



# CONCACAF FUTSAL CHAMPIONSHIP

## 2012

Regulations

The CONCACAF Futsal Championship is the Qualifying  
Tournament for the FIFA Futsal World Cup 2012.

2012  
Edition -  
ENGLISH

## **REGULATIONS FOR THE CONCACAF FUTSAL CHAMPIONSHIP**

### **PREAMBLE**

- A. The CONCACAF Futsal Championship is an official CONCACAF event, which serves as a qualifying tournament for the FIFA Futsal World Cup.
- B. It is played as a Preliminary Phase and a Final Phase.
- C. Any rights not ceded by these regulations to a Member Association participating in the Preliminary or Final Phase shall belong to CONCACAF.

### **I. TITLE - CONCACAF FUTSAL CHAMPIONSHIP**

- A. The CONCACAF Futsal Championship shall take place every four years. The Member Associations affiliated to CONCACAF are invited to participate with their national Futsal team.
- B. CONCACAF will present the winning team with a Championship trophy.
- C. CONCACAF will present all players in the Final Phase with a diploma of participation.

### **II. ENTRIES**

- A. The National Futsal teams of CONCACAF Members have the right to participate.
- B. The competition will serve to qualify members of CONCACAF for the FIFA Futsal World Cup.
- C. However, only those Members eligible to compete in the FIFA Futsal tournament shall be permitted to advance from this competition.

### III. ORGANIZATION OF THE COMPETITION

#### A. The competition shall be played in two phases:

1. The Preliminary Phase
2. The Final Phase

#### The Preliminary Phase

1. The Preliminary Phase of the competition shall be played among the qualifiers of each zone of the Confederation or combination thereof, thus providing proper representation in the Final Phase for members from each zone.

#### The Final Phase

1. The Final Phase of the competition shall be played among no more than eight (8) teams, each zone of CONCACAF being represented as determined by the Executive Committee.
2. The matches of the Final Phase of the competition shall be played in a site or sites as determined by the Executive Committee and shall be governed by these Regulations.

### IV. WITHDRAWALS

- #### A. Teams having entered the competition are obligated to play all their matches until they are eliminated. If after entering the tournament, a Team that fails to participate, shall be penalized as follows, except in unforeseen circumstances and cases of *force majeure* as determined by the Executive Committee.
- #### B. If a withdrawal takes place:
1. After entering the tournament but on or before the day of the draw for the first round of the tournament a fine of \$5,000 USD;
  2. After the draw but on or before the date of the first match of the tournament a fine of \$7,500 USD;
  3. Any time during the Preliminary Phase of the tournament a fine of \$10,000 USD;
  4. After the Preliminary Phase but before the start of the Final Phase of the tournament a fine of \$15,000 USD;
  5. Any time during the Final Phase of the tournament a fine of \$20,000 USD;

6. Any time after the completion of the CONCACAF Qualifying but before the FIFA Finals a fine of \$100,000 USD.
7. Depending on circumstances and the decision of the CONCACAF Executive Committee, a team which withdraws at any stage of the competition may be ordered to reimburse the particular Local Organizing Committee, the opposing team and CONCACAF any expenses they have already incurred for its team as a result of its proposed involvement or non-involvement in the competition and also pay compensation for any damages or losses arising from its withdrawal;
8. Penalties specified herein will not be applied in cases of *force majeure*, as verified by the Executive Committee of CONCACAF.
9. The National Association of any penalized team shall be responsible for ensuring that specified sanctions are carried out and complied with.

## V. CONCACAF ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

The Organizing Committee for the CONCACAF Futsal Championship appointed by the CONCACAF Executive Committee is responsible for the organization of the competition.

The Organizing Committee shall, amongst other matters, be responsible for:

- A. Preliminary and Final Phase:
  1. Imposing fines specifically provided for by these regulations;
  2. Dealing with protests;
  3. Appointing match commissioners and/or security officers;
  4. Deciding which laboratories will carry out the doping analyses;
  5. Dealing with breaches of the doping regulations;
  6. Settling cases of force majeure.
- B. Preliminary Phase:
  1. Forming groups and/or sub-groups;
  2. Fixing the venues and dates of the matches;
  3. Deciding which matches will be subject to doping tests.
- C. Final Phase
  1. Supervising general preparations, deciding on the match system, the draws and forming groups;
  2. After consultation with the Local Organizing Committee, fixing the dates, venues and arenas for the matches;
  3. Determining kick-off times;
  4. Choosing the official football and the stipulated technical material.

D. The Organizing Committee's decisions shall be final.

## VI. DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE

- A. The CONCACAF Disciplinary Committee is empowered to:
1. Admonish, sanction, fine, suspend or disqualify players, referees, Team officials or coaches.
  2. Take any disciplinary measure in accordance with the FIFA Disciplinary Code against any person or National Association(s) which may violate the Competition Regulations, the Futsal Laws of the Game or the rules of Fair Play.
  3. Prohibit violators from participating in a specific number of CONCACAF organized tournaments in which they might otherwise have participated.
  4. Report serious matters for further consideration by the Executive Committee.
- B. The decisions of the Disciplinary Committee must be based on written reports from referees and the Match Commissioner of the disputed match. All National Associations must be informed of the sanctions imposed.
- C. The Disciplinary Committee may convene a personal hearing and will decide the procedure to be followed. Decisions resulting from such hearing shall be invalid if less than three members of the Committee are present.
- D. The decisions of the Disciplinary Committee shall not be subject to appeal.
- E. Any other offenses that may be committed during the course of the Futsal Championship by Team officers, technicians or other personnel shall be punished by the appropriate Association under the provisions of its own Regulations for Championships and Competitions. For this purpose, the Executive Committee shall refer to the Association the referee's report of the match in question. The Association will, in turn, report back to the Executive Committee on the resolution of the matter and any disciplinary action taken.
- F. If the referee must suspend a match due to intervention from spectators, sporting authorities or local police, or due to aggression against any game official or member of the visiting team, if found to be responsible by the Disciplinary Committee, the guilty team shall forfeit the match with a score of 5 goals to 0 or more if the visiting team has already achieved a margin difference greater than 5-0 when the match was suspended. In addition, all sanctions specified by FIFA regulations shall be applied.

- G. Furthermore, if found to be responsible by the Disciplinary Committee, the arena in which the interrupted match is held shall be suspended for the remaining games of the Futsal Championship and for all matches of the next CONCACAF Futsal Championship in which a local team participates.
- H. If a game is suspended due to withdrawal, the team(s) refusing to complete the match shall be ineligible to participate in the next two CONCACAF Futsal Championship tournaments.
- I. Any other infringement of these Regulations, by players, referees, officials, coaches or officers, subject to economic sanctions, shall be reported to the General Secretariat for consideration by the Executive Committee.
- J. All economic penalties assessed must be paid no later than sixty (60) days after notification thereof by the corresponding Association. Unless otherwise specified, the total amount of all fines will accrue to CONCACAF.

## **VII. APPEAL COMMITTEE**

- A. The Appeal Committee shall hear appeals lodged against decisions passed by the Disciplinary Committee, which are not final according to these regulations.
- B. The procedure to be applied by the Appeal Committee is defined in the Regulations governing the CONCACAF Appeal Committee's function.
- C. The Appeal Committee shall reach its decisions on the basis of the documents and other means of evidence contained in the Disciplinary Committee's file. However, the Appeal Committee may, if necessary, also resort to any further evidence (including television and video recordings, etc.), which considers relevant.
- D. Decisions pronounced by the Appeal Committee are final.

## **VIII. PROTESTS**

- A. Protests subject to the following provisions, are objections of any kind connected with matches organized in the Preliminary and Final Phases of the Futsal Championship.

- B. Protests shall be submitted, except if the following provisions stipulate a different procedure, in writing to the Match Commissioner or the CONCACAF representative at the venue not later than two hours after the game and followed up immediately with a written report, including the original protest, to be sent to the CONCACAF General Secretariat by fax. In the Preliminary Phase, the plaintiff Team will confirm the protest by registered letter to be sent to the CONCACAF General Secretariat not later than two days after the match in question.
- C. Protests against the eligibility of players taking part in any matches in the Preliminary Phase shall be submitted in writing to the Match Commissioner not later than two hours after the match in question and confirmed by registered letter to be sent to the CONCACAF General Secretariat at least five days before the first match in the Final Phase.
- D. Protests against the eligibility of players chosen to take part in the Final Phase shall be submitted in writing to the CONCACAF General Secretariat or the CONCACAF representative at the venue not later than two hours after the game, and followed-up immediately with a written report, including the original protest to be sent tot CONCACAF General Secretariat by fax.
- E. Protests against any incidents that occur during a match shall be directed to the referee by the team captain immediately after the disputed incident and before play has been resumed. The protest shall be confirmed in writing to the Match Commissioner or the CONCACAF representative at the match by the head of the team delegation not later than two hours after the match in question.
- F. Protest against the state of the playing surface, the markings, the accessory equipment (goals, etc.) or the football shall be made to the referee before the start of the match.
- G. No protests may be made against the referee's decisions on points of fact connected with play, such decisions being final.
- H. Once the winning teams of the CONCACAF Futsal Championship have been proclaimed, any protest or complaint about the sports procedure followed during the competition shall be disregarded.

#### **IX. MATCHES PLAYED ACCORDING TO THE FUTSAL LAWS OF THE GAME**

- A. All matches will be played under the Futsal Laws of the Game as approved and published by FIFA.

- B. In the case of any discrepancy in the interpretation of the Futsal Laws of the Game, the English text shall be authoritative.
- C. Only six (6) appropriately credentialed team officials, and up to seven (7) players (substitutes) shall be allowed to sit on the team bench, a maximum of thirteen (13) persons. The names of all team officials persons and their functions shall be indicated on the Officials on Substitution Bench form.

#### **X. DURATION, EXTRA TIME, PENALTY KICKS**

- A. Each match shall last forty (40) minutes, comprising two periods of twenty (20) minutes with an interval of fifteen (15) minutes in between.
- B. If, in accordance with the provisions of these regulations, extra time must be played as the result of a draw at the end of normal playing time, it shall always consist of two periods of five (5) minutes each, with an interval of five (5) minutes at the end of normal playing time, but not between the two periods of extra time.
- C. Should one of the teams score more goals in extra time than the other, the team scoring the most goals will be declared the winner.
- D. If at the end of the ten (10) minutes of extra time, the teams are tied, penalty kicks shall be taken to determine the winner, in accordance with the “kicks from the penalty spot” procedure specified in the Futsal Laws of the Game by the International Football Association Board and published by FIFA.

#### **XI. FIELD OF PLAY, ARENAS, BALLS**

- A. Each Member Association organizing matches in the Preliminary Phase shall ensure that the arena which the matches are to take place fulfill the FIFA requirements and that the playing surfaces conform with the provisions stipulated in the Futsal Laws of the Game. The same applied to the accessory equipment.
- B. As a general rule, the Preliminary and Final Phase matches may only be played in all-seated arenas. If only arenas with both seating and standing areas are available, the standing space shall remain vacant.
- C. As a general rule, all the matches of the CONCACAF Futsal Championship may only be played on a surface that is smooth, flat and non-abrasive. The use of wood or artificial material is recommended.

- D. The Organizing Committee shall guarantee that the playing surfaces chosen for the Final Phase comply with the Futsal Laws of the Game. They shall be subject to the approval of the Organizing Committee.
- E. The footballs for the Preliminary Phase shall be supplied by the host Member Association and shall also bear the designation “FIFA Approved”.
- F. The footballs for the Final Phase shall be selected and supplied by CONCACAF.

## **XII. RESPONSIBILITIES OF EACH ENTITY INVOLVED**

### **A. Preliminary Phase**

- 1. Each team that arranges a match shall be responsible for:
  - A. Guaranteeing law and order as well as safety in the stadia, if necessary in collaboration with the relevant authorities.
  - B. Undertaking to arrange adequate liability insurance cover in respect of the arena in which the match is due to be held.
  - C. Complying with the guidelines and instructions issued by CONCACAF and the Regional Union.

### **B. Preliminary and Final Phases**

- 1. Each participating Association shall be responsible for:
  - a. Behavior of the members of its delegation (officials and players);
  - b. Health, accident and travel insurance cover for its full delegation
  - c. Paying for their own air travel to and from the host country and any costs in obtaining visas for their delegation.
  - d. Paying for incidental expenses incurred by their delegation members during the course of their stay in the host countries, including laundering of team uniforms, and for any costs incurred by additional members of the delegation in excess of the 20 persons allotted for.
  - e. Paying for all costs for days before or after the tournament which are in excess of the days set by CONCACAF for the tournament.
  - f. Returning the information requested by CONCACAF by the dates specified.
  - g. Applying for visas in good time from the diplomatic mission of the organizing countries, if necessary.
  - h. Attending press conferences and other official media activities organized by CONCACAF in a timely manner.

## 2. Tournament Marks

- a. Participating Teams shall agree, as a condition of their participation, that the terms “CONCACAF Futsal Championship”, “Five-a-Side Football Tournament”, “Futsal Tournament”, “Campeonato de Futbol Sala” or “Campeonato de Futbol Cinco” commonly used to identify the Futsal Championship of CONCACAF, and their equivalent, abbreviated or as translated into other languages, may only be used by such Teams in a sporting context with no commercial implications. CONCACAF owns the copyright for all these terms.
- b. They shall also agree to abide by any advertising provisions issued by CONCACAF.

## 3. Participants Entry Forms

- a. A Team participating in the Final Phase shall ensure, as a condition of its participation in the Futsal Championship, that:
  - i. Every member of its delegation (officials and players) complete an entry form to be specified by CONCACAF)
  - ii. That the National Associations complete all of the materials required by CONCACAF in a timely manner.

## C. Responsibilities of the Host Association - Final Phase - Event Organization & Promotion

### 1. The Local Organizing Committee is responsible for:

- a. Overall - Staging the competition in a professional manner.
- b. Execution, Promotion & Finances - Executing, promoting and financing of the above mentioned tournament, as approved by CONCACAF, providing a final accounting for the tournament, including payment of the percentages due to CONCACAF within sixty (60) days of the final match of the Tournament.
- c. Security - Providing adequate security for all participants, Member Association officials and match officials from arrival to departure.
- d. Insurance - Providing liability insurance coverage for each venue in the amount to be determined with CONCACAF. A copy of the insurance coverage must be received at the CONCACAF General Secretariat not later than thirty-days (30) prior to the first match of the competition.
- e. Arena and Training Facilities - Ensuring that both, the arena and training facilities are in a condition suitable for a FIFA qualifier, based on discussions held during site inspection.

- f. Tickets: Provide each Participating Team with 20 complementary tickets for each match day of the participating team, including 5 best category Tickets and 15 standard category tickets. Provide CONCACAF with 150 tickets for each match day (20 best category and 130 standard category) required to manage the event properly.
- g. Liaisons - Assigning a dedicated individual, for the duration of the event (arrival to departure), who shall be responsible for assisting in the coordination of local transportation, changes to hotel/meal arrangements, baggage collection, and any other needs as they arise, for each of the participating delegations, thereby he or she must be fluent in the primary language of the country assigned for:
  - ii. The game officials;
  - iii. Match Commissioners and Committee representatives.
- h. Media - Appoint an individual who shall be responsible for media relations and advise CONCACAF Communications Department thirty (30) days in advance of the event the name of the person together with his/her contact numbers (phone/cellular, phone/fax, e-mail address)

BEFORE, DURING and AFTER the event, the person appointed will:

1. Ensure that the media facilities are in the best possible condition.
2. Assist the media in their general inquiries.
3. Ensure that team sheets with correct player names/number/positions, etc. are available to the media in timely manner, prior to kick-off.
4. Distribute to the media copies of the Media Guide or any other materials, which will be supplied by CONCACAF.
5. Arrange for the installation of one dedicated phone line for CONCACAF use ONLY for charge calls.
6. MOST IMPORTANTLY, complete the CONCACAF Match Report form (provided by CONCACAF) within ninety (90) minutes of completion of each match and either e-mail or fax it to the designated individual at CONCACAF at (212) 308-1851. Before sending, the person must first verify with the Third Referee the names of the goal scorers, red and/or yellow cards.

#### Team Hospitality: For 20-Person Delegations

- a. Local Transportation - First class deluxe bus with air conditioning for service to and from:
  - i. Airport
  - ii. Training Sites
  - iii. Games.

- b. Accommodations (Room and Board, etc.) - First class accommodations, pursuant to CONCACAF's approval.
    - i. Rooms - 9 double rooms and 2 single rooms per Delegation. Also provide room rates in case extra members of the Federation accompany their team.
    - ii. Meals - For 20 persons. Also provide rates per meal in case extra members of the Federation accompany their team (all based on prior approval by CONCACAF).
    - iii. Laundry - Will make facilities available or recommend facilities for the teams to do their laundry.
  - c. Visas for Visiting Teams - Will request handling from the Government agency responsible for visas to expedite requests for teams and delegates.
  - d. Airport Taxes - Pay any local airport departure taxes in the host country.
3. Game Officials and Committee Members' Hospitality
- a. Local Transportation:
    - i. Airport transfers.
    - ii. To matches.
    - iii. To team hotels for passport inspections or event-related meetings.
    - iv. Minivan available at hotels during non-game hours.
  - b. Accommodations:
    - i. Single room (King bed where available) for Match Commissioners, Referee Assessors and Committee Members appointed to the tournament.
    - ii. Double rooms for Referees (two per room).
    - iii. Meals, as arranged with CONCACAF.

#### D. CONCACAF

- 1. The General Secretariat will be responsible for:
  - a. Overall supervision of the event.
  - b. Directing of the Media functions during the tournament or provide instructions, and to provide the Media Guide and other materials.
  - c. Arranging and paying the air transportation and airport departure taxes of tournament officials.

- d. Daily allowances for the tournament officials.
- e. Collecting of team information (i.e., team lists, rooming lists, menus, travel itineraries, visa information and uniform color chart).
- f. Assisting the LOC with the daily operations of the tournament.
- g. Disciplinary Measures and communication of actions taken.
- h. Daily assignment of officials for the matches.
- i. Providing practice balls (# tbd) to the teams upon arrival.
- j. Delivery of the game balls for each match to the venue.
- k. Provide the trophies and diplomas of participation.

### **XIII. ELIGIBILITY OF PLAYERS**

- A. Each participating Association shall select its National Representative team from players who are subjects of its country and under its jurisdiction and who satisfy the age requirement of the FIFA Futsal World Championship and Article 15 of the Regulations governing the Application of the FIFA Statutes.
- B. Each player must be in possession of a legal individual passport containing an up to date photograph and giving full particulars on the date of birth (day, month, year) of the player. If the player is not in possession of a legal individual passport, he shall not be allowed to participate in the tournament.
- C. Rosters for Final Qualifying Tournament
  - 1. Provisional List of Players  
Participating National Associations must provide their “List of Players”, on the official form, to the office of the CONCACAF General Secretariat, at least Thirty (30) days before their first match. The list is not binding and must contain the names of a minimum 14 players and not more than a maximum of 24 players (2 of them must be Goalkeepers). The list will be used for event promotion and data management.
  - 2. Final Roster  
Participating National Associations must provide their Final Roster of 14 players (2 of them must be Goalkeepers), on the official form, to the Venue General Coordinator upon arrival in the venue.
  - 3. Confirmation of Eligibility
    - a. Inspection Meeting - The General Coordinator or his designee will check the passport details with each player following their arrival in the venue and before their opening match.

- b. Uniform Numbers - The numbers on each player's uniform shall correspond to the numbers indicated on the Final Roster. Only the numbers 1 to 14 may allocated to the players, with number 1 being reserved exclusively for one of the goalkeepers.
4. Replacement of Injured or Ill Players
- a. Players included on the Final Roster who suffer serious injuries or become ill so that they cannot play, as certified by the team's Doctor and Head of Delegation, may be replaced up to 24 hours prior to the team's first match. In those cases, the National Association concerned will be authorized to add players not already included on the Final Roster and will immediately inform the General Coordinator in writing. The General Coordinator must be provided with all required information (if not previously provided) and passports upon the players' arrivals.
5. No changes will be permitted within 24 hours of the opening match the Tournament or thereafter.
- D. Any team found guilty of fielding an ineligible player shall forfeit the match. Victory and the resultant three points will be awarded to the opposing team as well as the score of 5-0, or more if the opposing team has already achieved a margin of difference in excess of 5-0.

#### **XIV. DOPING CONTROL**

- A. Doping is the use of certain substances or methods capable of artificially enhancing the physical and/or mental condition of a player, with a view to improving his athletic and mental performance. Doping is prohibited.
- B. Only the Organizing Committee is empowered to arrange doping tests and to decide at which laboratories and who shall carry out the analyses. Every player in a team, including substitute players, will be liable to undergo doping tests.
- C. The Organizing Committee reserves the right:
  - 1. To arrange random doping tests during the Preliminary Phase;
  - 2. To arrange doping tests at all the matches in the Final Phase.
- D. Any player or team that refuses to take a doping test or falsifies the result of a test or attempts to do so or is found guilty of having taken prohibited substances whether intentionally or not, will be referred to the Organizing Committee.

- E. Any official who encourages or incites a player, either intentionally or through negligence, to commit such an infringement as stated in paragraph D above, will be referred to the Organizing Committee.
- F. Furthermore, reference is made to the FIFA Doping Control Regulations, which contain the list of prohibited substances and methods.

## **XV. REGULATIONS GOVERNING SPORTS EQUIPMENT**

The participating Member Associations shall comply with the current FIFA Equipment Regulations with the exception of the provisions regarding Player Names as outlined below. Players and officials are not allowed to visibly display political, religious, commercial or personal messages in any language or form on their playing kit, equipment or body.

### **A. Players' Name (optional)**

1. Players may be identified by means of their surname or an abbreviation or nickname on their shirts. The player's name shall correspond with the name on the players' list.
2. If used, players' names shall be placed on the back of the shirt, above the number.
3. The capital letters used for the names shall not exceed 7.5 cm. (seven and a half centimeters) in height. They may be surrounded by a border or shadow outline to ensure better legibility.
4. The color of the names shall contrast clearly (light on dark, or vice versa) with the colors of the players' shirt, or appear on a neutral-colored patch.
5. The capital letters used shall be of one single color and shall be free of advertising, design features or other elements.

## **XVI. REFEREES AND TIMEKEEPERS**

The referees (three) and timekeepers chosen for the matches in the Preliminary and Final Phases shall be from a country whose team is not included in the same group as the match in question. They shall be selected from the current FIFA international lists.

- A. The referees and timekeepers for the matches in the Preliminary and Final Phases shall be appointed by the CONCACAF Referees Committee. Three referees and a timekeeper shall be appointed for each match.
- B. The decisions of the Referees Committee shall be final and not subject to appeal.
- C. After each match the referee shall complete an official CONCACAF report form. In the Preliminary Phase, he shall send this report within twenty-four hours to the CONCACAF General Secretariat (by telefax and mail). In the Final Phase, he shall hand it over immediately after the match to the Match Commissioner or the CONCACAF General Coordinator at the venue.

## **XVII. TECHNICAL RULES**

The Tournament will be played in two phases - a Preliminary Phase and a Final Phase.

### **A. Preliminary Phase:**

- 1. If elimination is required to determine the zone representatives in the Final Phase, the procedure shall be determined by the CONCACAF Executive Committee and a draw shall take place as directed by the General Secretary.
- 2. The teams participating in the elimination shall be given notice of the draw in order for them to be present at their own expense if they so wish. In any event, the CONCACAF General Secretariat will immediately notify the teams of the results of the draw by telefax or e-mail.

### **B. Final Phase**

- 1. The Final Phase shall consist of no more than 8 teams. Each zone of CONCACAF shall be represented in the Final as determined by the Executive Committee of CONCACAF.
- 2. The teams participating in the Final Phase shall be given notice of the draw in order for them to be present, if they so wish, at their own expense. In any event, the General Secretariat of CONCACAF will notify the teams of the results of the draw by telefax or e-mail immediately.
- 3. In case of 8 teams, the Final Phase shall be played in two groups of 4 teams each.

4. First Round - Each team shall play one match against each of the other teams in the same group, obtaining three points for a win, one for a draw and no points for a loss.
5. At the end of the First Round, the two teams with the most points in each group will qualify for the Semi-Final Round.
6. At the end of group play, if two or more teams are equal on points (including ties among third place teams), the manner in which teams will advance to the next round will be resolved as follows and in the order indicated:
  - a. The greater number of points obtained in group matches between the teams concerned.
  - b. The greater goal difference in matches between the teams concerned (if more than two team finish equal on points).
  - c. The greater number of goals scored in all group matches between the teams concerned (if more than two teams finish equal on points)
  - d. The greater goal difference in all group matches;
  - e. The team having scored the most goals in all group matches
  - f. Failing this, the qualified team shall be determined by a drawing of lots carried out by the person designated by the Executive Committee.
7. In the Semi-Final Round, the two first-place teams will play the second place team from the opposite Group.
8. The two Semi-Final winners will play in the Championship match. The two Semi-Final losers will play in the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> place match.
9. If a Semi-Final, Final or 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> place match is tied at the end of the regulatory 40 minutes, overtime and penalty kicks as outlined in Article X Literal D will be utilized to determine the winner.
10. The four best teams (Semi-Finalists) of the tournament will qualify for the FIFA Futsal World Cup.

#### **XVIII. MEDIA, ADVERTISING AND MERCHANDISING**

- A. Marketing, Radio, Television. Promotion and Advertising rights for the Final Phase are fully vested with CONCACAF. In the Preliminary Phase, the rights are vested with the Regional Union under the direction of CONCACAF.

- B. Concessions for souvenir sales, official programs and others of a similar nature, are fully vested with CONCACAF. In the Preliminary Phase, the rights are vested with the Regional Union under the direction of CONCACAF.
- C. Rights for the merchandising of the event, both on and off site, are exclusively CONCACAF's.
- D. Technical Films/Tapes
  - 1. Permission to make technical films/tapes, exclusively reserved for the use of a participating Member Association concerned, must be obtained from the General Secretariat of CONCACAF.

## **XIX. FINANCIAL REGULATIONS**

- A. Preliminary Phase -- The financial terms of the Tournament for the Preliminary Phase as organized by the Regional Union (CFU, UNCAF/North) will be the following:
  - 1. Group Play
    - a. The Association acting as venue host shall retain the total gate receipts, and all benefits from the matches, and shall pay all expenses incurred in the organization of the tournament, including but not limited to:
    - b. Airport departure taxes (if applicable) for up to twenty (20) persons per each participating Association.
    - c. Hotel accommodation, meals and local transportation for up to twenty (20) persons per each participating Association, the game officials and match commissioner for the two-day period before the match and the day following the match, or, in the case of a tournament, from two days before the first match until one day after the last match in which the team and other mentioned individuals are required to participate.
  - 2. Home and Away Knockout Play
    - a. The home team will retain all revenues from the match and shall be responsible for all the costs associated with the playing of the match (stadium, promotion, tickets, etc.)
    - b. Each team shall be solely responsible for all of its travel expenses including, but not limited to air and local transportation, accommodations, meals, visas, airport taxes, etc., unless otherwise agreed between the teams.

- c. The home team shall be responsible for the costs of local transportation, lodging and meals for the game officials and match commissioner for the duration of their stay in the venue as determined by the Regional Union.
3. All matches -
    - a. From the gross gate receipts, the local Association shall deduct 5% (minimum US\$500.00 per gate), in favor of CONCACAF and 2½% (minimum US\$150.00 per gate) in favor of the respective Regional Union. In the event there is no Regional Union, CONCACAF shall receive 7½% of the gross receipts (minimum US\$450.00).

## B. Final Phase

1. For the Final Phase in each venue, the LOC shall retain all revenue from:
  - a. Admission tickets sales.
  - b. Concessions granted by the Organizing Committee for the sale of food and beverages.
  - c. Other rights specifically granted by CONCACAF.
  - d. From the Gross Receipts from Admission Ticket Sales, the LOC shall deduct 5% (minimum US\$300) in favor of CONCACAF and 2½% (minimum US\$150) in favor of the Regional Union in which the finals are played. These percentages shall be paid within a thirty (30) day period after each match of the Preliminary Phase has ended or after the Final Phase has concluded. In the event there is not an established Regional Union, CONCACAF shall receive 7½% of the gross receipts (minimum US\$450.00).

## XX. SPECIAL AWARDS AND PROTOCOL

During the final competition, the FIFA flag, the FIFA fair play flag, the Associations flag shall be flown at every match inside the ground. The CONCACAF flag and the flags of the host country and both competing Member Associations shall be flown at every match inside the ground. CONCACAF anthem shall be played while the teams are entering the field, followed by the national anthems of the two contestants during the line-up.

## XXI. COPYRIGHT

The copyright of the fixture list as well as the matches fixed by the Executive Committee drawn up in accordance with the provisions of these regulations is the property of CONCACAF.

## **XXII. MATTERS NOT PROVIDED FOR**

All matters not provided for in these Regulations will be resolved by the CONCACAF Executive Committee, whose decisions shall be final.

In the case of any discrepancy in the interpretation of the text of these regulations, the ENGLISH text shall be authoritative.

These regulations were adopted by the Executive Committee, and entered into force immediately.

For the Executive Committee of CONCACAF

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The President

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The General Secretary