitor the education and training of referees. It shall consist of a chairman, a deputy chairman and 3 members.

Article **49 Finance Committee**

The Finance Committee shall monitor the financial management and advise the Executive Committee on financial matters and asset management. It shall analyse the budget of SKNFA and the financial statements prepared by the General Secretary and submit them to the Executive Committee for approval. It shall consist of a chairman, a deputy chairman and 3 members.

Article **50 Internal Audit Committee**

The Internal Audit Committee shall ensure the completeness and reliability of the financial accounting and review the external auditors' report at the request of the Executive Committee. It shall consist of a chairman, a deputy chairman and 3 members.

Article **51 Legal Committee**

The Legal Committee shall analyse basic legal issues relating to football and the evolution of the Statutes and regulations of SKNFA and its Members. It shall consist of a chairman, a deputy chairman and 3 members.

Article **52 Media Committee**

The Media Committee shall deal with the working conditions for the media at SKNFA events and maintain relations with media organisations. It shall consist of a chairman, a deputy chairman and 3 members.

Article **53 Marketing and Television Committee**

The Marketing and Television Committee shall advise the Executive Committee with regard to drafting and implementing contracts between SKNFA and its marketing/television partners and analyse marketing and television strategies that have been devised. It shall consist of a chairman, a deputy chairman and 3 members.

Article **54 Ad-hoc committees**

The Executive Committee may, if necessary, create ad-hoc committees for special duties and a limited period of time. The Executive Committee shall appoint a chairman, a deputy chairman and the members. The duties and function are defined in special regulations drawn up by the Executive Committee. An ad-hoc committee shall report directly to the Executive Committee.

F. GENERAL SECRETARIAT

Article **56 General secretariat**

The general secretariat shall carry out all the administrative work of SKNFA under the direction of the General Secretary. The members of the general secretariat are bound by the internal organisational regulations of SKNFA and shall fulfil the given tasks in the best manner.

Article **57 General Secretary**

- ¹ The General Secretary is the chief executive of the general secretariat.
- ² He shall be appointed on the basis of an agreement governed by private law and shall have the necessary professional qualifications and/or experience.
- ³ He shall be responsible for:
 - a) implementing decisions passed by the Congress and Executive Committee in compliance with the President's directives;
 - b) attending the Congress and meetings of the Executive Committee, Emergency Committee and the standing and ad-hoc committees;
 - c) organising the Congress and meetings of the Executive Committee and other bodies;
 - d) compiling the minutes for the meetings of the Congress, Executive Committee, Emergency Committee and standing and ad-hoc committees;
 - e) managing and keeping the accounts of SKNFA properly;
 - f) the correspondence of SKNFA;
 - g) relations with the Members, committees, FIFA and CONCACAF, CFU and LIFA;
 - h) organising the general secretariat;
 - i) the appointment and dismissal of staff working in the general secretariat;
 - j) proposing managerial staff to the President.
- ⁴ The General Secretary may not be a Congress delegate or a member of any body of SKNFA.

G. JUDICIAL BODIES

Article **58 Judicial bodies**

- ¹ The judicial bodies of SKNFA are:
 - a) the Disciplinary Committee;
 - b) the Appeal Committee.
- ² The responsibilities and functions of these bodies shall be stipulated in the Disciplinary Code of SKNFA, which shall comply with the FIFA Disciplinary Code.
- ³ The decision-making powers of other committees remain unaffected.
- ⁴ The members of the judicial bodies may not belong to any other body of SKNFA at the same time.

Article **59 Disciplinary Committee**

¹ The Disciplinary Committee shall consist of a chairman, deputy chairman and the number of members deemed necessary. The chairman and the deputy chairman shall have legal qualifications.

² The function of this body shall be governed by the Disciplinary Code of SKNFA. The committee shall pass decisions only when at least three members are present. In certain cases, the chairman may rule alone in accordance with the Disciplinary Code of SKNFA.

³ The committee may pronounce the sanctions described in these Statutes and the Disciplinary Code of SKNFA on Members, Officials, Players, Clubs and match and players' agents.

⁴ These provisions are subject to the disciplinary powers of the Congress and the Executive Committee with regard to the suspension and expulsion of Members.

Article **60 Appeal Committee**

¹ The Appeal Committee shall consist of a chairman, deputy chairman and the number of members deemed necessary. The chairman and deputy chairman shall have legal qualifications.

² The function of this body shall be governed by the Disciplinary Code of SKNFA. The committee shall pass decisions only when at least three members are present. In certain cases, the chairman may rule alone in accordance with the Disciplinary Code of SKNFA.

³ The Appeal Committee is responsible for hearing appeals against decisions from the Disciplinary Committee that are not declared final.

Article **61 Disciplinary measures**

The disciplinary measures are primarily:

¹ for natural and legal persons:

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

² for natural persons:

- a) a caution;
- b) an expulsion;

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

- ³ for legal persons:
- a) a transfer ban;
 - b) playing a match without spectators;
 - c) playing a match on neutral territory;
 - d) a ban on playing in a particular stadium;
 - e) annulment of the result of the match;
 - f) expulsion;
 - g) a forfeit;
 - h) deduction of points;
 - i) relegation to a lower division.

Article **62 Arbitration**

SKNFA shall create an Arbitration Tribunal, which shall deal with all internal national disputes between SKNFA, its Members, Players, Officials and match and players' agents that do not fall under the jurisdiction of its judicial bodies. The Executive Committee shall draw up special regulations regarding the composition, jurisdiction and procedural rules of this Arbitration Tribunal.

Article **63 Jurisdiction**

¹ SKNFA, its Members, Players, Officials and match and player's agents will not take any dispute to Ordinary Courts unless specifically provided for in these Statutes and FIFA regulations. Any disagreement shall be submitted to the jurisdiction of FIFA, CONCACAF, CFU or SKNFA.

² SKNFA shall have jurisdiction on internal national disputes, i.e. disputes between parties belonging to SKNFA. FIFA shall have jurisdiction on international disputes, i.e. disputes between parties belonging to different Associations and/or Confederations.

Article **64 Court of Arbitration for Sport**

¹ In accordance with respective Article of the FIFA Statutes, any appeal against a final and binding FIFA decision shall be heard by the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) in Lausanne, Switzerland. CAS shall not, however, hear appeals on violations of the Laws of the Game, suspensions of up to four matches or up to three months, or decisions passed by an independent and duly constituted Arbitration Tribunal of an Association or Confederation.

² SKNFA shall ensure its full compliance and that of its Members, Players, Officials and match and players' agents with any final decision passed by a FIFA body or CAS.

V. FINANCE

Article 65 Financial period

¹ The financial period of SKNFA shall begin on 1 January and end on 31 December.

² The revenue and expenses of SKNFA shall be managed so that they balance out over the financial period. SKNFA's major duties in the future shall be guaranteed through the creation of reserves.

³ The General Secretary is responsible for drawing up the annual consolidated accounts of SKNFA with its subsidiaries as at 31 December.

Article 66 Revenue

The revenue of SKNFA arises specifically from:

- a) Members' annual subscriptions;
- b) receipts generated by the marketing of rights to which SKNFA is entitled;
- c) revenues generated by the competitions;
- d) fines imposed by the authorised bodies;
- e) other subscriptions and receipts in keeping with the objectives pursued by SKNFA.

Article 67 Expenses

SKNFA bears:

- a) the expenses stipulated in the budget;
- b) other expenses approved by the Congress and expenses that the Executive Committee is entitled to incur within the scope of its authority;
- c) all other expenses in keeping with the objectives pursued by SKNFA.

Article 68 Independent auditors

The independent auditors appointed by the Congress shall audit the accounts approved by the Finance Committee in accordance with the appropriate principles of accounting and present a report to the Congress. The auditors shall be appointed for a period of one year. This mandate may be renewed.

Article **69 Membership subscriptions**

¹ Membership subscriptions are due at the end of March. The annual subscription for new Members for the year in question shall be paid within 30 days of the close of the Congress at which they are admitted.

² The Congress shall fix the amount of the annual subscription every 2 years on the recommendation of the Executive Committee. It shall be the same for every Member.

Article **70 Settlement**

SKNFA may debit any Member's assets to settle claims.

Article **71 Levies**

SKNFA may demand that a levy be paid by its Members for matches.

VI. COMPETITIONS AND RIGHTS IN COMPETITIONS AND EVENTS

Article **72 Competitions**

¹ SKNFA organises and coordinates the following official competitions held within its territory:

- Championship of the premier division;
- Championship of the first division;
- Championship of the second division;
- SKNFA KNOCK OUT Competition;
- U-17 Championship;
- U-13 Championship;
- Women Championship.

SKNFA is free to organise any other competitions.

² The Executive Committee may delegate to SKNFA's subordinate Leagues the authority to organise competitions. The competitions organised by the Leagues shall not interfere with those competitions organised by SKNFA. Competitions organised by SKNFA shall take priority. Clubs shall not be permitted to organise competitions.

³ The Executive Committee may issue special regulations to this end.

Article **73 Club licensing**

The Executive Committee of SKNFA will set up regulations regarding a club licensing system governing the participation of Clubs in competitions of SKNFA.

Article **74 Rights**

¹ SKNFA and its Members are the original owners of all of the rights emanating from competitions and other events coming under their respective jurisdiction, without any restrictions as to content, time, place and law. These rights include, among others, every kind of financial rights, audiovisual and radio recording, reproduction and broadcasting rights, multimedia rights, marketing and promotional rights and incorporeal rights such as emblems and rights arising under copyright law.

² The Executive Committee shall decide how and to what extent these rights are utilised and draw up special regulations to this end. The Executive Committee shall alone decide whether these rights shall be utilised exclusively, or jointly with a third party or entirely through a third party.

Article **75 Authorisation**

SKNFA and its Members are exclusively responsible for authorising the distribution of image and sound and other data carriers of football matches and events coming under their respective jurisdiction, without any restrictions as to content, time, place and technical and legal aspects.

VII. INTERNATIONAL MATCHES AND COMPETITIONS

Article **76 International matches and competitions**

¹ The authority for organising international matches and competitions between Association teams and between Leagues and/or Club teams lies solely with FIFA. No match or competition

shall take place without the prior permission of the FIFA Executive Committee. In addition, permission from the relevant Confederation may be required in accordance with the FIFA regulations.

² SKNFA is bound to comply with the international match calendar compiled by FIFA.

Article **77 Contacts**

SKNFA shall not play matches or make sporting contacts with Associations that are not members of FIFA or with provisional members of a Confederation without the approval of FIFA.

Article **78 Approval**

Clubs, Leagues or other Members of SKNFA cannot belong to another Association or participate in competitions on the territory of another Association without the authorisation of SKNFA and the other Association and of FIFA.

VII. FINAL PROVISIONS

Article **79 Unforeseen contingencies and force majeure**

The Executive Committee shall have the final decision on any matters not provided for in the Statutes or in cases of force majeure.

Article **80 Dissolution**

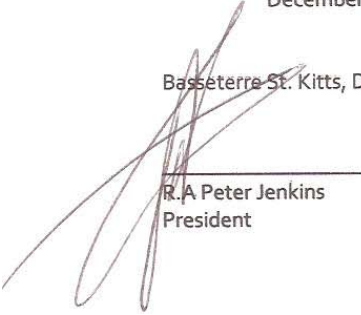
¹ Any decision relating to the dissolution of SKNFA requires a majority of two-thirds of all of the Members of SKNFA, which must be obtained at a Congress specially convened for the purpose.

² If SKNFA is disbanded, its assets shall be utilised for the purchase of Government Bonds in the name of three trustees to be appointed for that purpose by the Congress, until such time as the SKNFA is re-established. The final Congress may, however, choose another recipient for the assets on the basis of a two-thirds majority. In the event that SKNFA is not re-established within 10 years, the bonds are distributed equally among the members of the SKNOC.


Article 81 Enforcement

These Statutes were adopted at the Extraordinary Congress in Basseterre St. Kitts on December 15th, 2008 and will come into force at the close of the Congress.

Basseterre St. Kitts, December 15th, 2008



R. A. Peter Jenkins
President



James R. Buchanan
General Secretary