



Rules of Procedure of the SFA Dispute Resolution Chamber

of September 5, 2011

as amended by the Rules of Procedure of the SFA Dispute Resolution Chamber (approved by the SFA Board of Directors on December 12, 2017)

as amended by the Rules of Procedure of the SFA Dispute Resolution Chamber (approved by the SFA Board of Directors on Friday, September 4, 2020)

as amended by the Rules of Procedure of the SFA Dispute Resolution Chamber (approved by the SFA Board of Directors on Tuesday, December 7, 2021)

RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE SFA DISPUTE RESOLUTION CHAMBER

Under Article 51 (2) (a) and Article 59 (17) of the SFA Statutes, the Executive Committee of the Slovak Football Association approved the following **Rules of Procedure of the SFA Dispute Resolution Chamber** (hereinafter referred to as "**Rules of Procedure**"):

Article 1

Subject

These Rules of Procedure govern the procedure for dispute resolution used by the SFA Dispute Resolution Chamber (hereinafter referred to as the "Chamber") when discussing and deciding the disputes and other issues within its scope, details of the activities of the Chamber, its composition, scope of procedure, proceedings carried out before the Chamber, charges and decision-making.

Article 2

Rights of the Chamber

- (1) The Chamber is a dispute resolution body¹⁾ with the powers to hear and make decisions regarding
 - (a) disputes between the persons with an affiliation to the SFA²⁾, persons with an affiliation to the SFA and the SFA arising in connection with sports activities resulting from precontractual and contractual relations,
 - (b) disputes arising from letter a) with international dimensions,
 - (c) disputes arising from the breach of the SFA, UEFA or FIFA regulations, or from the breach of the SFA, UEFA or FIFA decisions.
- (2) The Chamber has the authority to review the compliance of regulations of persons with an affiliation to the SFA with the regulations of SFA, UEFA and FIFA or with Act No. 440/2015 Coll. on sports and amendments to other legislation (hereinafter referred to as the "Sports Act").
- (3) The Chamber is entitled to impose disciplinary sanctions and measures for the violation of the SFA rules in accordance with these Rules of Procedure.
- (4) If the Chamber has no authority to act on the matter, it shall by resolution reject the proposal to start the proceedings, and the resolution to reject the proceedings shall contain a relevant justification of the rejection.

Article 3

Jurisdiction of the Chamber

- (1) Prior to the main proceedings on the merits, the Chamber examines whether it has the relevant jurisdiction to hear and decide the matter.
- (2) If in accordance with the SFA regulations the Chamber has no jurisdiction to hear the case, the matter shall be immediately referred to the respective SFA authority, which the Chamber considers competent to hear the case, and the Chamber shall notify the relevant parties. If no SFA body has the authority to act on the matter, the Chamber shall stop the proceedings by resolution.
- (3) The Chamber is unable to commence the proceedings in the matter if these have already been initiated by, are underway, or have legally completed in another SFA body. Should during ongoing proceedings the Chamber identify that proceedings have already been initiated by, are underway, or have legally completed in another SFA body in the same matter, it shall suspend its proceedings.

Article 4

Application of the rules

- (1) In the exercise of its competence, the Chamber applies the SFA Statutes and SFA Regulations.
- (2) In cases not governed by the SFA Regulations, the SFA and UEFA or FIFA regulations shall apply analogically if they are not in conflict with the legal code of the Slovak Republic.
- (3) The proceedings, procedures or decisions of the Chamber shall be in accordance with the general principles referred to in Article 5 (2) of the SFA Statutes.

¹⁾ Article 19 (1) g) and Article 52 (2), Act no. 440/2015 Coll. on sports and amendments to other legislation.

²⁾ Article 2 (f) of the SFA Statutes.

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- (4) In the exercise of its competence, the Chamber shall apply the legal code of the Slovak Republic and any collective agreements, taking into account the specificity of sport.
- (5) In the exercise of its competence, the Chamber shall take into account the decisions of the Court of Arbitration of Sport in Lausanne and FIFA's DRC if they are not in conflict with the legal code of the Slovak Republic.
- (6) In cases not covered by these Rules of Procedure, the provisions of Act No. 160/2015 Coll. Civil Litigation Procedure, shall be applied analogically.

**Article 5
Composition of the Chamber**

- (1) The Chamber consists of
 - a) President of the Chamber,
 - b) Vice-President of the Chamber,
 - c) Eight members representing the clubs, of which
 - 1. Six members represent professional football clubs³⁾ and
 - 2. Two members represent amateur football clubs⁴⁾ and
 - d) Eight members representing the players, of which
 - 1. Six members represent professional football players and
 - 2. Two members represent amateur football players.
- (2) The Chamber shall not accept more than one person with an affiliation to the same club.
- (3) The term of office of the President, Vice-President and members of the Chamber is five years.
- (4) If the President, Vice-President or member of the Chamber does not or cannot carry out his/her function, they shall be treated in accordance with Article 37 (8) of the SFA Statutes.
- (5) Membership in the Chamber lapses
 - a) By expiry of the term of office,
 - b) By resignation,
 - c) By termination of performance of the function due to inactivity according to Article 37 (6) (d) of the SFA Statutes,
 - d) By a court decision on the limitation or deprivation of legal capacity,
 - e) By conviction for an intentional crime committed in connection with the performance of the function or in connection with the activities of the SFA,
 - f) By conviction for sports corruption, graft or crime, even if these were not committed in connection with the performance of the function or in connection with the activities of the SFA, or
 - g) By death.
- (6) Further particulars regarding the membership in the Chamber, and the rights and obligations of the members thereof, are provided in Article 36 (1-4, 12 and 13), Article 37 (5, 7, 10 and 12) and Article 38 and 39 of the SFA Statutes.

**Article 6
Election of the President, Vice-President and members of the Chamber**

- (1) The President and Vice-President of the Chamber is elected and removed by the SFA Conference⁵⁾ at the proposal of one of its members.
- (2) Only a candidate with a Master's degree awarded by a Faculty of Law at one of the Slovak universities, or a recognized Master's law degree awarded by a foreign university and at least three years of professional practice and, if the law degree was awarded in the first cycle and subsequently in the second cycle, the degrees in both cycles have to be awarded in the same field of study, can be elected President and Vice-President of the Chamber.

³⁾ Article 2 (j) of the SFA Statutes.

⁴⁾ Article 2 (k) of the SFA Statutes.

⁵⁾ Article 19 (1) (f) and (k) of Act no. 440/2015 Coll.

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- (3) The six members of the Chamber referred to in Article 5 (1) (c), first paragraph, are nominated and elected by the professional football clubs and the two members of the Chamber referred to in Article 5 (1) (c), second paragraph, are nominated and elected by the amateur football clubs. Each club has one vote.
- (4) The six members of the Chamber referred to in Article 5 (1) (d), first paragraph, are elected by active professional football players⁶⁾ and the two members of the Chamber referred to in Article 5 (1) (d), second paragraph, are elected by amateur football players. Each active player has one vote.
- (5) The candidates for the members of the Chamber referred to in Article 5 (1) (d), first paragraph, are nominated by the active players of professional football, an association of professional players, which is member of the SFA and FIFPro at the time of the election, or another association representing the interests of professional football players, which is member of the SFA at the time of the election. The candidates for the members of the Chamber referred to in Article 5 (1) (d), second paragraph, are nominated by active players of amateur football or association representing the interests of amateur football players, which is member of the SFA at the time of the election.
- (6) When the position of a member of the Chamber expires before the expiry of his/her term of office, or if a member of the Chamber is elected President or Vice-President of the Chamber, the place until the end of the term of office will be held by the non-elected candidate for the relevant interest group referred to in Article 5 (1) (c) first paragraph or second paragraph, or (d), who received the highest number of votes in the elections; otherwise additional elections are held.
- (7) The election of the members of the Chamber pursuant to paragraph 3 and 4 and the additional election referred to in paragraph 6 shall be carried out through the ISSF procedure under a specific SFA regulation.⁷⁾

**Article 7
Chamber Senate**

- (1) If not provided otherwise in these Rules of Procedure, the Chamber hears and decides the matters in its respective Senates.
- (2) A dispute concerning the breach of contractual obligations in professional football is heard and decided by the Senate for Professional Football, composed of the President or Vice-President of the Chamber, one member of the Chamber elected for the professional football clubs and one member of the Chamber elected for the professional football players. The President or Vice-President of the Chamber has the status of the Presiding Judge in the Senate depending on the order of the issue to be discussed.
- (3) A dispute concerning the breach of contractual obligations in amateur football is heard and decided by the Senate for Amateur Football, composed of the President or Vice-President of the Chamber, one member of the Chamber elected for the amateur football clubs and one member of the Chamber elected for the amateur football players. The President or Vice-President of the Chamber has the status of the Presiding Judge in the Senate depending on the order of the issue to be discussed.
- (4) If one of the parties to the dispute is a player or club, which operated in professional football at the time of the dispute, the dispute shall be heard by the Senate for Professional Football.
- (5) Where there is doubt according to the rapporteur's opinion as to whether the dispute is to be heard and decided by the Senate for Professional Football or Senate for Amateur Football, the jurisdiction of the matter shall be decided by the Competences Senate of the Chamber, composed of the President of the Chamber, Vice-President of the Chamber, two members of the Chamber elected for professional football, out of which one is for the players and the other for the clubs, and two members of the Chamber elected for amateur football, of which one is for the players and one for the clubs; and in the case of a tie, the President's vote shall prevail and be decisive. If, based on the decision of the Competence Senate the statement of the claimant under Article 20 (1) (j) does not correspond to the nature of the dispute, the President of the Chamber shall designate the appropriate Senate to discuss and decide the matter.
- (6) A matter under Article 33 is discussed and heard by the Senate consisting of three members of the Chamber designated pursuant to paragraph 7 and the Presiding Judge shall be nominated by the Chairman of the Chamber.
- (7) The division of work within the decision-making activities of the Chamber is guided by the principle of randomization of assigning the matters to individual members of the Chamber, respecting the principle of uniform work load.

⁶⁾ Article 4 (6) of Act no. 440/2015 Coll., as amended by Act no. 354/2016 Coll

⁷⁾ Article 22 of the Rules of Procedure of the SFA Conference.

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- (8) After the proposal is discussed in the Chamber, the Presiding Judge shall appoint one of the members of the Senate as a rapporteur to prepare the documents necessary for the decision of the Senate, and a substitute rapporteur.
- (9) The Senate issues its decisions via resolutions, which are based on the voting results of its members. The Senate's quorum requires the presence of all members of the Senate. For the Senate to adopt a resolution, a majority vote of all the members of the Senate is required. Each member of the Senate has one vote. If the voting process results in a draw, the vote of the Presiding Judge determines the result. The voting in the Senate can also be held as distance voting according to the special SFA regulations.⁸⁾ The voting results of the Senate shall be recorded in the Information System of Slovak Football (hereinafter referred to as "ISSF"). If a member of the Senate fails to vote within the specified period, such a member of the Senate shall be considered to have abstained from voting.
- (10) If the Senate through its decision-making reaches a legal opinion, which differs from the legal opinion expressed in the decision of another Senate, it shall present a proposal for unification of these different legal opinions to the Plenary Body of the Chamber. The Senate is not authorized to decide on the merits unless a resolution of the Chamber's Plenary Body for the unification of different legal opinions is made. In further proceedings, the Senate is bound by the resolution of the Chamber's Plenary Body.

**Article 8
Plenary Body of the Chamber**

- (1) The Chamber's Plenary Body consists of the President, Vice-President and other members of the Chamber.
- (2) The Chamber's Plenary Body
 - a) Discusses and decides on the matters if so determined by the President of the Chamber, or if the decisions involve the procedure under Article 15 (4),
 - b) Approves the remuneration of the members of the Chamber,
 - c) Approves the proposals for amendments to these Rules of Procedure,
 - d) Decides on the objection of bias,
 - e) Decides the disputes relating to the jurisdiction of the Chamber provided the Senate failed to reach a decision therein,
 - f) Decides on the unification of different legal opinions of the Senates,
 - g) Appoints the Presiding Judge of the Senate if the President and Vice-President of the Chamber are excluded from the proceedings and decision-making under Article 16,
 - h) Decides on the complaints relating to the activities of the Chamber,
 - i) Performs additional tasks arising from these Rules of Procedure.
- (3) The meetings of the Chamber's Plenary Body are from time to time convened by the President of the Chamber. The President of the Chamber shall convene the Chamber's Plenary Body if so requested in writing by
 - a) The Senate, or
 - b) At least five members of the Chamber.
- (4) The Chamber's Plenary Body decides by resolution based on the vote of the members of the Chamber's Plenary Body. The Chamber's Plenary Body reaches its quorum if a simple majority of the votes is present in the assembly. For the Chamber's Plenary Body to adopt a resolution, a majority vote of all the members of the Chamber's Plenary Body is required. Each member of the Chamber's Plenary Body has one vote. If the voting process results in a draw, the vote of the President of the Chamber's Plenary Body determines the result. Voting of the Plenary Body of the Chamber can also be held per rollam according to a special SFA regulation.⁸⁾ If a particular position of Chamber member is vacant, the required majority of votes is calculated from the current number of Chamber members.
- (5) Minutes are drawn up from the meeting of the Chamber's Plenary Body. The minutes contain
 - a) Approved agenda of the meeting
 - b) Attendance roster
 - c) List of documents to the individual items on the agenda and where to find them;
 - d) Important messages of the members of the Chamber's Plenary Body to the individual items on the agenda,

⁸⁾ SFA guideline on per rollam distance voting.

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- e) Decisions adopted to the items on the agenda, including the voting results and dissenting opinion of the members of the Chamber's Plenary Body who disagreed with the decision or its justification if so requested,
- f) Name, surname and signature of the President and the Registrar.
- (6) The minutes of the meeting of the Chamber's Plenary Body, including the agenda, attendance roster and the decisions, shall be published in the usual manner on the SFA and ISSF web site and in the Sports Information System. The minutes of the meeting of the Chamber's Plenary Body are registered in the Registry of minutes of the ISSF.
- (7) The minutes of the Plenary Body meeting of the Chamber shall be sent to all members of the Chamber within 15 days after the Plenary Body meeting.

**Article 9
President of the Chamber**

- (1) President of the Chamber
 - a) Acts on behalf of the Chamber,
 - b) Calls and chairs the meetings of the Chamber's Plenary Body,
 - c) Manages the activities of the Chamber,
 - d) Appoints the members of the Senate competent to hear and decide the cases.
 - e) Appoints the Presiding Judge under Article 7 (6),
 - f) Appoints a rapporteur in the Plenary Body meeting if the matter is heard and decided by the Plenary Body,
 - g) Supervises the proper execution of activities in the Chamber,
 - h) Provides organizational and administrative activities of the Chamber by the Chamber's Secretary
 - i) Submits proposals to the SFA Executive Committee for amendments to these Rules of Procedure, which were passed by the Chamber's Plenary Body
 - j) Handles the complaints,
 - k) Performs additional tasks arising from these Rules of Procedure.
- (2) In his absence, the President of the Chamber is substituted by the Vice-President.

**Article 10
Members of the Chamber**

- (1) Members of the Chamber appointed by the President of the Chamber may decide the matter alone if
 - a) The fee for the proceedings was not been paid within the time limit set by the Chamber,
 - b) The shortcomings in the claim have not been eliminated according to Article 20 (6),
 - c) The claim was withdrawn.
- (2) A member of the Chamber designated by the President of the Chamber decides the case independently if the decision concerns an exemption from the obligation to pay a fee according to these Rules of Procedure.

**Article 11
Secretary of the Chamber**

- (1) Based on the SFA Secretary-General's proposal, and after consultations with the President of the Chamber, the SFA Executive Committee shall appoint the Secretary of the Chamber from among the employees of the SFA Legislative and Legal Department.
- (2) In cooperation with and as instructed by the President of the Chamber, the Secretary of the Chamber shall organize the work connected with the activities of the Chamber.
- (3) The Secretary of the Chamber is not its member and has no voting rights.
- (4) The Secretary of the Chamber:
 - a) Provides organizational and administrative support to the activities of the Chamber,
 - b) Supervises the deadlines set out in these Rules of Procedure or established by the Chamber,
 - c) Ensures the proper execution of all decisions of the Chamber

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- d) Ensures the safekeeping of all documents, which are archived electronically within the ISSF.
- e) Adds the validity and enforceability clause to the decisions of the Chamber.
- (5) The Secretary of the Chamber participates in the meetings of the Senate and Plenary Body and prepares the minutes therefrom in accordance with the provisions of Article 8 (5).
- (6) Without further delay, the Secretary of the Chamber registers the motions filed by the parties and the Chamber's actions into the ISSF. The Secretary of the Chamber delivers notifications and deliverables to all relevant parties to the proceedings within the period provided in these Rules of Procedure or within ten days from the relevant action is effected or submission is delivered.

Article 12

Venue of the proceedings

The SFA headquarters shall serve as the venue for the proceedings conducted by the Chamber.

Article 13

Language of the proceedings

- (1) The language of the proceedings conducted by the Chamber is the official language.
- (2) The Chamber can furnish a translator into/from the litigant's language at litigant's expense, and if this is not possible for objective reasons, into/from one of the official languages of FIFA (English, German, French, Spanish).

Article 14

Confidentiality

The members of the Chamber are obliged to keep all the facts pertaining to their duties confidential. Especially, they are disallowed to divulge the content of the negotiations of the Chamber's members regarding the decisions on the merits.

Article 15

Exclusion of Chamber members

- (1) A member of the Chamber can be excluded from the consultations and decision-making if concerns are raised regarding his/her impartiality with regard to his/her relation to the matter, the parties or their representatives, especially if
 - a) the member of the Chamber shows interest in resolving the dispute in favor of one of the parties directly, indirectly, or as personal representative of a legal person,
 - b) the member's club is a party to the proceedings, or the member is in relation to the party or its representative as a close person.⁹⁾
- (2) If a member of the Chamber becomes aware of circumstances giving rise to his/her exclusion, he/she shall notify the President of the Chamber who shall exclude the member from the proceedings by resolution. The President of the Chamber shall add a new member to the Senate.
- (3) If the President of the Chamber becomes aware of circumstances giving rise to his/her exclusion, he/she shall notify the Vice-President of the Chamber who shall exclude the President from the proceedings by resolution. The Vice-President of the Chamber shall add a new member to the Senate.
- (4) If the entire Senate is excluded from discussing and deciding the matter, the President of the Chamber assigns the matter to another Senate. If all members representing a particular litigating interest group are excluded from the negotiations and decision-making under Article 7 (2) or (3), the matter shall be decided by the Chamber's Plenary Body. The excluded member of the Chamber cannot participate in the meetings and voting of the Chamber's Plenary Body.

⁹⁾ Article 116 of the Civic Code.

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Article 16

Decision on the objection of partiality

- (1) If a party in the proceedings has legitimate doubts as to the impartiality or independence of a particular member of the Chamber who hears and decides the dispute, he/she can lodge an objection of partiality against such member.
- (2) The party to the proceedings shall lodge its objection of partiality in writing to the Presiding Judge of the Senate within seven days from learning about the bias or partiality of the Chamber's member. If the objection of partiality is lodged against the Presiding Judge of the Senate, the party to the proceedings is obliged to send the objection in writing to the President or Vice-President of the Chamber within seven days from learning about the bias or partiality. Upon expiry of this time limit, the party's right to exercise the objection of partiality is waived.
- (3) If the matter is subject to the negotiations and decision of the Chamber's Plenary Body, the party to the proceedings shall lodge its objection of partiality in writing to the President of the Chamber within seven days from learning about such bias or partiality of the Chamber's member. If the objection of partiality is lodged against the President of the Chamber, the party to the proceedings is obliged to send the objection in writing to the Vice-President of the Chamber within seven days from learning about the bias or partiality. Upon expiry of this time limit, the party's right to exercise the objection of partiality is waived.
- (4) The notice of lodging the objection shall contain the reasons and justification of the alleged bias of the Chamber's member and evidence thereof.
- (5) If the member of the Chamber rejects the objection of partiality, the Chamber's Plenary Body shall decide on the validity of the objection in his/her absence.
- (6) The Plenary Body shall recognize the objection of bias as reasonable and exclude the member of the Chamber from the proceedings if the resolution is adopted by a majority vote of all the members of the Plenary Body of the Chamber.
- (7) If the Chamber's Plenary Body recognizes the objection of partiality as valid in the course of the proceedings on the merits, any proceedings which took place in the presence of the member of the Chamber shall be deemed invalid and must be repeated.
- (8) No appeals procedure can be initiated against the decision of the Chamber's Plenary Body regarding the objection of partiality.

Article 17

Party to the proceedings

- (1) A player or club with current or past affiliation to the SFA at the time of emergence of the dispute may become a party to the proceedings. The SFA itself may also be a party to the proceedings.
- (2) In the case of assessing the compliance of SFA member regulations with the SFA, UEFA or FIFA regulations or the Sports Act, the concerned SFA member or SFA inspector may become a party to the proceedings.
- (3) In the proceedings, the basic procedural rights of the parties are guaranteed, in particular, the right to equal treatment, expression of views on the subject, inspection of the file kept in the relevant matter, consideration and furnishing of available evidence and proper justification of the decision in the matter.
- (4) A party to the proceedings may be represented or have a representative that represents the party.¹⁰⁾

Article 18

Proceedings and service of documents

- (1) The proceedings of the Chamber are non-public if not agreed otherwise by the parties.
- (2) The proceedings of the Chamber begin on the day of delivery of the written¹¹⁾ claim.
- (3) The service of documents is governed by Article 71 (3) of the SFA Statutes.
- (4) The proceedings of the Chamber are made in writing if not provided otherwise in these Rules of Procedure.
- (5) In justified cases, the Chamber may order an oral hearing of the matter in accordance with Article 22.

¹⁰⁾ Article 22 to 31a of the Civic Code.

¹¹⁾ Article 2 (r) of the SFA Statutes.

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- (6) As a rule, the Chamber's Plenary Body convenes in the SFA head office. The meeting of the Senate and the Chamber's Plenary Body can also take place via video conference or telephone conference.

Article 19

Deadlines

- (1) The party to the proceedings is obliged to comply with the deadlines for the submission of complaints or statements provided for in these Rules of Procedure, or determined by the Chamber. The deadline is deemed met if the complaint or statement is lodged within the last day of such a deadline, and its submission can be manifested by a receipt or similar confirmation of the postal or delivery service, or if its delivery is confirmed by the ISSF confirmation or by fax.
- (2) The deadlines for the exercise of the rights of the parties within the proceedings before the Chamber are governed by specific SFA regulations. If a special regulation does not specify a deadline for the exercise of the rights of the parties, SFA Chamber shall refuse to deal with the matter if more than two years elapse from the occurrence of the facts decisive for the emergence of the dispute. This, however, does not apply in the case of assessment of SFA member's regulations.
- (3) The deadlines determined by the Chamber cannot be longer than ten days. In substantiated and urgent cases, the deadline may be shortened to 48 hours.
- (4) If these Rules of Procedure do not specify the effects of expiry of the deadline, its effects shall be decided upon by the Chamber.
- (5) The deadline shall begin from the day following the date of receipt of the relevant notice. If the last day of the deadline is a Saturday, Sunday or an official holiday, the deadline shall be extended until the end of the first subsequent working day.
- (6) The deadlines defined in these Rules of Procedure shall not be extended.
- (7) The deadlines defined by the Chamber may be extended for serious reasons following a substantiated request of the relevant party submitted prior to the deadline. A party to the proceedings may request an extension of the deadline only once and for a maximum of ten days.
- (8) If a party or its representative cannot not meet the deadline due to the impediments that arose without its fault or merit, the deadline can be defined again based on a reasoned application made within ten days of the date when the impediments subsided.

Article 20

Claim

- (1) The claim shall be drawn up in the national language and it shall include
 - a) Surname, name, title and address or name and address of the claimant and the surname, first name, title and address or name and address of its representative if the claimant is being represented;
 - b) Claimant's or representative's electronic address for the service of documents within the proceedings,
 - c) Designation of the defendant, stating the data referred to in paragraph a)
 - d) Brief statement of relevant facts,
 - e) Indication of what the claimant seeks and demands through the claim
 - f) Legal basis for the claim
 - g) Evidence in possession of the claimant and proposal to use the evidence,
 - h) Value of the dispute if the dispute is a property dispute.
 - i) Declaration that no proceedings were instituted, commenced or validly concluded in another body concerning the same case,
 - j) Statement on the nature of the dispute ¹².
- (2) The proposal shall include the date and signature of the party to the proceedings and is administered in two copies; this does not apply when the application is made through the ISSF.

¹²⁾ According to Article 7 (2) and (3) of the Rules of Procedure

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- (3) If not provided otherwise in Article 37, the initiation of the proceedings to address the claim by the Chamber is contingent upon payment of a fee based on the Schedule of Fees.
- (4) After meeting the conditions referred to in paragraph 3, the Chamber will acknowledge receipt of the claim to the claimant and the Secretary of the Chamber registers the motion in the ISSF. At the same time, the Secretary of the Chamber shall inform the participants of the proceedings about the composition of the Senate.
- (5) If the claim is furnished late, submitted by an unauthorized person, or if the claim cannot be decided by the Chamber, the Chamber shall reject the claim by resolution issued by the Chamber; this does not apply if the procedure under Article 3 (2) is used.
- (6) A claim, which is not exhaustive, not written in the national language, not signed, signed by unauthorized representatives, contains other shortcomings, or the fee is not paid in the correct amount, is returned by the Secretary of the Chamber to the claimant for review with an appropriate deadline. Upon expiry of the deadline set out by the Chamber, the Chamber suspends the proceedings.
- (7) Unless there are grounds for rejecting the claim under paragraph 5, or the Chamber terminates the proceedings pursuant to section 6, the Secretary of the Chamber shall submit the claim to the respondent identified in the claim, and set a deadline for the respondent's counterstatement.
- (8) If a party to the proceedings fails to make a statement to the claim within the specified period, the Chamber shall decide the case on the basis of available documents and evidence.

Article 20a

Consolidation of proceedings

- (1) The Chamber may combine factually related matters into one joint proceedings by adding subsequent claims delivered to the Chamber to an earlier claim.
- (2) A party to the proceedings is also entitled to propose the consolidation of matters according to paragraph 1.
- (3) The President of the Chamber decides on joining the matters into one joint proceedings by resolution. The decision on joining the matters is delivered to all parties to the proceedings. The decision on joining the matters cannot be appealed. No decision on the rejection of the party's proposal to join the matters is issued.
- (4) The consolidation of matters into one joint proceedings shall not prevent the case from being allocated into separate proceedings later; the allocation of the case into separate proceedings is decided by the relevant Senate by resolution.

Article 21

Interim measures

- (1) Prior to the initiation of the proceedings, the Chamber may impose interim measures if these are necessary to temporarily adjust the conditions of the parties, or if there is a concern that the enforcement of the Chamber's ruling may be jeopardized. In contentious cases, the provisions of immediate measures in special regulations shall apply *mutatis mutandis*.¹³⁾
- (2) The parties affected by the interim measures are the same parties who would have otherwise acted as parties in the hearing and decision on the merits.
- (3) The interim measures are imposed by the Chamber based on the proposal.
- (4) Besides the particulars pursuant to Article 20, the proposal to impose interim measures shall contain a description of the relevant facts justifying the interim measures, conditions of the merits of the application to be granted provisional protection, and justification of the imminent danger or the need to temporarily modify or adjust the conditions of the parties. The proposal to impose interim measures may also be part of the claim pursuant to Article 20.

¹³⁾ Article 324 et seq., Act no. 160/2015 Coll. Civil Litigation Procedure.

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- (5) The proposal to impose interim measures must clearly state what the claimant seeks through the claim on the merits. If the claimant who has no reasons for refusing the proposal to impose interim measures does not submit the claim on the merits within ten days from the date of the proposal to impose interim measures, the interim measures shall lapse and the Chamber shall terminate the proceedings.
- (6) If the proposal to impose interim measures does not meet all the requirements under paragraph 4 and 5, the Chamber shall proceed pursuant to Article 20 (6).
- (7) The proposal to impose interim measures, which meets the requirements under paragraph 4 and 5, shall be decided by the Chamber within ten days of its receipt. Article 29 and 31 shall apply to the decision of the Chamber on interim measures.
- (8) The imposition of interim measures is decided upon by the Chamber even without the approval of the other parties to the proceedings. The proposal to impose interim measures can only be delivered by the Chamber to the other parties to the proceedings together with the resolution on imposing the interim measures.
- (9) If the proposal to impose interim measures is rejected or denied, the Chamber shall not deliver the resolution on the rejection or denial or any other appeal by the claimant to the other parties to the proceedings; the resolution of the Appellate Body shall be delivered to them only if the interim measures have been imposed.
- (10) The decision on interim measures shall be sent by the Chamber within three days from its effective date. If the proposal to impose interim measures is rejected or denied, the Chamber shall send the decision within three days of its release.
- (11) The resolution on interim measures is enforceable upon delivery.

Article 22

Hearing of the matter and minutes of its progress

- (1) In justified cases, the Chamber may summon the parties to the proceedings to an oral hearing if it deems the matter cannot be decided in a qualified manner.
- (2) If an oral hearing has been ordered, minutes are taken during the proceedings containing the particulars under Article 8 (5). The minutes shall be signed by the Presiding Judge or President of the Chamber, relevant parties to the proceedings or their representatives, and by any witnesses or experts who were present at the hearing.

Article 23

Evidence

- (1) The Chamber collects and examines the evidence
 - a) By questioning or written questions submitted to the parties,
 - b) From the positions and statements of the parties,
 - c) From the positions and statements of experts,
 - d) By other means that the Chamber considers to be appropriate.
- (2) The evidence is evaluated by the Chamber at its discretion, each piece of evidence is assessed individually and all pieces of evidence collectively; while carefully considering the emerging facts during the proceedings, including what the parties have submitted. The Chamber decides at its sole discretion and conviction.
- (3) The burden of proof is borne by the party to the proceedings that files the motion.
- (4) If necessary, the Chamber may also take into account other evidence than that submitted by the parties, in particular the evidence available in the official registries, bodies and committees and in the ISSF.
- (5) The cost of evidence from the opinions and statements of witnesses and experts shall be borne by the respective party that suggested the evidence.
- (6) The Chamber may on its own initiative or at the request of the parties reject particular evidence that has no connection to the matter, or that would otherwise improperly delay the proceedings.

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Article 24

Duties of the parties to the proceedings

- (1) The parties shall be required to actively cooperate in establishing the facts relevant to a proper assessment, review and decision of the case.
- (2) If a party to the proceedings does not cooperate, the Presiding Judge may, upon prior notification of the party, decide to levy a procedural fine on the non-cooperating party totaling a maximum of 1,000 Euro.
- (3) If a party to the proceedings does not cooperate, the Chamber may decide on the basis of the documents and evidence made available to it.
- (4) All persons subject to the SFA Statutes and other SFA rules are required to attend the hearing if summoned by the Chamber regardless of the reasons for the summons, and send their opinions or statements when requested by the Chamber.
- (5) The refusal to appear before the Chamber or deliver its opinion or statement is only granted to
 - a) Close persons to the party to the proceedings or
 - b) A person bound by confidentiality with respect to the party to the proceedings under special regulations.
- (6) The persons under paragraph 5 who refuse to appear before the Chamber or deliver their opinions or statements shall be required to provide a reason for the refusal and details regarding their relation with the parties to the proceedings.

Article 25

Hearing of witnesses

- (1) Prior to the commencement of the hearing of a witness, the Chamber shall verify the identity of the witness and notify him/her of the consequences of false testimony.¹⁴⁾
- (2) The hearing of witnesses is conducted by the Chamber at the SFA head office after having communicated to the parties the date of the hearing, which they may attend to interrogate the witnesses. If the parties to the proceedings do not require an in person examination of witnesses, the witnesses may be heard through a videoconference, teleconference or in writing by answering the relevant questions.
- (3) The Chamber allows the parties to the proceedings to have the witnesses provide more details or amend their testimonies after approving the admissibility of the questions proposed by the parties.

Article 26

Opinions and statements of experts

- (1) If the verification or establishment of facts requires expert knowledge, the Chamber may request the opinion or statement of an expert.
- (2) An expert is a person who has special skills and knowledge in the respective field.
- (3) Upon request of the Chamber, the expert shall prepare a written opinion within the time limit set by the Chamber, or may appear in person at the discussion or hearing.
- (4) The provisions for the examination of witnesses shall also apply to the interrogation of experts.
- (5) The Chamber may on its own initiative or at the request of the parties request
 - a) further information from the expert
 - b) opinion or statement of another expert if the first opinion or statement is incomplete, vague or contradictory.
- (6) The provisions for the objection of partiality of the members of the Chamber shall also apply to the objection of partiality of the experts.

¹⁴⁾ Article 64 (1) (d) of the SFA Disciplinary Rules.

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Article 27

Furnishing evidence

- (1) All persons and institutions subject to the SFA Statutes and other SFA rules are required to submit evidence to the Chamber, which is available to them and which is justified in relation to the matter being discussed.
- (2) The party to the proceedings has the right to examine the presented evidence, with the exception of evidence whose content or other facts contained therein are confidential.
- (3) Any evidence whose examination was withheld from a party by the Chamber may only be used against this party if the Chamber informs the party about its content and allows the party to comment it.

Article 28

End of evidence collection period

- (1) Once the Chamber collects all available evidence, it declares the process of collection of evidence completed and notifies the involved parties.
- (2) After the end of the collection period, the parties may not submit any further evidence.
- (3) The parties may state their final positions at the oral hearing or discussion of the matter, after which the Presiding Judge of the Senate closes the hearing.

Article 29

Decision on the merits

- (1) The decision of the Chamber shall include
 - a) Date of the resolution
 - b) Names and surnames of the members of the Chamber who decided the matter
 - c) Identification data of the parties and their representatives if represented in the proceedings,
 - d) Decision on the merits
 - e) Decision on the cost of proceedings
 - f) Information about the available legal remedies, which includes the form of remedy, the body authorized to decide on the use of the remedy, and the time limit for lodging the legal remedy.
 - g) Signature of the Presiding Judge and President of the Chamber if the matter was decided by the Chamber's Plenary Body, or a member of the Senate if the matter was decided separately under Article 10.
- (2) The parties to the proceedings may reach an amicable settlement during the course of the proceedings. Upon request by a party to the proceedings, and with the consent of all other parties involved, the Chamber may suspend the proceedings for the time proposed by the party or at its own discretion, which is necessary for the parties to negotiate the settlement, but for no more than ten days. If the parties to the proceedings fail to conclude a settlement, any of the parties may suggest to the Chamber to continue with the proceedings. If upon expiry of the deadline set for the negotiation of the parties regarding the settlement none of the parties proposes to the Chamber to continue with the proceedings, the Chamber shall terminate the proceedings. The settlement concluded between the parties shall be taken by the Chamber as a final decision on the merits.
- (3) In the resolution issued by the Chamber, the original claim filed by the party regarding the matter is
 - a) confirmed
 - b) rejected
 - c) modified; however, the Chamber may not award more to the claimant than what the claimant claimed in the original claim.
- (4) In the case of a decision pursuant to paragraph 3 (a) or (c), the Chamber shall impose on the defendant an obligation to perform and the respective deadline.
- (5) If during the procedure the Chamber identifies a breach of the obligations arising from the SFA rules, it can file an appeal to another SFA body simultaneously with the decision, especially to:

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- a) SFA administrative body if during the procedure it identifies a breach of the obligations arising from the SFA Registration and Transfer Rules,
 - b) Licensing body if during the procedure it identifies a breach of the obligations arising from the licensing proceedings, or
 - c) disciplinary commission if during the procedure it identifies a disciplinary offense under the SFA Disciplinary Regulations.
- (6) The decisions of the Chamber in accordance with Article 10 (1) of the SFA Statutes are binding for the SFA members. Failure to comply with the imposed duties is considered a disciplinary offense.
- (7) The decision of the Chamber is published in the ISSF and through it in the Sports Information System.

**Article 30
Service of documents**

- (1) The Chamber shall deliver its decision to the parties pursuant to Article 18 (3).
- (2) The decision is deemed to have been served to the party as at the date of receipt by the relevant party, which is attested by a postal or courier service slip, receipt from ISSF or fax. The delivery effect to the party also applies to its representative.

**Article 31
Justification of the decision**

- (1) A party may ask the Chamber to justify its decision in writing within ten days of receipt of the decision.
- (2) The justification of the decision is a paid service according to the Schedule of Fees.
- (3) Filing an application under paragraph 1 shall have suspensive effect (the decision of the Chamber shall not become final and enforceable); this does not apply in the case of the decisions regarding the interim measures. If the persons entitled to file an appeal request the justification of the decision within the deadline according to paragraph 1, the deadline for filing an appeal according to Article 36 (2) begins with the delivery of the justification of the decision according to paragraph 4.
- (4) The justification of the decision shall be drawn up by the rapporteur of the Senate that decided on the merits. If the rapporteur applied his dissenting opinion in the decision on the matter, the justification of the decision shall be drawn up by another member of the Senate designated by the President of the Chamber. The justification of the decision is issued and delivered by the Chamber to the parties within 20 days of receiving a request under paragraph 1 and meeting the condition under paragraph 2.
- (5) If it was drawn up by the member of the Senate based on the vote of the member of the Senate, the dissenting opinion of the member of the Senate shall form a separate part of the justification of the decision.
- (6) In its justification, the Chamber shall state what the claimant requested and for what reasons, what the defendant's or other person's involved in the proceedings reaction was to the matter, it shall contain a brief, clear and concise explanation of the facts considered proven and not, list of evidence, what considerations were used in the assessment of evidence, why additional evidence was not considered and how the matter was assessed from a legal standpoint.

**Article 32
Cost of the proceedings**

- (1) The proceedings of the Chamber are a paid service according to the Schedule of Fees.
- (2) The party to the proceedings shall only pay the costs incurred in accordance with these Rules of Procedure. The costs of proceedings are particularly the expenses of the parties and their representatives, the costs of procuring evidence, the fees for the proceedings before the Chamber, any administrative costs, expert fees, interpreter fees, attorney fees of a party in an amount of the tariff fees

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in accordance with the attorney tariffs determined in a special regulation¹⁵⁾ and other costs of the proceedings, which have been duly proven by the Chamber.

- (3) Before the commencement of the proceedings on the merits, the Chamber may determine that the claimant is obliged to make an advance payment for the costs of the proceedings to the SFA's account.
- (4) The claim to cover the costs may be decided by the Chamber even without the claim to decide the matter itself. If the fees include the costs of legal representation in which a party is represented by an attorney, the attorney is required to quantify the costs of legal representation no later than three working days after the issuance of the decision on the merits. If the attorney fails not calculate the costs of legal representation within this period, the Chamber will award him compensation for the costs of legal representation to the extent of the legal services resulting from the contents of the file maintained by the Chamber. The costs of the proceedings shall be borne by the parties based on their success in the case. The claim to cover the costs of the proceedings shall be decided by the Chamber in a separate resolution after the decision on the merits becomes effective.
- (5) The party that has fully won the case shall be granted the costs necessary for the effective application of its rights against the defending party that has lost the case.
- (6) If a party wins the case partially, the Chamber shall distribute the costs proportionally or declare that none of the parties has the right for reimbursement of the costs.
- (7) If through its action, inaction or omission the party causes delays in the proceedings and thus increases the costs associated with the proceedings, the Chamber may decide that such a party shall pay all the costs related to the proceedings regardless of its success in the case.

Article 33

Proposal to review the compliance of SFA member's regulations

- (1) The Chamber decides on the compliance of an SFA member's compliance with the SFA, UEFA or FIFA regulations or the Sports Act if a dispute arises in assessing their compliance.
- (2) The proposal to review the compliance of the SFA member may be submitted by the member concerned or an SFA inspector.
- (3) The proposal to review the SFA member's compliance shall contain
 - a) surname, name, title and address or name and address of the claimant and the surname, first name and title or name and address of its representative if the claimant is being represented;
 - b) Claimant's or representative's electronic address for the service of documents within the proceedings,
 - c) The SFA member's identification indicating the data under letter a), whose examination of compliance is requested in the proposal,
 - d) Identification of the relevant regulation, whose non-compliance with the higher legal regulation is contested, with an indication of whether the claimant is challenging the regulation in its entirety or in part, or its individual provisions,
 - e) Identification of the higher legal regulation, its parts or individual provisions, with which the contested regulation is not consistent,
 - f) Brief statement of relevant facts,
 - g) Indication of what the claimant seeks and demands,
 - h) Evidence in possession of the claimant and proposal to use the evidence.
- (4) The proposal shall include the date and signature of the party to the proceedings and is administered in two copies; this does not apply when the application is made through the ISSF.
- (5) The initiation of the proceedings by the Chamber is subject to payment of a fee based on the Schedule of Fees if not provided otherwise herein.
- (6) After meeting the conditions referred to in paragraph 5, the Chamber will acknowledge receipt of the claim to the claimant and the Secretary of the Chamber registers the motion in the ISSF.

¹⁵⁾ Ordinance of Ministry of Justice of the Slovak Republic no. 655/2004 Coll. On remunerations and fees for attorneys for the provision of legal services, as amended.

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- (7) If the application is submitted by an unauthorized person, or if the application cannot be decided by the Chamber, the Chamber shall reject the motion by resolution issued by the Chamber.
- (8) A claim, which is not exhaustive, not written in the national language, not signed, signed by unauthorized representatives, contains other shortcomings, or the fee is not paid in the correct amount, is returned by the Secretary of the Chamber to the claimant for review with an appropriate deadline. Upon expiry of the deadline set out by the Chamber, the Chamber suspends the proceedings.
- (9) The Chamber shall terminate the proceedings on the compliance of the SFA member's regulations when the affected regulations becomes void.

Article 34

Suspension of SFA member's regulations

- (1) Subject to a proposal of the SFA Executive Committee, the Chamber may decide to suspend the contested regulation, its parts or individual provisions in accordance with Article 11 (5) of the SFA Statutes in relation to the persons with affiliation to the SFA. The request for suspension is decided by the Chamber without undue delay.
- (2) The decision to suspend the contested SFA member's regulation, its parts or individual provisions, can be revoked by the Chamber provided that the reasons for which the suspension was adopted ceased; otherwise the decision is terminated by the announcement of the verdict on the merits or termination of the proceedings.

Article 35

Decision on the compliance of SFA member's regulations

- (1) Before deciding on the merits, the Presiding Judge shall solicit the opinion of the SFA member body that issued the contested regulation. The opinion issued by this SFA member's body shall include a justification.
- (2) The proceedings on the compliance of the SFA member's regulation is governed by Article 18, 19 and 22 to 28.
- (3) The decision of the Chamber shall include
 - a) Date of the resolution
 - b) Names and surnames of the members of the Chamber who decided the matter
 - c) Identification data of the parties and their representatives if represented in the proceedings,
 - d) Decision on the merits
 - e) Justification of the decision
 - f) Deadline for the elimination of non-compliance of the SFA member's regulations if the analysis resulted in identifying a non-compliance
 - g) Motion to initiate the proceedings of the relevant SFA body in accordance with Article 11 of the SFA Statutes if the deadline under letter e) expires
 - h) Information about the available legal remedies, which includes the form of remedy, the body authorized to decide on the use of the remedy, and the time limit for lodging the legal remedy.
 - i) Information on the cost of the proceedings, if applicable
 - j) Signature of the Presiding Judge or President of the Chamber if the matter was discussed and decided by the Chamber's Plenary Body.
- (4) The decision of the Chamber is published in the ISSF and through it in the Sports Information System.

Article 36

Appeals procedure

- (1) An appeal may be lodged against the decision of the Chamber, and it shall be decided by the Board of Appeals (hereinafter "Board of Appeals"). The first-instance decisions of the Chamber shall not be subject to examination by the SFA Jury of Appeals under Article 60 (8) of the SFA Statutes.
- (2) The deadline for lodging an appeal against the decision is 15 days and it starts from the day following the date of receipt of the decision by the relevant party. If the person entitled to lodge an appeal has requested the justification of the decision within the deadline according to Article 31 (1), the deadline for lodging an appeal starts from the delivery of the justification of the decision according to Article 31 (4).

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- (3) The appeal shall contain the following particulars:
- a) Authority/body it is intended to,
 - b) Designation of the party lodging the appeal, including the party's given name, last name and address of a natural person, or name and registered office of a legal person, and given name, last name, function and address, or name and registered office of the representative if the Appellant is represented,
 - c) identification of the decision of the Chamber, which is being appealed,
 - d) Justification of the appeal
 - e) Indication of evidence to be used in the appeals proceedings,
 - f) Extent to which the decision is appealed and what the Appellant is seeking,
 - g) Signature of the Appellant if the appeal was not lodged through the ISSF, and
 - h) Proof of payment of the appeals fee if the fee is not paid through the monthly collection invoice.
- (4) An appeal according to paragraph 3 (d) can only be justified as follows:
- a) The procedural conditions were not met,
 - b) The chamber prevented the party from exercising its procedural rights due to an incorrect procedural procedure, to the extent that the right to a fair trial and hearing and decision of the case was violated,
 - c) The decision was made by an expelled member of the Chamber or an incorrectly nominated Chamber Senate,
 - d) The Chamber did not provide the evidence proposed by the parties, which was necessary to establish the material facts,
 - e) The ascertained facts do not stand because additional evidence is available, which could not be used by the parties in accordance with Article 20,
 - f) The Chamber reached incorrect findings of fact based on the evidence presented, or
 - g) The Chamber's decision is based on an incorrect legal assessment of the matter.
- (5) If the appeal does not meet the requirements in paragraph 3, the Chamber shall invite the Appellant to remove the deficiencies within the deadline specified.
- (6) If the identified deficiency in the appeal is not eliminated within the period determined according to paragraph 5, the Chamber will stop the appeals proceedings.
- (7) An appeal against the decision of the Chamber shall have a suspensory effect.

**Article 36a
Board of Appeals**

- (1) The appeals against decisions of the Chamber shall be decided by the Board of Appeals, acting as an authority of second instance.
- (2) The Board of Appeals is composed has five members with the following functions:
- a) Chairman of the Board of Appeals,
 - b) Two members of the Chamber for the clubs and
 - c) Two members of the Chamber for the players.
- (3) President of the Chamber shall act as the Presiding Judge of the Board of Appeals if the first instance decision was taken by the Vice-President of the Chamber acting as the Presiding Judge, and conversely, the Vice-President of the Chamber shall act as the Presiding Judge of the Board of Appeals if the first instance decision was taken by the President of the Chamber acting as the Presiding Judge.
- (4) The members of the Board of Appeals are nominated by the Chairman of the Board of Appeals in the relevant case. The member of the Chamber who decided the matter as member of the first instance Senate cannot become a member of the Board of Appeals deciding the said matter.
- (5) The division of work within the decision-making activities of the Board of Appeals is guided by the principle of randomization of assigning the matters to individual members of the Chamber, respecting the principle of uniform work load.
- (6) The Board of Appeals is bound by the grounds of appeal according to Article 36 (4) and the scope of the appeal according to Article 36 (3) (f).

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Article 36b

Decision on the appeal

- (1) The Chairman of the Board of Appeals shall designate one of the members of the Board of Appeals as a rapporteur to prepare the documents necessary for the decision of the Board of Appeals.
- (2) The Board of Appeals shall decide by resolution and justify the matter by voting of the members of the Board of Appeals. The quorum of the Board of Appeals requires the presence of all members of the Board of Appeals. The adoption of a resolution of the Board of Appeals requires a majority vote of all its members. Each member of the Board of Appeals has one vote. If the voting process results in a draw, the vote of the Chairman of the Board of Appeals determines the result. The voting of the Board of Appeals may also be effected on the basis of distance voting according to the special SFA regulations.
- (3) The Board of Appeals shall decide the case by
 - a) Suspending the proceedings if the conditions for the proceedings and decision are not met, or if the proceedings are futile in light of the circumstances identified,
 - b) Dismissing the appeal if the contested decision was made in accordance with the laws, regulations and decisions of the SFA, UEFA or FIFA, and confirming the contested decision,
 - c) Altering the contested decision if it was not issued in accordance with the laws, regulations or decisions of the SFA, UEFA or FIFA or it contradicts them and a decision can be made based on the identified facts, or
 - d) Annulling the contested decision and returning the case accompanied by its ruling to the first instance body whose decision was annulled on the basis of the appeal, for reinitiation of the proceedings and a new decision.
- (4) The decision of the Board of Appeals shall be binding to the SFA Members.
- (5) The decision of the Board of Appeals cannot be appealed. The decisions of the Board of Appeals shall not be subject to examination by the SFA Jury of Appeals under Article 60 (8) of the SFA Statutes.

Article 37

Fees and Schedule of Fees

- (1) A fee paid pursuant to these Rules of Procedure is SFA's income and it is used primarily to support the operation of the Chamber and the educational and publishing activities related to the activities of the Chamber.
- (2) The payers who are issued monthly collection invoices, pay a the fee through the issued monthly collection invoices.
- (3) If the payer is not issued a monthly collection invoice, the amount shall be payable in any other way (account deposit, bank transfer or other payment services).
- (4) The fee for the proceedings on the claim under Article 20 totals
 - a) 3% of the value of the disputed item, at least 150 Euro, but no more than 5,000 Euro,
 - b) 300 Euro where the item disputed in the proceedings cannot be valued monetarily.
- (5) The fee for amending the claim under Article 20 is equal to the difference between the paid fee under paragraph 4 (a) and a fee based on the value of the dispute, but at least 35 Euro. If the disputed item cannot be valued monetarily, the fee for amending a claim under Article 20 is 35 Euro.
- (6) Where the claimant files more claims under Article 20, the fee is only paid for the claim with a higher fee under paragraph 4.
- (7) The fee for the proposal to impose interim measures under Article 21 is 200 Euro.
- (8) The fee for the application to review the SFA member's compliance is 300 Euro.
- (9) The fee for justification of the decision on the merits under Article 31 is 300 Euro. If the claim made by the party to the proceedings is less than 300 Euro, the fee for justifying the decision shall at most amount to the fee for the proceedings on the claim according to paragraph 4.

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- (10) The fee for justification of the first instance decision not on the merits is EUR 100.
- (11) If after requesting the justification of the decision and paying the fee for the justification of the decision according to paragraph 9 or paragraph 10 the party fails to file an appeal against the decision, the Chamber will return 50% of the fee paid for the justification of the decision upon request.
- (12) The fee for lodging an appeal under Article 36 totals 300 Euro. If the person entitled to file an appeal submitted a request for justification of the decision on the merits before filing the appeal, the paid fee for the justification of the decision is considered to be the fee for the appeal.
- (13) If the parties conclude a settlement under Article 29 (2), the Chamber shall return 50% of the fee to the payer.
- (14) If the Chamber is not competent to hear the case, the claimant shall be returned the fee with a 1% deduction.
- (15) If the claimant withdraws his claim in its entirety, the Chamber will refund him the fee reduced by 5%; if the claimant withdraws his proposal partially, he will be refunded the proportional part of the fee reduced by 5%.
- (16) In justified cases, the Chamber can by resolution decide on exemption from the obligation to pay the fee according to these Rules of Procedure if the claimant requests it in the proposal and states reasons worthy of special attention. The decision on exemption from the fee shall not prevent a subsequent decision, which cancels the exemption from the obligation to pay the fee.
- (17) In justified cases, the Chamber may by resolution decide on a temporary postponement of the obligation to pay the fee for the proceedings if the claimant is a player and the dispute concerns financial compensation from the contractual relationship. If, based on the Chamber's decision, the claimant is fully successful in the case, the Chamber will decide, as part of the decision on the costs of the proceedings, that the temporarily deferred fee for the proceedings shall be borne by the defendant; otherwise, the claimant shall bear the fee for the proceedings.

Article 38

Liability

Except for the infringement of the SFA Statutes and other SFA rules and regulations, the members of the Chamber and the Chamber Secretary have no legal responsibility for the operation of the Chamber and their actions in relation to the activities of the Chamber.

Article 38a

Complaints against the Chamber's procedures

- (1) A party to the proceedings can file a complaint against the procedures of the Chamber if there are delays in the proceedings or the principles of the Chamber's proceedings have been violated.
- (2) The complaints shall be answered by the President of the Chamber within 30 days of delivery to the Chamber at the latest.
- (3) If the President of the Chamber finds that the complaint is justified, he will ensure the implementation of appropriate measures to eliminate the deficiencies; otherwise, the complaint is adjourned.
- (4) The President of the Chamber informs the Complainant in writing about the methods to process the complaint and the measures taken to eliminate the identified deficiencies.

Article 39

Transitional provisions

- (1) The proceedings before the Chamber, which were initiated but not completed until 09.05.2016, shall be completed in accordance with these Rules of Procedure.
- (2) The Chamber decides on the motions lodged at the Court of Arbitration pursuant to Article 72 (4) of the SFA Statutes.
- (3) The term of office of the President, Vice-President and other members of the Chamber lasts until the end of their term in which they were elected.
- (4) The election of the two members of the Chamber pursuant to Article 5 (1) (c) first paragraph and two members of the Chamber pursuant to Article 5 (1) (d) shall be conducted by 31.12.2016. The term of office of the new members of the Chamber in accordance with Article 5 (3) is five years.

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Article 39a

Transitional provisions to the amendments effective from Tuesday, December 12, 2017

- (1) Unless provided otherwise, these Rules of Procedure also apply to proceedings initiated before the effective date of these Rules of Procedure.
- (2) All proceedings started before the effective date of these Rules of Procedure shall be decided by the relevant Senates of the Chamber in their original composition.
- (3) All legal effects of actions that took place within the proceedings before the effective date of these Rules of Procedure remain preserved.

Article 40

Annulment clause

The Rules of Procedure of the SFA Dispute Resolution Chamber for dispute resolution, approved by the SFA Executive Committee on May 7, 2014, as amended, are hereby annulled.

Article 41

Effectiveness

These Rules of Procedure were approved by the Executive Committee of the SFA on December 7, 2021, and shall take effect upon approval.