



# CONCACAF GOLD CUP

2013

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2013 Edition - ENGLISH

This is the Qualifying Tournament for the FIFA Confederations Cup.

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

	Pages
PREAMBLE	3
I. The CONCACAF Gold Cup™	3
II. Entries	4
III. The CONCACAF Organizing Committee	4
IV. Organization of the Competition	5
V. Withdrawals	6
VI. Disciplinary Committee	7
VII. Appeals Committee	9
VIII. Protests	9
IX. Matches Played According to the Laws of the Game	10
X. Duration, Extra Time, Penalty Kicks	10
XI. Field of Play, Stadia, Balls	11
XII. Responsibilities of Each Entity Involved	12
XIII. Eligibility of Players	13
XIV. Accreditation	15
XV. Doping Control	16
XVI. Regulations Governing Sports Equipment	16
XVII. Flags and Anthems	17
XVIII. Protocol	17
XIX. Referees, Assistant Referees and Fourth Officials	18
XX. Technical Rules	18
XXI. Media, Advertising and Merchandising	20
XXII. Financial Regulations	21
XXIII. Special Awards	23
XXIV. Copyright	23
XXV. Matters Not Provided For	23

## **PREAMBLE**

1. The following are regulations of the Confederation of North, Central American and Caribbean Association Football, hereinafter referred to as CONCACAF.
2. The CONCACAF Gold Cup is an official competition of the Confederation of North, Central American and Caribbean Association Football and is the flagship tournament for the Confederation.
3. The CONCACAF Gold Cup shall serve as the qualifying competition for the FIFA Confederations Cup.
4. These are the Regulations for the Final Phase of the Gold Cup.
5. All rights shall belong to CONCACAF.

## **I. THE CONCACAF GOLD CUP**

1. The CONCACAF Gold Cup shall take place where and when the Executive Committee determines. The National Associations affiliated to CONCACAF are invited to participate with their national "A" team.
2. CONCACAF will present the winning national team with the CONCACAF Gold Cup trophy.
3. A Certificate of Participation will be provided to all players and officials participating in the Final Phase. The champion shall receive (32) thirty-two gold medals and the runner up thirty-two (32) silver medals.
4. The Fair Play trophy shall be awarded to the team, which has shown the best sporting spirit and fair play during the tournament.
5. The players and teams of Member Associations who take part in CONCACAF's Competitions cannot under any circumstances receive prizes and/or awards without the authorization of CONCACAF, except those originating from their Associations.

## II. ENTRIES

National “A” teams of CONCACAF Members have the right to participate in the Gold Cup.

1. CONCACAF members have the obligation to enter the Gold Cup at least once in every four (4) years or be automatically suspended from CONCACAF. Upon suspension, a fine of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000 USD) shall be paid to obtain re-admission, unless the Executive Committee accepts that failure to enter was due to force majeure.

## III. THE CONCACAF ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

The Organizing Committee for the CONCACAF Gold Cup appointed by CONCACAF Executive Committee is responsible for the organization of the competition. The Executive Committee retains the right for all final decisions.

The Gold Cup Organizing Committee may, if necessary appoint a bureau and or other sub-committee(s) to deal with emergencies. Any decision taken by the bureau or sub-committee(s) shall require confirmation by the Organizing Committee.

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

1. Supervising general preparations, deciding on the format, the draw and or the formation of the groups taking sports, geographic and economic factors into consideration;
2. Fixing dates, venues, stadia for the matches in the final competition as well as the preliminary competition whenever the Unions or Associations fail to agree;
3. Determining the match schedule and kick-off times for the final competition;
4. Appointing General Coordinators, Match Commissioners, technical study group, referee assessors;
5. Judging infringements concerning the eligibility of players in the final competition;
6. Deciding which laboratories will carry out the doping analyses;
7. Dealing with breaches of the doping regulations;
8. Deciding which matches will be subject to doping tests;
9. Judging protests and taking appropriate steps to verify their admissibility;
10. Replacing associations that have withdrawn from the CONCACAF Gold Cup;
11. Settling cases of force majeure;

12. Dealing with any aspect of the CONCACAF Gold Cup that is not the responsibility of any other body under the terms of these Regulations or the CONCACAF Statutes.
13. All decisions taken by the CONCACAF Gold Cup Organizing Committee and/or its sub-committee(s) are subject to the approval of the CONCACAF Executive Committee.

#### **IV. ORGANIZATION OF THE COMPETITION**

1. The competition shall be played in two phases:
  - a. The Preliminary Phase
  - b. The Final Phase

##### The Preliminary Phase

1. The Preliminary Phase of the competition shall be played among the countries of each zone of the Confederation.
2. The matches in the Preliminary Phase shall be organized by the Regional Unions of CONCACAF, with the format, structure and regulations submitted to CONCACAF six (6) months before the start of the preliminary competition and subject to approval by the CONCACAF Executive Committee.

##### The Final Phase

1. CONCACAF shall be responsible for organizing, hosting and staging the final competition of the Gold Cup.
2. The Final Phase of the competition shall be played among twelve (12) teams from the confederation. Three (3) teams from the North Zone, four (4) teams from the CFU, and five (5) teams from UNCAF.
3. The matches of the final competition shall be played in a site or sites and on such dates and terms as determined by the Executive Committee.
4. Each team taking part in the Final Competition must arrive in the team hotel reserved for it 2 (two) days before its first match. Only official team hotels shall be used for accommodation and only official training sites may be used for training.
5. Depending on the weather and field conditions and at the discretion of the Organizing Committee, the teams will be entitled to a training session of sixty (60) minutes at the ground where they are due to play

prior to their first match at that ground. If the field is not in good condition, CONCACAF may direct the teams only to inspect the field using training shoes or be limited to certain areas of the playing surface. The times for official trainings in the ground will be set by CONCACAF and teams have to respect such times accordingly.

6. The teams will be entitled to warm up on the field before the match, weather permitting, except when they are playing in the second game of a double header, in which case they may not be permitted to warm up on the field.

## V. WITHDRAWALS

1. All participating member associations undertake to play all of their matches until eliminated from the CONCACAF Gold Cup.
2. Any association that withdraws prior to the Final Phase can be replaced by another national association. The CONCACAF Gold Cup Organizing Committee shall make the relevant decision.
3. Such withdrawal will be subject to the following punishment and sanctions as determined by the Executive Committee after consideration of the relevant facts, including force majeure, if the withdrawal takes place:
  - a. After the Preliminary Phase but before the start of the Final Phase of the Tournament a fine of thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000 USD);
  - b. Anytime during the Final Phase of the Tournament a fine of sixty thousand dollars (\$60,000 USD);
  - c. Depending on circumstances and the decision of CONCACAF Organizing Committee, any association that withdraws at any stage of the competition may be ordered to reimburse CONCACAF any expenses already incurred 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.
4. Penalties specified in paragraphs of this section will not be applied in cases of force majeure, as verified by the Organizing Committee;
5. The National Association of any penalized team shall be responsible for ensuring that specified sanctions are carried out and complied with;

6. If a team does not report for a match, except in cases of force majeure, or if it refuses to continue to play or leaves the ground before the end of a match, the team shall be considered as having lost. The match and three points shall be awarded to its opponents with a score of 3-0 or more if, in the case of an abandoned match, the winning team has already reached a higher score at the time the guilty team leaves the field or refuses to continue to play;
7. The guilty team shall, as a general rule, be excluded from further participation in the competition so that none of its matches will be deemed valid, unless the incident mentioned in par. 6 occurred in its last match. In addition, the guilty association shall pay compensation for any damages or losses suffered by the other association(s) and by CONCACAF. Furthermore, the guilty National Association will forfeit any claim to financial remuneration from CONCACAF. Further measures may be taken by the CONCACAF Gold Cup Organizing Committee;
8. If the circumstances of withdrawal are sufficiently serious, the Disciplinary Committee may also take whatever additional action is appropriate under the terms of the FIFA Disciplinary Code;
9. The relevant CONCACAF committee shall determine the amount of damages for financial loss upon receipt of a substantiated and documented request from the Organizing Committee;
10. Furthermore, the guilty national association may be disqualified from taking part in the next two Gold Cups. Further measures may be taken by CONCACAF after deliberation by the Executive Committee including the suspension of the association concerned from subsequent CONCACAF competitions.
11. No appeals can be lodged against these decisions.

## **VI. DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE**

1. The CONCACAF Disciplinary Committee is empowered to:
  - a. Admonish, sanction, fine, suspend or disqualify players, referees, team officials or coaches.
  - b. 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 Laws of the Game or the rules of Fair Play.

- c. Prohibit violators from participating in a specific number of CONCACAF organized tournaments in which they might otherwise have participated.
2. Report serious matters for further consideration by the Executive Committee.
3. The decisions of the Disciplinary Committee will be based on written reports from referees, assistant referees and/or the Match Commissioner and video footage available from the disputed match. All participating National Associations will be informed of the sanctions imposed.
4. 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 (3) members are present.
5. All economic penalties assessed must be paid by the appropriate Association no later than sixty (60) days after notification thereof.

Cautions and suspensions:

- a. Cautions received during one competition are not carried over to the Gold Cup competition.
- b. Cautions received in the Preliminary Phase of the Gold Cup competition are not carried over to the Final Phase.
- c. A single caution received in the Group Stage of the Final Phase shall not be carried over to the Knock Out Phase of the competition.
- d. Two (2) cautions received in different games in the Group Phase or two (2) cautions in different games in the Knock Out Phase of the Final Competition shall result in automatic suspension from the next game in the competition.
- e. Red card suspensions shall be served regardless of the stage of the competition.
- f. Unserved suspensions outstanding at the end of a team's participation in the Gold Cup Final Phase will be carried over to the next match of the player's National Team per the FIFA Disciplinary Code.

## VII. APPEALS COMMITTEE

1. The Appeals Committee shall hear appeals lodged against decisions passed by the Disciplinary Committee.
2. The procedure to be applied by the Appeals Committee is defined in the FIFA Disciplinary Code.

## VIII. PROTESTS

1. Protests, subject to the following provisions, are objections of any kind connected with matches of the final competition.
2. Protests shall be submitted in writing to the Match Commissioner or CONCACAF representative at the match not later than two (2) hours after the game and followed up immediately with a written report, including the original protest, to be sent to CONCACAF General Secretariat by fax or scan and e-mail.
3. Protests for reasons outlined in paragraphs 4 and 5 below must be accompanied by a check in the amount of five hundred dollars (\$500 USD) payable to CONCACAF.

Protests against the eligibility of players chosen to take part in the Final Phase shall be submitted in writing to the Match Commissioner or General Coordinator not later than twenty four (24) hours before the match in question.

Protests against eligibility of players chosen to take part in a game and deemed to have been suspended shall be submitted in writing to the Match Commissioner not later than two (2) hours following the game.

4. 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 not later than two (2) hours after the match in question.
5. Protests against the state of the pitch, the markings, the accessory equipment (goals, etc.) or the football shall be made in writing to the referee before the start of the match by the official responsible for the team lodging the protest. If the turf becomes unplayable during the

match, the captain of the team concerned shall immediately inform the referee in the presence of the opposing team's captain.

6. No protests may be made against the referee's decisions on points of fact connected with play, such decisions being final.
7. National Associations may not bring disputes with CONCACAF before a Court of Justice and they shall undertake to submit any such disputes without reservation to the jurisdiction of the competent authority of CONCACAF and FIFA.
8. If an unfounded or irresponsible protest is lodged, a fine may be imposed.
9. The expenses, which arise from a protest, shall be charged by CONCACAF, either wholly or in part, to the losing party.
10. Once the winning team of the CONCACAF Gold Cup has been proclaimed, any protest or complaint about the sports procedure followed during the competition shall be disregarded.

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

1. All matches will be played under the Laws of the Game as approved by the International Football Association Board and published by FIFA.
2. In the case of any discrepancy in the interpretation of the Laws of the Game, the English text shall be authoritative.
3. Only nine (9) appropriately credentialed team officials, and up to twelve (12) players [substitutes], shall be allowed to sit on the bench at the touch line, a maximum of twenty-one (21) persons. The names of all these persons and their functions shall be indicated on the referee's report form.

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

1. Each match shall last 90 minutes, comprising two periods of 45 minutes with an interval of 15 minutes in between.
2. 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 15 minutes each, with an interval of 5 minutes at the end of normal playing time, but not between the two periods of extra time.

3. Should one team score more goals than the other in the extra time, it shall be declared the winner.
4. If the teams are still tied at the end of extra time, kicks from the penalty mark shall be taken to determine the winner, in accordance with the procedure laid down by the International Football Association Board and published by FIFA.
5. Clocks in the stadium showing the amount of time played may run during the match, provided that they are stopped at the end of normal playing time in each half, i.e., after 45 (forty-five) and 90 (ninety) minutes respectively. This stipulation shall also apply in the event of extra time being played (i.e., 15 (fifteen) minutes of each half).
6. At the end of the two periods of normal playing time (45 and 90 minutes), the referee shall indicate to the fourth official, orally or by gesturing with his hands, the number of minutes that he has decided to allow for time lost. This applies also to the two periods of 15 minutes of extra time. Each allowance for lost time shall be shown on the panels or electronic display boards of the fourth official and announced by the public address announcer to those in attendance.

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

1. The Organizing Committee shall guarantee that the fields of play chosen for the Final Phase comply with standards of safety required by FIFA for international matches.
2. The balls for the Final Phase shall be selected and supplied by CONCACAF.

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

### **A. National Associations**

Each participating National Association shall be responsible throughout the competition for:

1. The conduct of the members of its delegation (officials and players), and of any person carrying out duties on its behalf throughout the competition, from their arrival into the host country until their departure;
2. Health, travel and accident insurance cover for all the members of its delegation;
3. Incidental expenses incurred by its delegation members during the course of their stay in the host countries and for any costs incurred by additional members of the delegation;
4. Paying for any costs of extending the stay of any member of its delegation, unless otherwise approved by CONCACAF;
5. Returning the information requested by CONCACAF by the dates specified;
6. Applying for visas in good time from the diplomatic mission of the host country or countries, as necessary.
7. Attending press conferences and other official media activities organized by CONCACAF in accordance with the instructions issued by CONCACAF.
8. Allow CONCACAF to use its Federation Marks for the promotion of the tournament, and allow the event sponsors to use the marks in a collective form only, for the sole purpose of promoting the tournament. CONCACAF may issue separate guidelines that covers the commercial usage of player images.

- B.** The participating member associations and their players and officials agree to comply with the Laws of the Game and the CONCACAF Statutes and Regulations.
- C.** The participating Member Associations and their players and officials agree to comply with the FIFA Disciplinary Code, the FIFA Doping Control Regulations, the FIFA Code of Ethics as well as all directives and decisions of CONCACAF bodies, unless these Regulations stipulates otherwise.
- D. Commercial Reference to Event and Advertising Provisions**
1. The participating Teams shall agree, as a condition of their participation that:
    - a. The terms the “CONCACAF Gold Cup”, “Gold Cup”, or “Copa Oro” commonly used to identify the Gold Cup 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 agree to abide by any Advertising Provisions issued by CONCACAF.
    - c. They shall abide by the Commercial Guidelines as issued by CONCACAF.
- E. Participants’ Entry Forms**
1. A National Association participating in the Final Phase shall ensure, as a condition of its participation in the Gold Cup, that every member of its delegation (officials and players) complete an entry form to be specified by CONCACAF or be included in the team’s Official Delegation List.
  2. The opportunity to participate in a CONCACAF event is a privilege. As consideration for the opportunity to participate in the CONCACAF Gold Cup (the “Event”), each participant, including players, coaches, team officials, and referees, agree to be filmed, televised, photographed, identified and otherwise recorded during the Event under conditions and for the purposes now or hereinafter authorized by CONCACAF in relation to the promotion of the Event, CONCACAF and the sport of soccer. Each participant further agrees to comply with and be bound by the CONCACAF Statutes, Rules, and Regulations.

### XIII. ELIGIBILITY OF PLAYERS

1. Each participating Association shall select its national representative team from the best players who are nationals of its country and under its jurisdiction and are eligible for selection in accordance with the provisions of the FIFA Regulations governing the Application of FIFA Statutes, Articles 5 through 8 (pages 64 & 65).
2. 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 a player is not in possession of a legal individual passport, he shall not be allowed to participate in the tournament.
3. A Member Association which has entered the competition shall not refer to its selection as an inferior selection publicly or in the print and/or electronic media.
4. A team, which fails to heed paragraph 3 above, shall automatically forfeit part or all of its prize money as determined by the Executive Committee.
5. **Provisional List of Players**  
Participating National Associations must provide their "List of Players" on the official form provided, to the office of the CONCACAF General Secretariat, at least forty-five (45) days prior to the kick-off of the opening match. This list is binding and shall contain the names of at least thirty-five (35) players. The release list shall at a minimum contain, the full last name(s), all first names, popular name, place and date of birth, passport number, name and country of the club, height, weight, number of international caps won and number of international goals scored. The released list shall be published by the CONCACAF General Secretariat and will be made public.
6. **Team Delegations and Final Roster:**  
Each participating Association shall submit to the CONCACAF General Secretariat its Final Delegation list of up to thirty-two (32) persons, which must include up to twenty-three (23) players (three of whom shall be goalkeepers), not later than ten (10) days prior to the first match of the Final Phase. The released list shall be published by the CONCACAF General Secretariat and will be made public.
7. Teams qualifying for the Quarter Final Phase will be permitted to amend the twenty-three (23) players roster to replace up to four (4) players from the provisional list (as stated in clause 5 above) at latest twenty-

four (24) hours following the completion of the First Round of the Final Phase. Only these players, set out in Clauses 6 and 7, will (except in the case of force majeure recognized by the Organizing Committee for the CONCACAF Gold Cup and as set out in Clause 8 below) be permitted to compete in the Final Phase. The final list shall be published by the CONCACAF General Secretariat. Any additional cost associated with the change of player roster will be at the expense of the teams.

8. A listed player may only be substituted in the event of serious injury up until twenty-four (24) hours before his team's first match, after CONCACAF has received a detailed medical assessment in English and only after acceptance by the CONCACAF Sports Medical Committee and/or the Gold Cup Organizing Committee that the injury is sufficiently serious to prevent the player from taking part in the Competition. The National Association shall then immediately nominate the substitute and inform CONCACAF accordingly. The substitute shall be selected from the provisional list of thirty five (35) players. Any replacement at this stage will not compromise the right of the team to replace four (4) players as set out in clause 7. Any additional cost associated with approved player replacement will be at the expense of the team.
- 9 Upon arrival at the first venue of the competition each National Association's head of delegation or team administrator shall immediately submit the individual passports of its players for verification to the designated representative of CONCACAF.

All twenty-three (23) players shall be named on each match sheet (11 selected players and 12 substitutes). Up to a maximum of three (3) of the substitutes may take the place of the selected players during the match.

11. The associations shall be responsible for fielding only eligible players. Failure to do so shall lead to the consequences stipulated in the FIFA Disciplinary Code.

#### **XIV. ACCREDITATION**

1. CONCACAF shall issue each official Team Delegation Member with an Official accreditation bearing an official photograph.
2. Only those players who are in possession of such an accreditation are entitled to play the matches of the final competition. The accreditation should always be available prior to the start of the match. In accordance with Article XIII (7) and (8), accreditation for replaced players shall be

return to CONCACAF.

3. The participating member associations shall ensure that all accreditation data required by CONCACAF is submitted by the deadline stipulated by CONCACAF. Further details shall be outlined in CONCACAF circular letter.

#### **XV. DOPING CONTROL**

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/or mental performance.

1. Only the Organizing Committee is empowered to arrange doping tests and to decide at which laboratories and who shall carry out the analyses. The Organizing Committee reserves the right to arrange doping tests at any or all the matches in the Final Phase.
2. Doping is strictly prohibited. The FIFA Anti-Doping Regulations, the FIFA Disciplinary Code and all other relevant CONCACAF/FIFA Regulations, circulars and directives shall apply to the Preliminary and Final Phase of the 2013 CONCACAF Gold Cup.
3. Every player may be subject to in-competition testing at the matches in which he competes and to out of competition testing at any time and place.
4. Furthermore, reference is made to the FIFA Doping Control Regulations, which contain the list of prohibited substances and methods.
5. If, in accordance with the FIFA Doping Guidelines, a player is tested positive for using banned substances, he shall be immediately declared ineligible from further participation in the competition and shall be subject to further sanctions from CONCACAF's Disciplinary Committee.

#### **XVI. REGULATIONS GOVERNING SPORTS EQUIPMENT**

1. The participating national associations shall comply with the current FIFA Equipment Regulations including the requirement to have players' names on the back of their jersey. Players and officials are not allowed to visibly display political, religious, commercial or personal messages in any language or form on their playing or team kit, equipment (including kit bags, beverage containers, medical bags, etc.) or body. The similar display of commercial messages and slogans in any language or form by

players and officials is not allowed for the duration of their time at any official activity organized by CONCACAF (including in the stadium for official matches and mixed zone activities).

2. Each team shall have an official and reserve team kit, which shall be declared on the team color form. The colors of the reserve team kit (shirt, shorts and socks) shall be noticeable different from and contrast with the colors of the official team kit (shirt, shorts and socks). The reserve team kit (including the goalkeeper's) must also be taken to every match. Only these colors may be worn at matches.
3. Each team shall wear a number between 1 and 35 on the front and back of his team shirt and on his playing shorts. The colors of the numbers must contrast clearly with the main color of the shirts and shorts (light or dark or vice versa) and be legible from a distance for spectators in the stadium and television viewers in accordance with the FIFA Equipment Regulations.
4. CONCACAF shall supply a sufficient number of players' sleeve patches with the official competition logo of the 2013 CONCACAF Gold Cup, which shall be affixed on the right hand sleeve of each shirt.
5. Forty five days before the start of the tournament each team is mandated to deliver to CONCACAF a sample of the official and reserve kits (shirt, shorts, socks, goalkeeper's kit, and team official bench wear, etc.) for approval as well as the goalkeeper's gloves and cap that they intend to use during the final competition. The competing teams are also mandated to submit drawings of these uniforms at a date specified by the General Secretariat.

## **XVII. FLAGS AND ANTHEMS**

1. During the final competition, the FIFA and CONCACAF flags, the flag of the host country, the flags of the competing countries shall be flown inside the stadium at every match providing sufficient flag poles are available. The FIFA Fair Play flag shall also be hoisted or draped in the stadium, clearly visible from the VIP box.
2. The CONCACAF or FIFA Anthem shall be played while the teams are entering the field, followed by the national anthem of the two teams.

## **XVIII. PROTOCOL**

CONCACAF shall issue guidelines for the final competition of the 2013 CONCACAF Gold Cup.

## **IX. REFEREES, ASSISTANT REFEREES AND FOURTH OFFICIALS**

1. The referees, assistant referees and fourth officials (hereinafter referred to collectively as match officials) for the preliminary and final competitions shall be appointed for each match by the CONCACAF Referees Committee. They shall be selected from the FIFA International Refereeing list in force and shall be neutral. A reserve assistant referee shall also be appointed for each match of the final competition. The decisions of the CONCACAF Referees Committee are final and not subject to appeal.
2. If the referee is prevented from carrying out his duties, such referee shall be replaced by the fourth official. If one of the assistant referees is prevented from carrying out his duties, such assistant referee shall be replaced by the reserve assistant referee.
3. The match officials shall receive the official refereeing kit and equipment from CONCACAF. They shall wear and use only this kit on match days.
4. The match officials shall be given the opportunity to use training facilities.
5. After each match the referee shall fill out the official CONCACAF report forms and he shall hand it over immediately after the match to the Match Commissioner or the CONCACAF General Coordinator at the venue as directed.
6. On the report form, the referee shall note all occurrences before, during, and after the match in as much detail as possible, such as:
  - a. Misconduct of players, leading to caution or expulsion;
  - b. Unsporting behavior of officials, supporters and any person acting on behalf of a national association at a match;
  - c. Any other incidents.

## **XX. TECHNICAL RULES**

### **A. Final Phase**

1. The Gold Cup Organizing Committee shall divide the twelve (12) teams of the Final Phase into three groups of four teams each, or such groups

as they consider necessary for the efficient conduct of the competition and set the schedule thereof.

2. The matches in the groups shall be played according to the league system, each country meeting all the other countries in its group once with the following awards: three points for a win, one point for a draw, and none for a defeat.
3. The top two teams from each of the three groups and two wildcards (the two third-place teams with the most points) shall qualify for the Quarterfinals.
4. The ranking of each team in each group will be determined as follows:
  - a. Greatest number of points obtained in group matches
  - b. Goal difference in all group matches
  - c. Greatest number of goals scored in all group matches
  - d. Greatest number of points obtained in group matches between the teams concerned;
  - e. Drawing of lots by the Gold Cup Organizing Committee.
5. Ranking for the wild cards (third place teams) will be determined as follows:
  - a. Greatest number of points obtained in group matches;
  - b. Goal difference in all group matches;
  - c. Greatest number of goals scored in all group matches;
  - d. Drawing of lots by the Gold Cup Organizing Committee.
5. If a quarterfinal, semi-final or the final match is tied at the end of the regulation ninety minutes, then extra time is required. The procedure to determine the winner outlined in Article X, 2-4 shall be used to determine a winner.
6. No third-place match will be played unless otherwise decided by the Organizing Committee.

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

1. Unless the Organizing Committee gives special permission to do so, the National teams participating in the Final Phase shall have no right to play friendly matches in the venues of the Final Phase in the period commencing sixty (60) days before the start and ending one month after the conclusion of the Final Phase. In those cases where such special

permission is granted an indemnity conforming to the provisions below shall be payable.

2. Once the groupings for the final phase have been announced, teams in the same group may not play a friendly match in any of the venues of the Final Phase.
3. Three months before the planned matches, a request for permission shall be submitted to the General Secretariat by the National Association in question with an indication of the venue and date of the planned match, the name of the opposing team and the financial arrangements.
4. In the event that permission is granted for such a match, appropriate conditions will be applied including a special contribution of 8% to CONCACAF, in addition to the normal levies due to CONCACAF and/or FIFA. Any National Association or any club, which plays at home against a team, which is qualified for the Final Phase, shall be responsible for the payment of the percentage indicated above, regardless of whatever agreement may have been conducted between the two opposing teams.
5. Matches between two qualified teams within a period of three months prior to the Final Phase are also subject to authorization.
6. The National Associations concerned shall be responsible for all consequences, which may result from failure to observe the Regulations mentioned above.

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

1. Marketing, Radio, Television. Promotion and advertising rights for the Final Phase are fully vested with CONCACAF.
2. Concessions for souvenir sales, official programs and others of a similar nature are fully vested with CONCACAF.
3. Rights for the merchandising of the event, both on and off site, are exclusively CONCACAF's.
4. Permission to make technical films/tapes, exclusively reserved for the use of a participating Member Association concerned, must be obtained from CONCACAF General Secretariat.
5. Any use of the event trademarks and logos must first receive the approval of CONCACAF.

6. CONCACAF shall be granted the right by each association to use its marks, logos and emblems for the sole purpose of promoting the competition.

## XXII. FINANCIAL REGULATIONS

1. The participating Member Association shall be responsible for and bear the costs of the following:
  - a. Adequate insurance to cover their Team Delegation Members and any other persons carrying out duties on their behalf against all risk, including but not limited to injury, accident, disease, and travel in consideration of the applicable FIFA rules or regulations (cf. in particular Annexe 1, art. 2, par. 3 of the Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players); Proof of insurance must be submitted to the CONCACAF General Secretariat fifteen days (15) before the first match of the competition.
  - b. Board and lodging of the final competition (in excess of the amounts paid by CONCACAF), including rental of meeting rooms and audio/visual technical equipment;
  - c. Cost associated with additional members of the association's delegation (in excess of (32) thirty-two people)
2. CONCACAF shall bear the following:
  - a. Economy class return air tickets for thirty-two (32) persons from each participating member association between the main airport of the participating country and the main airport of the city of the host country the first match of each team is scheduled. The return shall be the from the main airport of the team's last match of competition.
  - b. The CONCACAF Secretariat may as an alternative for logistical reasons allocate a travel grant to the participating teams who shall then be responsible for organizing the air tickets for all members of their respective delegations in accordance with the arrival and departure protocol (two (2) days before the teams' first match and one night after the teams' last match.
  - c. All domestic air and ground transportation for matches, training and technical coordination meetings;

- d. Board and lodging for thirty-two (32) persons from each participating member Association;
  - e. Prize money for the participating Member Associations, the amounts of which shall be determined by the CONCACAF Executive Committee;
  - f. Economy air travel, first class hotel and board, and approved per diem for the referees and assistant referees and local transportation to and from the airport, training sessions, team practices and matches;
  - g. Approved traveling and daily expenses of the Executive Committee and designated members of other committees and technical or other staff (as determined by the General Secretariat).
3. The following number of match tickets shall automatically be reserved for each delegation:
- a. For the matches played by the participating teams, six (6) complimentary tickets of the highest category and fifty (50) complimentary reserved seats as well as at least one hundred (100) purchasable tickets of the highest category.
  - b. The purchasable tickets must be collected and paid for at least ten days prior to the date of the first match of the Competition.
  - c. For the participants in Quarter-Finals, Semi-Finals and the Final, the number of purchasable tickets to be reserved shall be fixed by the Executive Committee. They must be collected and paid for the day following the one when the team concerned is qualified for one of these matches.
  - d. The National Associations may return a maximum of 10% of the tickets originally requested. However, the returned tickets must be in the hands of the organizer (14) fourteen days before the match concerned at the latest. Otherwise they will be considered sold.
  - e. The number of tickets for the participating countries in Semi Finals and the Final Match shall in each case be fixed by the Executive Committee.

### XXIII. SPECIAL AWARDS

1. Special awards will be presented to:
  - a. The Most Valuable Player;
  - b. The Top Scorer;
  - c. The Best Goalkeeper;
  - d. The team with the best Fair Play performance (Fair Play Award).
2. CONCACAF will issue separate regulations for these awards.
3. There will be no official awards other than those listed above, unless otherwise decided by the Organizing Committee.

### XXIV. 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.

### XXV. MATTERS NOT PROVIDED FOR

CONCACAF's Executive Committee, whose decisions shall be final, will resolve matters not provided for in these Regulations.

In the case of any discrepancy in the interpretation of the English, Spanish or French texts of these regulations, the English text shall be authoritative.

For the Executive Committee of CONCACAF:

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The President

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The General Secretary